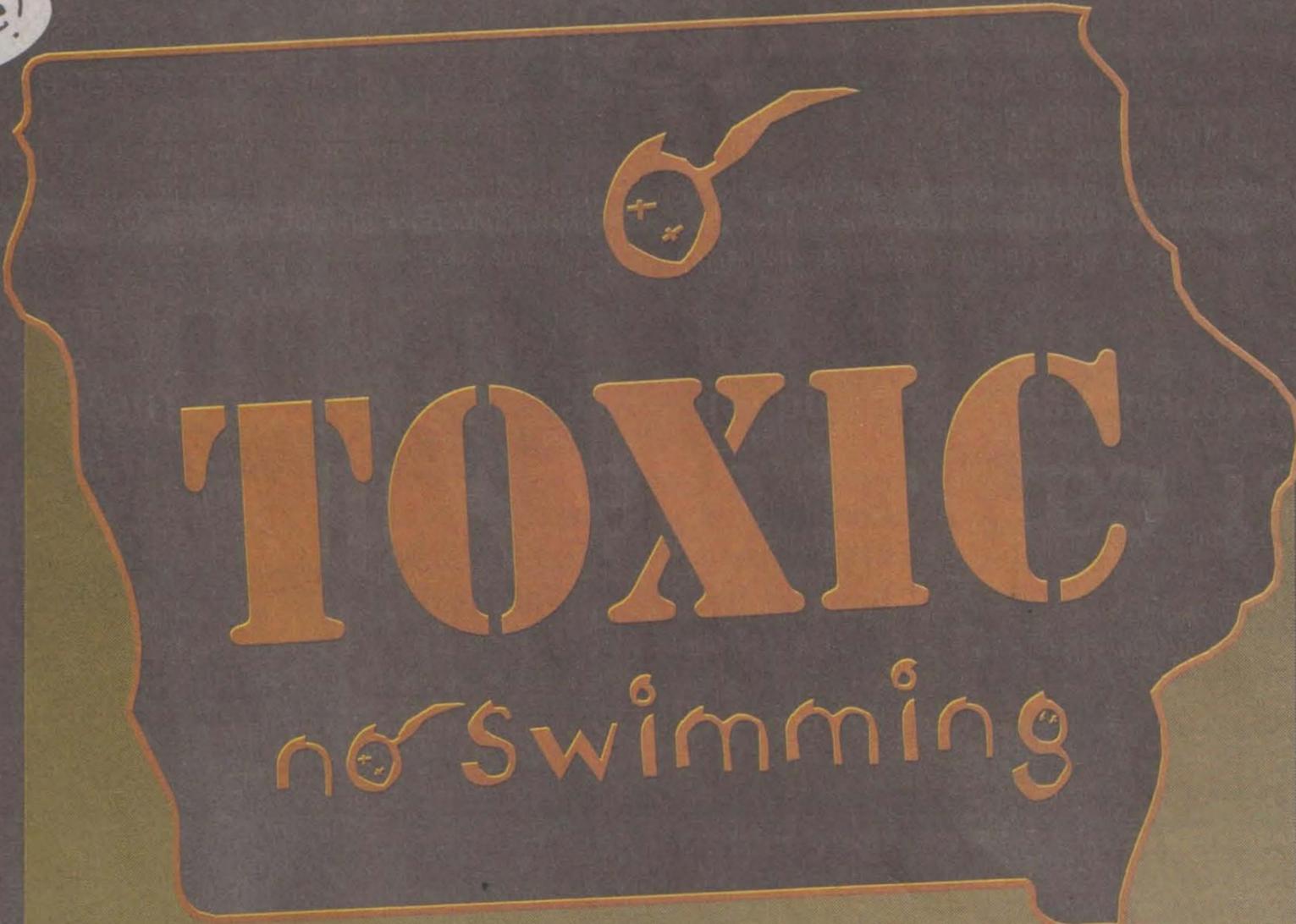


little village

iowa city's news & culture magazine

july
2003

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Listen to Howard Dean

On Sunday, June 8, I attended Gov. Vilsack's annual family picnic in Mt. Pleasant. Presidential candidates on hand were Howard Dean, Joe Lieberman, Bob Graham, Al Sharpton and Dennis Kucinich. Candidates John Kerry, John Edwards and Dick Gephardt chose not to attend the event hosted by our governor.

In my opinion, Howard Dean most invigorated the majority of the hundreds of attendees. With his intelligent, well-reasoned and powerfully convincing stances against the Bush agenda, Howard Dean received far more applause and cheers on all issues discussed. Kucinich also received a great response on many points, but I believed that Howard Dean was the strongest, overall.

I encourage all persons in Johnson County and surrounding areas to come hear Howard Dean speak when he is next in town. Iowa should turn out in force to hear this candidate.

Gov. Dean is clearly a leader of the pack in terms of understanding of domestic healthcare and economic issues, and of foreign policy in being strongly against

the granting of unilateral war powers to George W. Bush.

Howard Dean is pro-environment, pro-choice, pro-peace and pro-education. He is strongly promoting diversity and equality in gender, sexual orientation, ethnicity and race. He is for healthcare for all Americans. He is for fiscal conservatism and a balanced federal budget. He is against the sweeping attacks to our civil liberties as being forced upon us by Patriot Acts I and II.

An intelligent community such as ours would do well to choose Howard Dean to represent our traditional Iowa Citian values in the next presidential election. All Iowans would, too.

Remember our state motto: "Our Liberties We Prize, and Our Rights We Shall Maintain."

Howard Dean most closely embodies our Iowa state motto!

Dawn M. Mueller
Iowa City

little village

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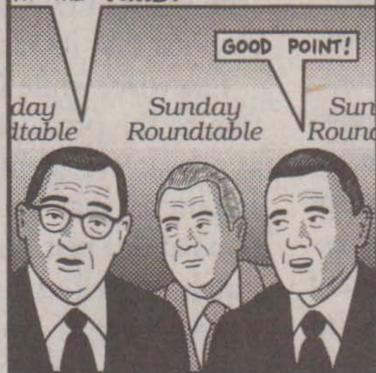
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

THE PRESIDENT'S CRITICS ACCUSE HIM OF LYING ABOUT THE THREAT POSED BY IRAQ BEFORE THE WAR-- BUT WAS IT REALLY A LIE IF HE BELIEVED WHAT HE WAS SAYING AT THE TIME?



OR WHAT IF HE DIDN'T BELIEVE WHAT HE WAS SAYING--BUT DIDN'T EXPECT US TO, EITHER? I DON'T KNOW IF THAT WOULD TECHNICALLY CONSTITUTE A LIE!



OR MAYBE HE DID EXAGGERATE THE EVIDENCE SLIGHTLY--BUT WITH THE BEST OF INTENTIONS! WOULDN'T THAT REALLY BE MORE OF A LITTLE WHITE LIE? AND WHO AMONG US HASN'T TOLD ONE OF THOSE?



OR--WHAT IF HE DELIBERATELY DECEIVED AMERICANS BECAUSE HE KNEW THEY'D NEVER SUPPORT SENDING THEIR SONS AND DAUGHTERS TO DIE IN PURSUIT OF SOME NEO-CON WET DREAM OF GLOBAL HEGEMONY? WOULD THAT TRULY BE CONSIDERED A LIE?



COUGH! AHEM!



I GUESS IT WOULD, HUH? MOVING RIGHT ALONG TO OUR NEXT TOPIC-- HILLARY'S NEW BOOK! IS IT FULL OF LIES OR WHAT?



TOM TOMORROW © 2003 ... www.thismodernworld.com



GO FISH

E.C. FISH

Some of the people, all of the time

That sudden lurch being felt throughout the body politic this early summer is the unmistakable feeling that the engine of government has fallen off the rails of the democratic process. Appointed by a court decision that in one swoop thwarted the will of the American majority and called into question the very existence of the right to vote, the current administration has since done everything in its power to remove itself from any accountability to the electorate whatsoever. Government contracts once subject to competitive bidding processes are now delivered gift wrapped to the former employers and campaign contributors of the administration. Records once released routinely under the Freedom of Information Act are now subject to a prohibitive legal process courtesy the current interpretation of the Freedom of Information Act by Attorney General Ashcroft.

Worse, it is apparent that even in those circumstances wherein public input isn't outrightly prohibited, it is routinely ignored. The recent deregulation of media ownership by the Federal Communications Commission generated vast public comment overwhelmingly opposed to this further abandonment of the public airwaves to the good graces of corporate America. This affected the decision of the commission's Republican majority not one whit, rendering any democratic niceties about the consent of the governed chillingly moot.

Worse yet, the evidence is reaching a convincing critical mass that in those instances where consent of the governed is still necessary—say, a declaration of war and decision to put American troops in harm's way—this administration will resort to any means necessary to manufacture that consent, including presenting fraudulent evidence to the American people as fact. We have reached a point beyond which nothing that can be found in Iraq from here on in can support in the least the administration's claims to self defense against Iraq's weaponry and support of terrorism. It is apparent that this administration led us into war via the mushroom strategy—that is, by keeping us in the dark and feeding us shit. The very ease with which our troops invaded Iraq—currently the subject of much triumphant celebration by the Bush administration—gives lie to the necessity of doing it in the first place. As nasty and brutal a dictator as Saddam Hussein was, he represented no clear and present danger to a single American life until the president himself put those lives in danger. Americans are still dying, even after our declaration of victory. And we still don't know why. And we don't feel any safer.

While the administration is increasingly vulnerable on economic

issues—it's difficult to give a rat's ass what they're saying on Fox News when you can't afford cable, and while it is possible to buy American votes, the last Bush tax cut tried to do so on the obvious cheap—it is the administration's vaunted mastery of foreign policy and national security issues that is likely to trip it up on the way to the finish line in 2004 (although they've lied about the economy,

It is apparent that this administration led us into war via the mushroom strategy—that is, by keeping us in the dark and feeding us shit.

too). Having frightened Americans into one war, the result of which is rapidly becoming an expensive logistical struggle against complete anarchy, the administration is likely to find the next "battle" in "the War On Evil" a much harder sell, especially as it becomes more obvious that its rationale for the last war was a cynical put-up job.

Likewise, while George W. Bush rests any chance of actual election to the presidency on the 9/11 attacks and his resulting rebirth as a "war president," any further acts of terror on US soil, far from enhancing that status, will more likely result in uncomfortable questions about just how such a thing could happen again on the Bush watch as well as uncomfortable truths about the inefficacy of the Department of Homeland Security in actually enhancing the security of the homeland. Any such attack will also bring into the starkest possible relief the fact that the emergency first response system in this country—the police, fire fighters and paramedics who were the true heroes of 9/11—has been hit hard by budget cuts necessitated by the deficit-driven Bush economy, and now operates at what are effectively pre-9/11 levels of preparedness.

The president's reelection strategy, which has already been laid out to a fare-thee-well by Karl Rove and company, is thus predicated on how many people can be fooled how much of the time. Given the questions piling up about his administration's conduct in office and the increasingly obvious nakedness of its contempt for the will and welfare of the people, it is likely that Bush will find out that Lincoln wasn't wrong. **LV**



THOMAS DEAN

It's a grand new flag

On this Fourth of July, I celebrate the flag of the United States of America. Not so much “the flag” in general, but a specific flag: the US flag that once again flies over the Old Capitol on The University of Iowa campus.

My very first “UR Here” column was an elegy for the Old Capitol dome and cupola, which had recently burned down. The dome has now been reconstructed and is more beautiful than I have ever seen it. Its gold gilt shines new, its columns and capitals are unblemished, with sharp detail not seen in generations, and the windows sparkle and shine. And my fondest hope that I expressed in my earlier column has been realized: The new structure does indeed boast pieces of the old dome that were removed before the fire, allowing for their historical essences to seep into the new dome, one might say.

The Old Capitol dome is the symbol of The University of Iowa, and in many ways the symbol of our entire community. It connects us to the earliest history of our state as well as our town. It is an inspiring sight, the singular landmark that pulls our eyes and thoughts upward collectively as we pass it daily.

We've been without this unifying icon for a long time, through some of the most difficult and challenging months of our community's and our nation's history. Still, as a strong community, we have continued to show the civility and open discourse that make Iowa City a great place. Nevertheless, it's great to have our symbol back.

I stood on the lawn of the Pentacrest on May 13 at the flag-raising ceremony, just as I stood on the lawn in November of 2001 and helplessly watched the dome and cupola burn, just as I stood on the lawn on a windy, frigid day in February of this year to watch the newly gilt dome be lifted atop the still-covered cupola. I'm not one to tear up (too much) at weddings and Kodak commercials; however, the May 13 ceremony was powerful. And the most powerful moment came when the American flag slowly rose to the top of the new pole atop the dome.

Many may say that the American flag has been burnished since “The Military Adventures of George W. Bush” began post-9/11 in Afghanistan and more recently in Iraq. I, on the other hand, think it's taken a beating. Our country's flag, and the entire idea of “patriotism,” have been co-opted, as often happens during wartime. The flag has been reduced to a symbol of military righteousness. Such draining of the flag's deep symbolism borders on abomination. Although I personally do not fetishize or worship the flag, I have the utmost respect for it. I won't fly a flag at my home except under the strict guidelines of the National Flag Code. I won't wear the flag on my clothing, and I won't stick one of those \$1.98 suction-cupped grotesqueries on the top of my car. I cringe when I see neighbors or businesses flying a flag in the rain or in a pathetically tattered state. But most of all, my gorge rises when the flag is used as a testosterone-laden, in-your-face challenge to the ideas of peace, cooperation, civil discourse, civil liberty, and complex thought.

So on this Fourth of July, I celebrate the flag—a flag: the flag that once again flies briskly atop the Old Capitol dome. Not only is this flag—undergirded by our State of Iowa flag—the crowning element of our most important unifying community symbol, but it presides over the best values we have to offer through the university. I am an ardent advocate for public institutions as the apotheosis of democracy, and The University of Iowa is one of the greatest public institutions in our state, and I'll say unapologetically one of the greatest in the country.

I stood on the lawn of the Pentacrest on May 13 at the flag-raising ceremony, just as I stood on the lawn in November of 2001 and helplessly watched the dome and cupola burn.

During the War on Iraq, the university's president insisted that the UI remain a place for open, uncensored, civil debate. This is the truest essence of what the university, as a general concept, and The University of Iowa, as a specific institution, are all about. Calls for “unity,” in the reductive sense of unquestioning allegiance to George W. Bush, were entirely inappropriate for a democratic country, and certainly for a university. For the most part, the Iowa City and UI community behaved honorably. Although anger, hostility and clouded thinking often marred (and still mars) the debate about our country's relationship with the world, the Peace Camp was allowed to operate for several months, a counter “Support the Troops” camp (though their theme should *not* be taken as the antithesis of the Peace Camp) was allowed to operate for their self-chosen one day, forums and organizations covering different perspectives were allowed to organize, and so forth.

Although the actual physical flag atop the Old Capitol did not preside over these activities and this debate, it did in spirit (which should make our community even more proud). For over a century and a half, the Old Capitol flag has stood sentinel over a gathering mourning the death of Abraham Lincoln, the return of World War II veterans taking advantage of the GI Bill, Vietnam protests, the writing of great American novels, innumerable ethical and philosophical debates, and the discovery of cures for deadly diseases. Through it all, the university has, for the most part, remained a place for inquiry and civil debate, not for repression and propaganda. That's what our country is all about, and that's why the Old Capitol flag is the flag to be most honored in our community this Fourth of July. LV



Lessons from Vermont

There is a hotbed of artisan food production in New England that is not as well known to the rest of the country as it should be. Perhaps, though, that is how the Vermonters like it. When I lived there 12 years ago, the distaste natives had for all us “flatlanders” was summed up in a popular bumper sticker: “Welcome to Vermont, don’t forget to leave.” But the miraculous things going on in the food world there are so deserving of wider attention that I must ask the forgiveness of the Green Mountain hermits and the self-reliant one-time hippies to sing the praises of a place that is getting it right.

So many fantastic cheeses are being made in that state right now that it’s difficult to believe that Vermont is an American state and not a province of France, Spain or Italy. The state has several microbreweries, most notably Otter Creek and Wolaver (which is all organic). Perhaps the most amazing resources to be found in Vermont, though, are Shelburne Farms and the Intervale.

Shelburne Farms is the result of that rare occurrence when an American family gets rich beyond reason, but then uses that wealth for the benefit of all. Dr. William Seward and Lila Vanderbilt Webb (yes, *the* Vanderbilts) began acquiring land along the shores of Lake Champlain in 1886. By 1902, they had a grand 3,200-acre farm dedicated to being a model of agricultural innovation. Though very successful, the true innovation came 70 years later when their descendants incorporated Shelburne Farms as a non-profit organization dedicated to conservation education. Now children from all over New England visit to learn about sustainable agriculture, organic dairy farming and artisan cheesemaking in real, operating facilities and a beautiful, historic setting.

The Intervale is a more modern creation. Founded in 1988 with a substantial grant from the adjacent Gardener’s Supply Company, this foundation is “a non-profit center for sustainable ventures and ecological innovation.” The Intervale is an incubator for small farms and for people who want to get into the farming business at a time when monstrous corporations are making that idea difficult at best. The Intervale is a self-described “non-profit who likes to make money” with a composting facility that alone grosses an astonishing \$700,000 in sales every year. Next door, run by Burlington’s municipally owned power company, is the largest wood-fired power plant in the world. Intervale has begun plans to build a 22,000-square-foot green house that will be heated by the steam produced by the plant. All this on 700 acres of Winooski River flood plain that is mostly within the Burlington city limits.

These are operations where people are living the Slow Food mission every day. That mission reads, in part: “an educational organization dedicated to stewardship of the land and ecologically sound food production; to the revival of the kitchen and the table as centers of pleasure, culture and community; [and] to the invigoration and proliferation of regional, seasonal culinary traditions.”

Here in Iowa, the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture is perhaps the only comparable program. A part of the Iowa State University Extension, the Leopold Center is perhaps the purest expression of the mission of land grant colleges (of which Iowa

State is the first, by the way). The Leopold Center has a farm incubator similar to that of the Intervale, issues competitive grants, conducts research on sustainable agriculture techniques, and supports other programs like the Heenah Mayah Student Organic Farm and Practical Farmers of Iowa. Unfortunately, as you may have read here before, the Leopold Center is somewhat low on the legislative totem pole and faces draconian budget cuts.

To understand the importance of programs like the Leopold Center, take a look at what has happened to Iowa agriculture in the last 80 years. In 1920, 34 different crops and livestock breeds were grown and raised on at least 1 percent of Iowa farms. Ten crops and breeds were grown and raised on more than 50 percent of those

Vermont offers us a model, showing people the ways in which we can support our local economy while making our land and ourselves healthier.

farms. In 1997, the most recent year for which statistics are available, there were just 10 crops and breeds on at least 1 percent of the farms and only two on 50 percent or more. Those crops are—you guessed it—corn and soybeans. Iowa no longer raises food; it raises feed. The ecological diversity that makes nature’s agriculture work (that’s the kind humans used for the first 5,000 years of our farming history) has been systematically dismantled by those who put profit before quality, sustainability and reason.

Vermont offers us a model, showing people the ways in which we can support our local economy while making our land and ourselves healthier. Farmers throughout the Midwest have turned to industrial methods to “save” their farms because they feel there is no other choice. Chefs and restaurateurs, similarly, buy food from giant transportation companies that know little and care less about the food or about the environmental and economic impact they are having. That is why so much food tastes the same all over the country and the world, because it is identical. Aldous Huxley lives! The *Brave New World* has arrived, complete with soma and feelies.

Iowa needs a new Leopold Center, one for sustainable *food production*. We need an Intervale of our own to help farmers get their food to market rather than their commodity to the distribution point. Just because something is old-fashioned and slow does not mean that it is out-dated and wrong.

You can help by talking. Tell your grocers and your favorite restaurants that you want “traceability,” that you want to know where your food comes from. Encourage farmers you know to sell food locally and to increase diversity in what they grow. Tell them also that you are proud of them and the hard work they do. Lastly, tell your legislators—local, state and national—to get to work on a world where being a citizen is more important than being a consumer. **LV**

Some resources: www.shelburnefarms.org, www.intervale.org, www.ag.iastate.edu/centers/leopold/



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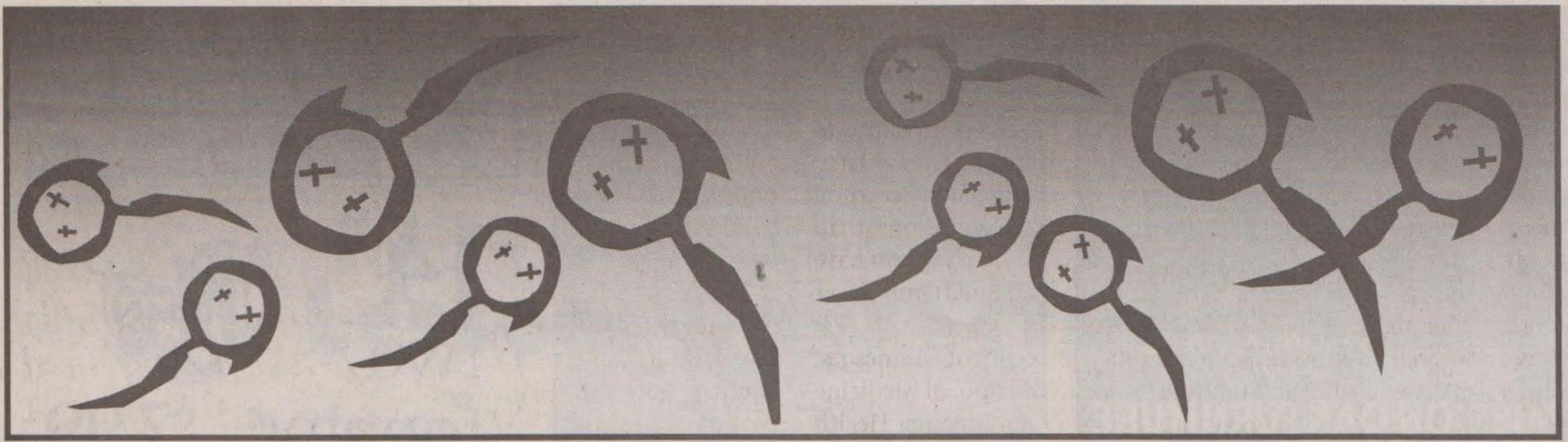
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SOMETHING IN THE WATER?

A new study shows that rural men have lower sperm counts than their urban counterparts. The Iowa City area has now joined the investigation, and one of the questions being asked is “Are pesticides in our drinking water causing the problem?”

Vicki Krajewski



here are likely many questions we ask ourselves about Iowa City water:

“What is the exact blend of chemical and organic compounds that makes our savory local brand of H₂O taste like a public swimming pool and look like a freshly shaken snow globe?”

Or, “What’s that smell?”

But you can bet your Britta pitcher that “Will this water make me less virile?” is not one of these routine questions.

This question is, however, at the center of a national, ongoing investigation into the semen quality of rural men, and Iowa City is under the microscope.

As part of a broader study, University of Iowa scientists are investigating whether men in Iowa City and the surrounding area have comparatively lower fertility rates than men in more urban areas, and they’re also hoping to identify and understand the environmental variables that lead to the regional difference.

In an attempt to examine how factors in a rural environment such as water supply (both municipal and private) can impact male reproductive health, researchers at the University of Iowa In-vitro Fertilization and Reproductive Testing Lab have been collecting and analyzing sperm, blood and

“It’s not necessarily if you grew up in Iowa, you’re going to have a lousy sperm count. It’s possible that it can be a short-term exposure [that harms sperm quality] as well.”

- Amy Sparks,

UI Hospitals and Clinics
research scientist

urine samples from a random sampling of couples seeking prenatal care at the UI OBGYN Clinic.

Analyzing the samples will help identify what chemicals and pesticides are present in the men’s bodies and, therefore, may be affecting their fertility.

Amy Sparks, a research scientist at the UI Hospitals and Clinics, is helping collect and analyze the data for the Iowa City portion of the study.

“It’s always been frustrating for me,” Sparks reflected about the big differences in data between urban and rural areas. “I wonder, is my clinic just too strict?”

Sparks said of the comparatively higher sperm counts from urban settings, “We have never seen these numbers, and we don’t know why.”

The larger study, piloted by Dr. Shanna Swan of the University of Missouri-Columbia, published findings last November positively indicating a significant gap in sperm quality between urban and rural men.

Swan, a professor of family and community medicine, said, “I was extremely surprised at what we found.”

Started in Iowa City

Decades ago, UI physicians C. M. Kinloch Nelson and Raymond G. Bunge first stumbled upon this geographical fertility gap by chance.

In 1974, Nelson and Bunge set out to prove a theory of gradual decline in male fertility, finding an average of 48 million sperm per milliliter in their sampling of Iowa City area men. Comparing this count to earlier studies conducted in 1929 and 1951 (each establishing an average sperm count of about 100 million per milliliter), Nelson and Bunge concluded that sperm counts had decreased by about 50 percent since 1951.

However, since the earlier studies were conducted in urban centers and the 1974

study was largely rural, the good doctors' research findings were disputed and largely dismissed on grounds of having failed to establish a set of rigorous controls for variables such as geography.

Still, Nelson and Bunge's numbers bear an eerie resemblance to Swan's methodical and purposeful findings almost 30 years later, findings showing that despite the fresh air and green space rural men enjoy, they have notably lower sperm concentrations than urban males. The study also established that rural men's sperm have a higher morphology rate (more are irregularly shaped) and lower motility than those of their urban counterparts.

Swan worked with researchers from the University of Minnesota, the University of California and the Mount Sinai School of Medicine with funding from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to gather and analyze semen samples from 512 male partners of pregnant women in New York, Los Angeles, Minneapolis and rural Boone County, Mo.

"The results are strong enough that this is not chance," she said.

In the pilot study, men from Boone County had a mean sperm count of around 59 million per milliliter, while the same counts for men in New York City, Los Angeles and Minneapolis were all much closer to 100 million per milliliter.

Sperm motility in the New York sample was 74 percent higher than Missouri's, and motility in the Minneapolis sample was 77 percent higher than in the Missouri sample.

After analyzing preliminary findings, last August Swan invited Iowa City to participate in the research in order to provide more data on men living in predominately rural settings.

Since Iowa City offers advanced research facilities in a rural setting (including rural well water and municipal water systems, which are both subject to intrusions of pesticides and fertilizers), the location was a perfect addition.

In new paper, Swan links pesticides to the problem

For Swan, it was an obvious possibility that the use of pesticides in rural communities creates the disparity in the sperm quality of urban and rural men. "When you look at Minnesota and Columbia, Mo., the striking difference is the use of agricultural chemicals," she said.

In a new paper published this June, Swan used data from Minneapolis and Missouri to identify and link three specific agricultural chemicals commonly used in Midwestern farming operations to the problem.

The new findings show that rural men with lower sperm quality have higher concentrations of alachlor, diazinon and atrazine metabolites in their urine than men with higher-quality sperm.

The new findings show that rural men with lower sperm quality have higher concentrations of alachlor, diazinon and atrazine metabolites in their urine than men with higher-quality sperm.

"This is the first study that shows a link between elevated levels of these pesticides in the human body and potential reproductive problems," Swan said, adding that since samples

were collected from the general population and not just farmers, the pesticide levels discovered in men's urine are representative of the general population's exposure levels to these chemicals in rural settings.

Researchers hope to compare Iowa City's results with the data already collected to confirm the discrepancy in fertility rates in rural and urban human males and look for further clues as to how these chemicals get into the human body, and what they do once they get there.

According to a 1995 study by the US Geological Survey, these pesticides have been found in rural groundwater

supplies in the Midwest at concentrations exceeding federal reporting levels.

Additionally, these chemicals are known endocrine disrupters (i.e. they do funny things to thyroid and adrenal glands), and such pesticides have already been tied to reproductive abnormalities in amphibians.

University of California, Berkeley researcher Tyrone B. Hayes found that exposure to low levels of atrazine caused male African clawed frogs and male wild American leopard frogs to produce female hormones and develop feminized gonads.

Atrazine is the most commonly used herbicide in the US. The Mississippi River is a channel for 1.2 million pounds of atrazine that drain into its waters from adjacent farmlands each year. Though Hayes documented harmful effects of atrazine at 0.1 parts per billion (ppb), the chemical has been found at levels of 40 ppb in Iowa rainwater, and Iowa City's municipal drinking water consistently measures right at the EPA's legal limit of 0.3 ppb.

Before new facilities went online last March, Iowa City's primary municipal water source was the Iowa River, which cuts through miles of farmland. The city also drew from one Jordan aquifer well (at 1,570 feet) and two Silurian wells at depths of 427 and 430 feet.

Water treatment workers hope the city's new facilities will reduce the amount of pesticides and herbicides in the finished water supply by reducing the proportion of river water delivered through Iowa City taps.

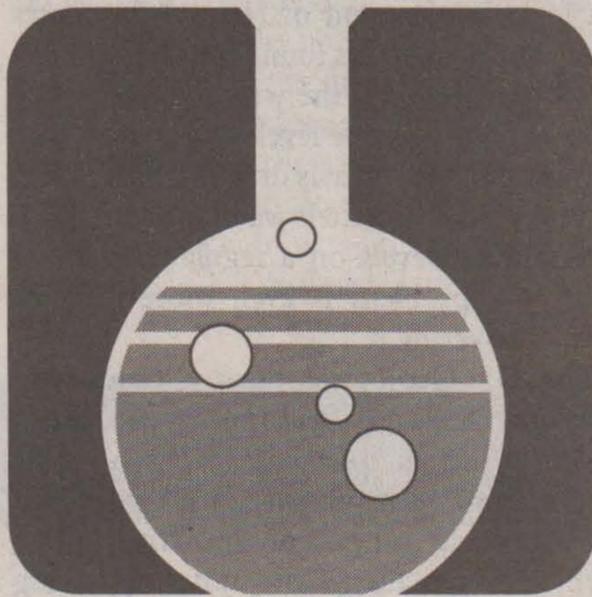
A larger fraction of the new water cocktail is derived from four Alluvial wells approximately 40 feet deep and a manmade lake on the new plant site.

By using less river water (and more well water) in the blend of sources, Iowa City will reduce the risk for microbial contamination. However, well water (especially from shallow wells) is still susceptible to the leeching of agricultural chemicals.

Per the recommendation of the American Water Works Association, the new plant also uses granular-activated carbon-capped filters intended to "polish the water" by reducing herbicides and pesticides, and eliminating tastes and odors.

However, Swan said the efficacy of these filtration processes

Human males are not as sensitive as leopard frogs, but if atrazine causes male frogs to become hermaphrodites, it is hard to avoid wondering what havoc it might wreak in the complicated human physiology.





3 Broken Grass
Becca Sutlive & the Attachments

4 Sweet Potato Project
Winegarden | David Haack

5 Family Groove Co.
Dr. Z's Experiment

6 Lighting in a Bottle
comedy improv

8 Hackensaw Boys

9 Poetry Slam

10 Smokestack/The Absurd

11 Corn Meal
Mike & Amy Finders

12 Euforia
Mr. Baber's Neighbors Solar String Band

13 Lightning in a Bottle

15 Average White Band
Psychedelic Breakfast

16 Dirty Dozen Brass Band

17 Skunk River Bandits
David Haack Band

18 Lotus
Funk Master Cracker

19 Swivel Hips Smith
The Diplomats

23 Poetry Slam

24 Perpetual Groove

Dave Zollo and
the Body Electric

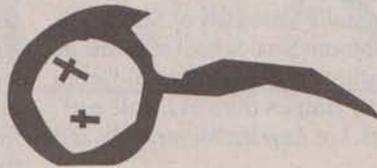
26 Clean Livin'
Future Rock

31 Hieruspecs
Psychosomatic

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Though Hayes documented harmful effects of atrazine at 0.1 parts per billion (ppb), the chemical has been found at levels of 40 ppb in Iowa rainwater, and Iowa City's municipal drinking water consistently measures right at the EPA's legal limit of 0.3 ppb.



has not yet been systematically studied or proven. Iowa City has collected data about pesticide levels since the new plant went online, but the numbers have not yet been analyzed.

Outside the city limits, people get water from wells that sit on their property, not far under adjacent fields of corn and soybeans. An Iowa Department of Natural Resources study of private wells found average atrazine levels of .9 ppb. Of the wells sampled, 18.3 percent exceeded safe levels of nitrates.

It is up to individuals drawing water from private wells to get their water tested for safe contaminant levels on a regular basis, and fixing the problem is even more difficult than discovering it.

The US Geological Survey states that conventional water treatment is ineffective in removing herbicides such as alachlor and atrazine from finished drinking water. Unlike many other contaminants, these herbicides remain in the water following treatment processes such as coagulation and sand filtration.

Swan said that some water filters do claim to be effective in ridding water of these chemicals, but this is an unproven point. "We need to analyze men's home tap water and examine alternative water treatment methods to determine levels of these chemicals currently in the water supply and to find effective ways to remove them," she said.

What other havoc have we wreaked?

Human males are not as sensitive as leopard frogs, but if atrazine causes male frogs to become hermaphrodites, it is hard to avoid wondering what havoc it might wreak in the complicated human physiology.

One possible indicator beyond the recent sperm quality research: a lawsuit currently pending in Louisiana where workers at an atrazine manufacturing plant claim to be nine times more likely than the general population to get prostate cancer.

Though these chemicals have been used in farming since the early '70s, Swan said her

study is the first "to examine these chemicals [and their effects on human reproduction] in the general population."

Swan's latest research was hitting the newsstands just as a hearing was concluding in Washington, DC, to determine whether atrazine will be re-registered for use in the United States. As of this writing, the verdict is still out.

Diazinon will be taken off the market in August for residential uses, not for any potential harm it causes in human biology, but based on its known toxicity (it kills birds and wildlife). This chemical is already banned completely in most European countries.

A frightening caveat, these chemicals (especially atrazine) have been used in such large quantities that they are still detectable at significant levels in states and countries that no longer use them.

In Switzerland, where atrazine has long been banned, it occurs in groundwater at one part per billion, even in the Alps. "It is hard to imagine an atrazine-free environment," Hayes said.

Though so far, only an association has been proven, researchers believe there is a causal connection between agricultural chemicals such as atrazine and rural men's lowered sperm quality.

In search of a causal connection

Swan is continuing to push the question in her studies. "The first part of the study asked, 'Is there a difference [in male fertility] geographically?' The second part asked 'Why?'"

The next step is DNA research. Sparks said researchers want to move ahead with tests to examine DNA fragmentation: "If DNA is a ladder, they treat it with acid and see how many rungs are broken."

This inquiry would examine how environmental toxins affect chromatin (or the DNA and protein) structure and function. Results from these tests could help explore causes of infertility and may open doors to

research in other aspects of cell biology and physiology.

Sparks explained that there may be a lot of other cells affected by the pesticides: "It would be really nice to think that men with low counts have stable DNA. If we rule this out, we can say, 'No, it's just sperm production that's affected.'"

Meanwhile, back in Iowa City

Researchers continue to gather data from Missouri, Minneapolis, California and Iowa City.

As mentioned, research partners at the UI In-vitro Fertilization and Reproductive Testing Lab are collecting and analyzing sperm, blood and urine samples, and are also running hormonal analyses to determine whether the pesticide metabolites directly affect sperm production, or whether lowered sperm production is a result of endocrine disruption in general.

Each participating couple also completes a questionnaire to help identify variables in lifestyle, chemical exposures and reproductive history.

"We even get questions answered from the guy's mother about prenatal care. There is just a tremendous amount of data being collected," Sparks explained, noting that there are so many variables to consider.

Just over 40 Iowa City couples have par-

ticipated, though Sparks eventually hopes to gather data for 300 couples, if funding allows.

At least 80 to 100 Iowa City couples need to be sampled and analyzed before any conclusions can be drawn from the local portion of the study. Sparks doesn't anticipate publishing results of the Iowa City study for another year or so.

Swan meanwhile hopes to take the data she has so far gathered in many directions. She has applied for funding to determine whether the entire study can be redone. "We have to replicate this," she said, cautioning that in epidemiology, one study does not a scientific law make.

Since men from the present study haven't given permission to store their semen samples, new samples would need to be collected and analyzed to move forward with DNA research in centers outside of Iowa City.

Going forward, Swan would like the various research centers to work with industrial hygienists and environmental health professionals to explore routes of exposure, looking for pesticides in the home tap water of subjects and relating it to urinary levels.

And men won't keep getting all the attention. Swan hopes these preliminary findings spur further investigation into pesticide and herbicide effects in women and children. A recent study has associated disruptions in

menstruation with pesticides and fertilizers, and the phenomenon of girls reaching puberty at earlier and earlier ages is another possible indicator of a far-reaching problem.

The Iowa City research center has its work cut out as well. "We have a wealth of data. This is huge and it's going to take a long time to analyze all of this," Sparks said.

One issue to be sorted out is the relationship between length of exposure to the agricultural chemicals and the harm to sperm quality.

Sparks said that since the Iowa City study sampled couples who have not necessarily lived in Iowa all their lives, "It's not necessarily if you grew up in Iowa, you're going to have a lousy sperm count. It's possible that it can be a short-term exposure [that harms sperm quality] as well."

The study, however, is in need of more money before any of these additional avenues can be pursued.

Sparks noted that, so far, researchers have just scratched the surface. "This is a pilot study, a sub-sample of the information we've got."

Both Sparks and Swan hope that these most recent discoveries will inspire interest and public and legislative action to support further funding of their research. **LV**

fg

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The gallery is open 7 days from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with evening hours Thursday until 8 p.m. Admission is free. For information call 641-269-4660 or visit the gallery's website: <www.grinnell.edu/faulconergallery>.

GRINNELL COLLEGE



Last call at the Mill

A few seasoned regulars sip and reminisce on the Mill's last Tuesday

Adam Witte

It's a Tuesday afternoon at The Mill, and the usual suspects are belled up to the well-worn bar in the front room.

There's John Fry, sitting on the same stool he's occupied since he moved to Iowa City in 1969. Fry used to wash dishes at the old Mill and helped install the very bar where he now sits, drinking a cup of coffee with friends who've warmed these stools for decades. They all lean toward retirement age, once dark and surly beatnick goatees and shaggy hair now gone gray, or simply gone. They order the usual, and it is placed before them without need of elaboration, a comfort born of familiarity. They sit smoking and trading stories and sipping whatever draught is on special.

"Were you here the night that crazy girl from Newton was waving around the .45?" asks Dennis Cockey, whose friends affectionately call him Worm.

"But, were you here when that guy was causing shit and Dempster herded him out with his stomach?" Fry gets up to pantomime how The Mill's impresario Keith Dempster would belly butt a rude customer from the bar. "'OUT!' boom 'OUT!' boom—until he got him out the door. And the guy looks up and says, 'Is this how you treat a stranger in this town?'"

Further down the bar another pipes up. "How about when Brother John used Bristo's butt cleavage for an ashtray, and Bristo chased him out into the street, ready to kill?"

The men laugh and slap the bar and order a second round. Time

"Keith wanted to make a place where people could converge. Most of the time I was afraid not to come—I was afraid I would miss something."

—Mill regular, John Fry

passes like this at The Mill, as it might have any Tuesday afternoon since it first opened on April Fool's Day, 1962. But this isn't any Tuesday afternoon—it is the last Tuesday. After four decades, Keith Dempster will close the Iowa City landmark he spent so long building. By the time this article goes to press, the Mill will be only memories. Rumors of The Mill living on under new management abound, but the regulars know that it will not be the same without

the Dempsters.

Which gives this gathering the vibe of a memorial service. Though it is more like an Irish wake than a eulogy, the silences between these anecdotes grow long and full of meaning. Fry pauses to watch the TV over the bar, tuned to a documentary on Pearl Harbor—black and white footage of ships slipping beneath the waves forever.

"There are a lot of ghosts in this place," he sighs. "Good ghosts. People who've died or gone on." He trails off as the bartender refills his cup. "I'm going to miss this place."

So many people will. Joe Sharpnack, the *Gazette's* nationally syndicated editorial cartoonist, drops in for a Guinness. He reaches into his bag and presents Pam Dempster with the original

artwork for his upcoming cartoon tribute to the Mill.

"I wish I remembered more about this place," apologizes Sharpnack, whose band Oink Henderson and the Squealers played their first gig at The Mill. "It seems that whenever I stay a night at The Mill, I can't remember anything. But I'm always sure I had a good time."

Iowa City musician Sam Knutson wanders through, hugging Pam and the bartenders and shuffling out the side door. Old bartenders and waitresses return to the roost, many now with children in tow, bidding the bar and its owners a fond farewell.

The last week of concerts has seen some of The Mill's regular performers return to pay their respects in song. Greg Brown played his final Mill gig last week, backed by Dave Zollo. "This is the place where I first played solo, where I learned my craft," explains Zollo. "I remember one hot night, the air-conditioning was broken and I drank too much whiskey, and I took off most of my clothes while I played. Dempster never let me forget that, but he did let me come back."

Sunday night saw a who's who finale concert including Kelly Pardekooper, Ben Schmidt, Mike and Amy Finders, and so many others that helped make The Mill a legend in Midwestern music. Customers have been returning for weeks from all over the country for a last basket of fries, a last Egg Special, a last hug from Pam. But these men, the regulars who've made The Mill their home (away from home) remember it best.

"The Mill is a crowd of really bright, good people, without any pretentiousness about them," explains Fry. Truly, through the years, the oak bar in The Mill has worn the elbows of musicians and motorcyclists, professors and plumbers, writers and fighters, tok-



ers, smokers and midnight jokers. "Keith wanted to make a place where people could converge," Fry continues. "Most of the time I was afraid *not* to come—I was afraid I would miss something."

Which brings another avalanche of memories: the time the new speakers fell into a family's spaghetti dinner, and Dempster treated them to dessert. The time that Dempster got those Russians on the cross country peace march so drunk they danced on the tables. The time Jive peeled his Harley out from the backroom and Dempster banned him—for a day. The time Whale had that degenerating bowel thing, and his gas was so bad that Dempster

moved him out of the restaurant for fear of losing customers. Or when John Birkbeck was banned permanently and had to buy a series of ladies wigs to sneak back into his favorite watering hole. Laughter loud enough to drown out the television—the kind that makes your sides ache.

"Keith is a pretty good straight man—he's such a big target," laughs Fry. "In the end I'm glad I've given Dempster a bunch of shit, but who the hell else could have pulled this off?" Their glasses clink, a proper toast for the man who's brought them, and hundreds like them, so much joy.

Even as the evening crowd shuffles in, families and couples ordering pizza and

pasta and pitchers, these men talk and drink and remember when. This Tuesday afternoon, the last, becomes evening, and they show no sign of letting up. Another round, another story, before the last call.

The author and his fiancée had one final pizza, sided with fries and washed down with Guinness, at the Mill. As I paid the check, the jukebox playing the Stone's "You Can't Always Get What you Want" in the background, a bittersweet feeling came over me. For all the pizzas and the pints and the years of music and laughter, a special thanks to every bartender, cook, waitress and waiter, and to Pat and Keith. On many a night, you had what I needed. LV

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Byron just wants to have fun

Just don't call him a jazz clarinet player or member of the avant garde

Steve Horowitz

Many critics consider Don Byron the best jazz clarinetist in the world. He's won the prestigious *Downbeat* magazine's poll as the best jazz clarinetist every year for the past 10 years, and there doesn't seem to be a worthy opponent to challenge him in the foreseeable future. Of course, being called the best jazz clarinetist is like being called the best corn grower in New Jersey. Sure, Jersey farmers raise some great sweet corn, but they've never competed against the agriculturalists in Iowa or other Midwestern corn-producing states. The competition for best jazz clarinetist isn't that strong. Quick, name three other living jazz clarinet players of note.

Don Byron
What: The world's best jazz clarinetist
When: Saturday, July 5, 6pm
Where: Iowa City Jazz Festival, downtown Iowa City

Byron's well aware of this situation. Speaking over the telephone from his home in the Catskills, Byron vehemently denies he's even a jazz clarinetist: "I am not a jazz clarinetist. A jazz clarinetist is some middle-aged white guy with a big gut playing in a good-time swing band. I have no nostalgia for the swing era and do not find it relevant to what I play. I play all kinds of music, from modern jazz to rock to chamber music to reggae to klezmer. Don't call me a jazz clarinetist." Byron's strong feelings on the subject come through loud and clear. But then again, everything Byron says over the phone comes through loud and clear. He's an intense individual. I was supposed to phone him at 1pm, but I copied his number down wrong from an email sent by his agent. As a result, I wasn't able to get through to him until 1:03pm. The first words out of his mouth when he answers my call are not "Hi, how are you," but "You were supposed to call me at 1."

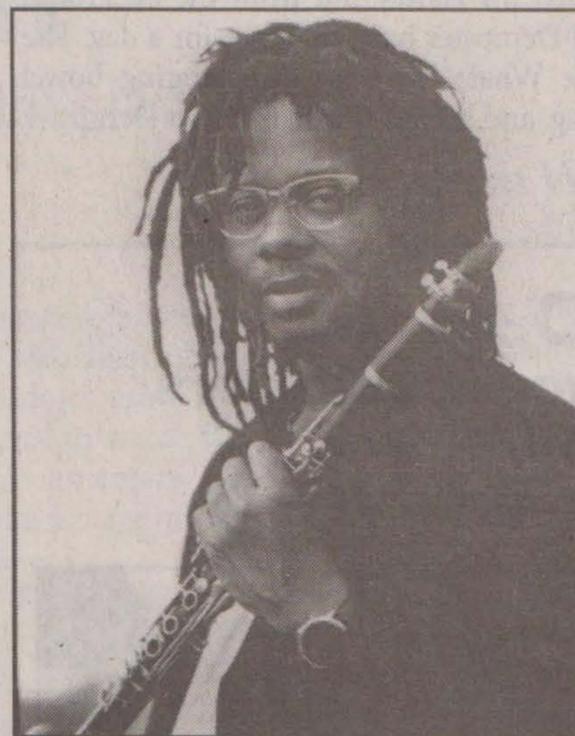
While Byron may be brash, he is also serious and thoughtful. He's happy to talk

about his latest record, *You Are #6, Music for 6 Musicians*. Most of the music he and his band will perform at the Iowa City Jazz Festival will be from this release. The album takes its name from the Patrick McGoochan character on the paranoiac '60s British television program "The Prisoner." McGoochan's mysterious patrons tell him, "You are number six" in regards to the new identity he's been given. Byron believes that most Americans are held prisoner by shadowy forces in our own country.

"We made the record soon after the last presidential election," he says. "The governor of Texas had just stolen the election in a bloodless coup d'etat. He's a clown. You know, he's the first affirmative action president. He got into college and every place afterwards through his dad's connections, not because of his abilities." Byron's contempt for Bush is laced with examples of the president's increasingly serious buffoonery, such as the recent failure to find weapons of mass destruction in Iraq and the hiring of large, oil-connected corporations run by Bush's cronies to develop the Iraqi infrastructure and pump out petroleum.

Byron continues, "There's a lotta stuff about Bush on the record: the sense of isolation and things falling out of control." At the center of the new disc is a tune called "Dub-Ya," a sparse and quiet 59-second sound collage that features a squeaky clarinet, drum sticks gently rapping on a cymbal, and several female voices chanting "Dub-Ya." The short song begins and ends with several seconds of silence, which lend a certain spookiness to the piece. Byron does not comment specifically about the song, only states, "How much worse can it get? Never mind, it can always get worse."

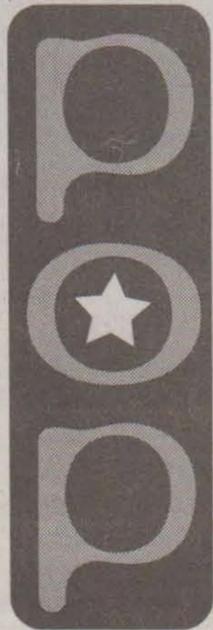
Despite Byron's deep political concerns, *You Are #6* is a very upbeat and danceable record filled with Afro-Cuban and calypso grooves. Songs like "Shake 'Em Up," "A Whisper in My Ear (for Mario Bauza)," "B-Setting," a cover of Henry Mancini's "Theme from 'Hatari,'" and others percolate with rhythms by way of



Don Byron

conga player/percussionist Milton Cardona and drummer/percussionist Ben Wittman. Edsel Gomez performs a McCoy Tyner-style of playing the piano as a percussion instrument, which further adds to the music's pulsating tempos. Leo Travesa's bass provides a solid foundation on which the other musicians build. Trumpeter/flugelhornist James Zollar's strong horn playing frequently engages Byron's clarinet in a battle of notes until they burst into each other and create a harmonic wall of sound. Byron also blends snatches of conversation and odd noises into the music. The last cut on the record, a remix of the seventh cut, "Belmondo's Lip," reifies this experimental spirit. The original version of the song is a Miles Davis *Kind of Blue*-type modern jazz piece. But DJ Spooky cuts it up into staccato snatches that echo and reverberate. Having both versions on the same disc suggests that there is always more than one way to create a song.

Byron says he purposely wants to make music that is entertaining. "I hate being called avant-garde, because most people think of avant-garde jazz as strident playing that punishes the listener. I believe in having fun. I believe in the importance of having a good time." LV



Kembrew
McLeod

The Pretty Sad music of the Pernice Brothers

When I heard the Scud Mountain Boys, fronted by Joe Pernice, it was the first time I ever felt that a band from my town—in this case, Northampton, Mass.—was truly G-R-E-A-T. Sure, there were plenty of “good” or “cool” hometown bands from the many places I’ve lived, but this was the first time it sunk in that awesome groups came from somewhere. On July 18, at Gabe’s, Joe Pernice will be coming to us, touring with his band of five years, the Pernice Brothers.

A few years back, Pernice broke up the Scud Mountain Boys at the height of their quasi-fame because he felt that the band’s alt-country format constrained him as a songwriter, and he was right. Since then, he has released five varied albums (with more-or-less the same musicians) under various monikers: Big Tobacco, Chappaquiddick Skyline and, of course, the Pernice Brothers. Failing to get through to Pernice, I give his longtime bassist, producer and collaborator, Thom Monahan, a call to chat about the group’s recently released album, *Yours, Mine & Ours* (Ashmont Records). As we begin our conversation, I share with Thom the

The Pernice Bros.

What: Gradcore

When: Thursday,
July 18

Where: Gabes, 330
E. Washington

sentiments contained in the above paragraph. “I know what you mean,” he says. “When I first heard the Scuds, I thought, ‘Jesus, this is absolutely one of the most brilliant things I’ve ever heard.’ It totally reminded me of what was going on with Red House Painters and other groups... you know, that kind of melancholy, great songwriting. So I said, ‘I’d love to record

your band,’ and I wound up recording *Dance the Night Away*.” And he never stopped.

Aside from working on seven albums and a few EPs with Pernice, Thom has produced J. Mascis, the Beachwood Sparks, Secret Lovers and others, and—to be completely forthcoming—he’s a good friend of mine. In my defense (so you don’t think this is a puff piece), we were friends for a long time before I cluelessly figured out he was the bassist in, and producer of, one of my favorite bands. You see, for a while I only knew him through working at the Media Education Foundation, where we worked together on the documentary *Money For Nothing: Behind the Business of Pop Music*, which takes the music industry to task for its greedy sins.

It’s fitting that we begin by talking not about his band, but the recent moves by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), which is planning to sue many of its own file-trading customers. A few weeks ago, the RIAA won an appeal that forces Internet service providers to hand over the contact info of those who are suspected of illegally downloading music (that means you, by the way). “The fact that they’re going after fans now, rather than in the ’80s when tape trading was a so-called problem,” says Thom, “just shows how centralized and greedy the industry has become.” The Pernice Brothers run their own label, Ashmont Records, and in these dark days of downloading, they’re doing just fine, thank you very much. I tell him that the Bush administration recently tapped former RIAA president Hilary Rosen to rewrite Iraq’s copyright laws,



The Pernice Brothers

to bring them up to US-approved snuff. “Are you kidding me?,” he sighs. “It’s like a surreal nightmare.”

For those who don’t know the music of the Pernice Brothers, it’s hard to describe, other than to say that their songs fall into a genre I’ve dubbed Pretty Sad music. “Pretty,” as in beautiful, and “Sad,” as in, pretty fucking sad. (Unfortunately, like with the Smiths, a lot of critics miss the humor tucked in the lyrics and mistake Pernice for a mere mope-rocker.) Thom’s favorite descriptive label for his group, which was once deployed by a snarky reviewer, is Gradcore. What compels a reviewer to use such a term? “Obviously the first thing that comes to mind,” says Thom, “is the fact that Joe got his MFA in writing.” Also, it doesn’t hurt that he folds into his lovely songs deadpan lyrics like “Contemplating suicide or a graduate degree,” as he does in the catchy “Working Girls” from the group’s second album, *The World Won’t End* (Ashmont Records). Most people shy away from “core” labels—Hardcore, Emocore, Grindcore, whatever—but, Thom laughs, “I’ll step into Gradcore, no problem. It’s too bad it didn’t catch on.” In an embarrassment of indie-rock riches, Joe Pernice was a classmate and friend of Silver Jews frontman David Berman, who later did the liner notes for the Scud Mountain Boys reissue, *The Early Years* (Sub Pop). In a writing town like Iowa City, Pernice should feel at home.

This new album is a sonic leap forward from the twilight days of the Scud Mountain Boys. And compared to the Pernice Brothers’ *Overcome by Happiness* (Sub Pop), their first album, *Yours, Mine & Ours* is a world away from the beginnings of that group. Rather than being a record made by a songwriter working with talented backing musicians, it’s the sound of a band that has fully jelled after a few years of touring. Although Joe and Thom once recorded a New Order cover, this album is the soundtrack to the return of the repressed. It’s the music of yesterday, today and tomorrow, with hefty chunks of ’80s British guitar music thrown into the stew—something you can hear in the spectacular, rocktastic playing of guitarist Peyton Pinkerton (formerly of New Radiant Storm King). “Where the Scud Mountain Boys was tagged alt-country,” Thom says, “Peyton and I were freaking out about the Chameleons and the Cure.” The intro and guitar riff that runs through “Sometimes I Remember” could have been lifted from the poppiest of Cure songs; it’s derivative in the best possible sense of the term. “Ultimately,” says Thom, “as you get older it’s hard to escape the music you loved when you were a kid. I mean, Peyton can bust Big Country riffs all day long.” LV

Raised in Captivity

Dreamwell Theatre • July 18-26

Iowa City's Dreamwellians ended up postponing their production of this dark comedy by Nicky Silver until July. The plot: Sebastian Bliss, a gay man whose most meaningful relationship is with a prison pen pal, reunites with his neurotic sister and her dentist-turned-artist husband at their mother's funeral. The three—played by Matt Brewbaker, Kristy Hartsgrove and James Hemsley—end up encountering deadly shower heads, self-mutilation, and spiritual awakening along the way.

"We were drawn to this play because it takes the idea of a dark comedy in a fresher direction," says Brewbaker. "It gives the familial dynamic its tragic due while allowing us to laugh at the absurdity of the tragedy. As an actor I am entranced and constantly excited by Nicky Silver's ability to let language communicate so much when the characters seem themselves to be unable to face the very idea of communication." July 18-19, 25-26, 8pm. 10 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-7757.

Englert Benefit

Yacht Club • Saturday, July 12

Leave it to the Englert and the Yacht Club to bring the cream of Iowa City's roots-rock crop together under one roof: The Schwillbillies, Tom Jessen and the Faded Blue Geniuses, Dave Olson and the One-timers, Shame Train, Alma Hovey Hayride, and Letterpress Opry. OK, not everybody...but Dave Zollo and Dave Moore are playing July 6 at the Green Room as part of an equally worthy fund-raiser to benefit the From Field to Family local food festival. So get your billfold handy and see why being in Iowa City now is like living in Athens, Ga., in the '80s or Seattle in the '90s. 13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464.



Tom Jessen

Hugging Saint returns

Mt. Pleasant • July 9-10

Known simply as Amma, the Hugging Saint, this middle-aged Indian woman travels the world hugging people. Amma sits for up to 14 hours at a time without a break, hugging those from all religions and occupations. Midwestern farmers, college students, professors, New Agers, Indians, Christians, Jews, Hindus, and even a Native American chief were willing to wait for hours last year to receive an embrace from Amma. Chief Wambli Sah Pah said, "You look at our spirituality and this spirituality, and it's similar. You have holy people who can heal and bring people together, and our medicine people can do the same." July 9, 10am & 7:30pm; July 10, 10am & 6:30pm. Iowa Wesleyan College, 601 N. Main St., Mt. Pleasant.

CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free, on a space-available basis. Mail entries to Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, Iowa 52244 or email little-village@usa.net

ART/EXHIBITS

Akar Architecture and Design

4 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 351-1227

Recent Ceramics: David Crane and Ellen Shankin, July 4-31; opening reception July 4, 5pm-7pm.

Arts Iowa City/The Galleries Downtown

218 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 337-7447

Bunny McBride, ceramics; Mary Merkel Hess, baskets; Shirley Wyrick, needle drawing; Robert Fox, black and white photographs; Naomi Schedl, graphite drawing; Louise Raugh, etched, ink dyed aluminum; Deanne Wortman, mixed media collage; Mark Tade, color photographs; Nancy Purington, indigo paintings on paper; Nana Burford, paintings; through August.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

What's so Funny?: Art with Humor, through Sept. 28 • On the Land: Drawing the Cycles of Nature by Ellen Wagner and On the Water: Harbor, Ocean and River Scenes from the Permanent Collection, through July 6. (See Words listing for more)

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Face to Face: Self-portraits of Linn County, through July 6.

Faulconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

Master Quilts Past and Present: Preserving the Voice of

America's Quiltmakers, 30 quilts including 10 made by Iowa quiltmakers, through July 27 • *Balancing Act*, photographs by Meighan Gale • *Heavy Has Debt*, site-specific installation by Phoebe Washburn.

Hudson River Gallery

538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488

Mixed media paintings by Barbara Robinette Moss, images inspired by her memoirs, *Change Me into Zeus' Daughter* and *Fierce*, through July 19.

Iowa Artisans Gallery/D.J. Rinner Goldsmith

117 E. College St., Iowa City

Ceramics Invitational: Brad Johnson, Laurie Shaman & Hatfield Clayworks, through Aug. 4.

Iowa State Bank & Trust

102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City

Iowa Landscapes: Pastels by Marcia Wegman; Black & white photography by Michael Johnson.

Lorenz Boot Shop

132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053

Infusion of Colors, mixed media by Nora Cross, including foil imaging and intaglio; *Darkroom Visions*, color photography by Kathryn Coryell; both through September.

Public Space ONE

6½ S. Dubuque St. (above the Deadwood), Iowa City

Intermedia art by Mark McCusker, through July 4.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

UI Hospitals and Clinics Staff Art Show, three-dimen-

sional art, through July 6, Roy Carver Main Lobby and John Colloton Pavilion on eighth floor (Patient and Visitor Activities Center); two-dimensional art and photography, through July 25, Boyd Tower East and West.

UI Main Library

UI campus, Iowa City

"The Lewis and Clark Expedition: A Bicentennial Exhibition, 1803-1806," captains' journals, fictionalized accounts, and books by Iowa authors about the journey, through Sept. 28, Special Collections Department, second floor • *Comforting Creatures: the Human-Animal Bond in Western Culture*, through mid-September, North Hall.

MUSIC

Clapp Recital Hall

University of Iowa campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Annette-Barbara Vogel, violin, and Ourania Menelaou, piano, July 23, 8pm.

Downey Street

Hoover Kiosk Courtyard, West Branch, 643-4545

Patrick Hazell, July 11, 9pm • Fianna, five-piece Celtic ensemble, July 18, 8pm • Two-Tone Tango, July 25, 8pm.

Eagles Club

225 Hwy. 1, Iowa City, 354-9805

D. Anthony Big Band, July 18, 7:30pm.

Gabe's

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788

Kelly Pardekooper, July 3 • Big Sandy and His Fly-Rite Boys, Dave Olson and the One-Timers, July 4 • Brand New, Senses Fail, The Beautiful Mistake, Moneen, 7pm early show; Techno and House DJs, 10:30pm late show; July 5 • Jeff Hanson, Denison Witmer, Blue Sky Research, July 6 • The High Strung, Capitol Years, The Actual, Nolan, July 7 • The Legendary Shack Shakers, July 8 • PBR Workshop, July 9 • Midtown, A Static Lullaby, 2nd Best, July 10 • DJ Alert, July 11 • The Frogs, July 12 • Me Without You, My Life Anthem, July 13 • Radar Bros, Old Canes, July 14 • Blueprint, Illogic, One Man Army, July 15 • Last Train Home, July 16 • Pernice Bros, The Tyde, Warren Zanes, July 18 • Dead to Fall, early show; DJ Mike Huckaby, late show; July 19 • Allister, Count the Stars, Lucky Boys Confusion, August Premier, July 20 • Those Peabodys, July 22 • Fear of Falling, Kita; July 24 • Jets to Brazil, July 26 • Burn Disco Burn, July 27 • Rivethead, July 28.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Blues Jam Mondays, Funk and Jazz Jam Tuesdays

Broken Grass, Becca Sutlive and the Attachments, July 3 • Sweet Potato Project, Winegarden, David Haack, July 4 • Family Groove Co., Dr. Z's Experiment, July 5 • Dave Zollo, Dave Moore, Dave Olson, fund-raiser for From Field to Family local food festival, July 6, 8pm-12am • Hackensaw Boys, July 8 • Smokestack, The Absurd, July 10 • Corn Meal, Mike & Amy Finders, July 11 • Euforia, Mr. Baber's Neighbors Solar String Band, July 12 • Average White Band, Psychedelic Breakfast, July 15 • Dirty Dozen Brass Band, July 16 • Skunk River Bandits, David Haack Band, July 17 • Lotus, Funk Master Cracker, July 18 • Swivel Hips Smith, The Diplomats, July 19 • Perpetual Groove, July 24 • Dave Zollo and the Body Electric, July 25 • Clean Livin', Future Rock, July 26 • Hieruspecs, Psychosomatic, July 31.

Iowa City Community Band

351-1256

Meagan Gugliano, trumpet, July 4, 8:30pm, S.T. Morrison Park, Coralville • Chris Knapp, vocals, July 13, 4pm, Upper City Park, IC.

The Java House

211 E. Washington St., 341-0012

KSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am

The Eddie Piccard Trio, IC Jazz Festival director Steve Grismore gives a sneak preview of the three-day event, July 4 • Too Much Yang, July 11 • The Quire, July 18 • Saul Lubaroff Trio, July 25. (See Java House listing under *Words* for the talk component of the show)

New Horizons Band

356-5220

Silver Swing, July 10, 7pm, Kent Park • Concert with Iowa City Community Band, July 13, 4pm, Upper City Park.

Northside Books

203 N. Linn St., Iowa City

Mark Johnson, guitar and vocal, July 6, 2pm • Larry Sievers, keyboard, July 13, 2pm • Keith Haworth and Karen Pierce, old time folk music, July 27, 2pm.

Sanctuary

405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692

Jazz Jam, Thursdays

Jack Norton, July 18.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

John Colloton Pavilion Atrium

Old Post Office Brass, July 16, 12:15-1:00pm • Nancy Cree's piano students, July 23 & 30, 12-1pm • Prime Time Company (female barbershop quartet), July 24, 12-12:45pm.

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401

Irish slow session (for more info contact Tara Dutcher, tara@uptownarts.com), Sundays, 2-4pm • Karaoke Night, July 13 & 27, 8-11pm • Sam Knutson, Caleb Ryder, July 12, 8-11pm • BeJae Fleming, July 17, 7-9pm • Dr. Z's Experiment, July 26, 8-11pm.

US Cellular Center

370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

B2K, Mario, Marques Houston, Nick Cannon, July 10, 7:30pm.

Yacht Club

13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464

Blues Jam hosted by Flying Bacchus, Sundays 8pm-12am

BillyLee Janey, July 4 • B. F. Burt and the Instigators, July 5 • The Schwillbillies Alma Hovey Hayride, July 11 • Englert Benefit: The Schwillbillies, Tom Jessen and the Faded Blue Geniuses, Dave Olson and the One-timers, Shame Train, Alma Hovey Hayride, Letterpress Opry, July 12 • Clean Livin', July 17 • Star Candy, Semi-Tone, July 18 • John Resch and the Detroit Blues, July 19 • Mud River Fund-raiser: Sam Knutson, Tom Jessen, Brandon Ross and more, July 24 • African Night, featuring African food and music, July 25 • Brother Trucker, CD-release party, July 26.

MUSIC FESTIVALS/ SERIES

Coralville Fourth of July Celebration

July 3-4, S.T. Morrison Park, Coralville

July 3: Dave Zollo, 5:30pm • Blood, Sweat & Tears, 8pm.
July 4: Pieta Brown with Bo Ramsey, 5pm • Community Band, 8:30pm.

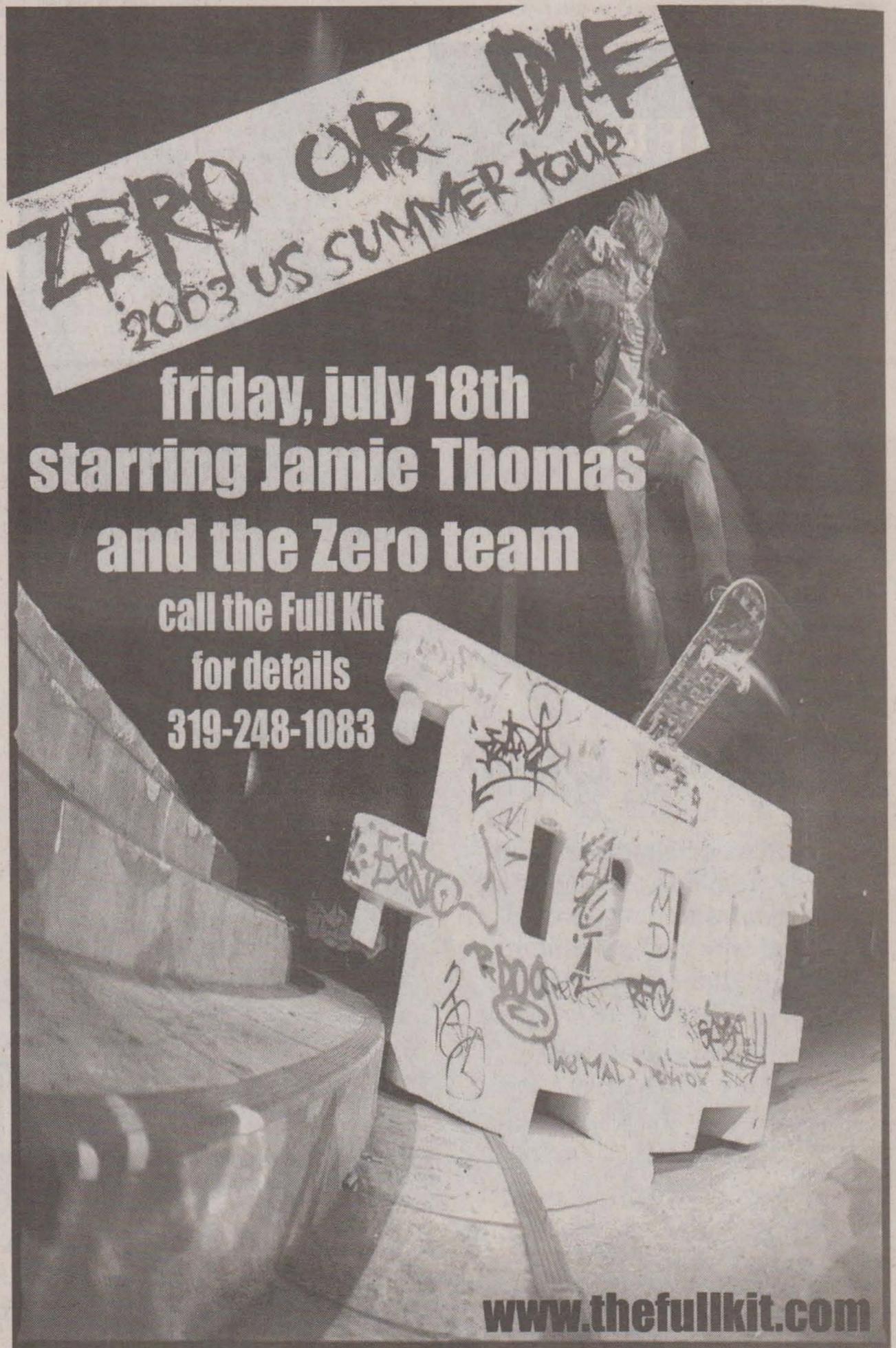
Friday Night Concert Series

Weather Dance Fountain Stage, downtown

Iowa City

6:30-9:30pm

Ben Schmidt, July 11 • Shade of Blue, July 18 • Letterpress Opry, July 25.



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and the Zero team

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Iowa City Jazz Festival
July 4-6, downtown Iowa City

Fountain Stage

July 4: United Jazz Ensemble, 6pm • United Jazz Alumni Band, 7pm • OftEnsemble, 8pm.

Workshop

July 5: With Geri Allen and her trio, 10:30am, Voxman Music Bldg.

Main Stage

July 5: Dennis McMurrin & The Demolition Band, 2pm • Geri Allen Trio, 4pm • Don Byron's Music for Six Musicians, 6pm • Charlie Hunter Quintet, 8pm.

July 6: Fred Anderson Trio, 2pm • Ron Miles Quartet, 4pm • Andrew Hill Quartet, 6pm • Dirty Dozen Brass Band, 8pm.

Stage A

July 5: The John Shultz Organization, 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm • We're Late (And We Smell Like Beer), 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

July 6: The Brandon Lewis Group, 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm •

The Joe Capolo Quartet, 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

Stage B

July 5: Johnny Kilowatt Band, 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm • Don Jacques Quartet, 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

July 6: The Michael Chesnik Quintet, 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm • Nutria, 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

Youth Stage

July 5: The Rally Monkeys 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm • Des Moines Community Jazz Center All-Stars, 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

July 6: The South Shore Youth Jazz Combo, 1:30-2pm & 3:30-4pm • Sax Attack, 5:30-6pm & 7:30-8pm.

Just Jazz Saturday Night Concert Series
Weather Dance Fountain Stage, downtown Iowa City

6:30-9:30pm

Daugherty/McPartland Group, July 12 • Oddbar Trio, July 19 • Dick Watson Band, July 26.

Market Music

Chauncey Swan Park, Iowa City

5-7pm

Dave Moore, July 9 • The Saul Lubaroff Trio, July 16 • Aleta & Al Murphy, July 23 • Mike Haverkamp, July 30.

Muscatine County Fair

West Liberty, 627-2414

Trace Adkins, July 18 • Sara Evans, July 19.

Music in the Park

Morrison Park, Coralville

6:30-8pm

Grace & Beauty Ragtime, July 10 • Kelly Pardekooper, July 17 • Lazyboy & The Recliners, July 31.

Uptown Friday Nights

Greene Square Park, Downtown Cedar Rapids

5-8pm

LARGE Midgets, July 4 • Bohemian Soul Tribe, July 11 • The Night Owls, July 18 • Mackie Blue, July 25.

West Branch Concert Series

Heritage Square, West Branch

7-8:30pm (unless otherwise noted)

Patrick Hazell, July 11.

**IOWA
SUMMER
REP 2003**

Rough Crossing

June 26, 27, 28, July 3, 5

Stoppard's hilarious tribute to 1930s movie musicals.

Travesties

July 1, 2, 4 (6pm), 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16

It's "a thousand laughs and nine-hundred thoughts" when Joyce, Lenin, and Tzara meet in this vaudevillian historical farce.

The Real Thing

July 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26

Stoppard's acclaimed romantic comedy "reminds us why we go to the theatre and why we fall in love. And why, just sometimes, it is all worth the effort." *The Spectator*

All performances in the UI Theatre Building.

THREE COMEDIES BY

Tom Stoppard

For tickets call 335-1160 or 1-800-HANCHER



DANCE

Arts a la Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526

Iowa City Dance Jam, dance to eclectic music, second and fourth Fridays, 8pm-12am, 354-5814 for more info • Salsa Breaks, Tuesdays, 10pm-12am.

**THEATER/
PERFORMANCE**

Brucemore

2160 Linden Dr. SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375

The Merry Wives of Windsor, by William Shakespeare, Classics at Brucemore, July 10-13, 17-20, 8pm (rain date July 21) • *Willabella Witch's Last Spell*, Outdoor Children's Theatre, July 23-July 26, 5 & 7:30pm.

City Circle Acting Company

Oakdale Hall Auditorium, Oakdale Campus, Coralville, 354-3006

8pm, except Sunday, 2:30pm

The Fantastics, July 11-13, 18-19.

Campbell Steele Gallery

1064 Seventh Ave., Marion, 373-9211

Liars Holographic Radio Theatre, music and original skits, July 11-12, 8pm, IPTV taping, reservations required.

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Clapp Recital Hall
University of Iowa campus, Iowa City,
335-1160

A Little Night Music, Stephen Sondheim's musical tribute to the era of operettas, presented by the UI Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theater, July 11-12, 18-19, 8pm; July 13 & 20, 2pm.

Dreamwell Theatre
10 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-7757

Raised in Captivity, dark comedy by Nicky Silver about a gay man who reunites with his neurotic sister at their mother's funeral, July 18-19, 25-26, 8pm.

Old Creamery Theatre
Price Creek Stage, 39 38th Ave., Amana,
800-352-6262

(unless noted otherwise)

Price Creek Stage: Wed., Fri., Sat. 8pm; Thurs., Sat., Sun. 3pm. Depot Theatre: Thurs. 3 & 8pm; Fri. & Sat 8pm; Sun. 3pm

Steel Magnolias, through July 6, Price Creek Stage • *Stones In His Pockets*, new play by Marie Jones about a Hollywood movie being filmed in Kerry, Ireland, two actors play 14 characters, through July 6, Depot • *The Rainmaker*, comedy by Richard Nash about a young woman whose father and brothers are worried she will become an old maid, July 11-Aug. 17, Price Creek Stage • *With All My Love, Bill*, works by William Shakespeare molded by The Creamery's Tom Johnson, July 17-Aug. 17, Depot.

Public Space ONE
6½ S. Dubuque St. (above the Deadwood),
Iowa City

The Stained Glass Window, a journey through several women's lives by Victoria Bemker, July 9-11 • Two one-acts: Chris Stangl's Winona Ryder and Aprille Clarke's *The Stabbiest Mexican*, July 23-25.

Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival
Riverside Festival Stage, lower City Park, Iowa
City, 338-7672

"Green Show" one hour before each performance, A Marvels Convenient Place

A Midsummer Night's Dream, July 3, 10, 12, 8pm; July 6, 6pm • *Macbeth*, July 5, 9, 11, 8pm; July 13, 6pm.

Theatre Cedar Rapids
102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8591

7:30pm Thurs., Fri. & Sat.; 2:30pm Sunday
La Cage aux Folles, the original French-farce-of-a-musical comedy July 11-26.

UI Theatre
Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160
Rough Crossing, romantic musical comedy by Tom Stoppard, Iowa Summer Rep 2003, July 3 & 5, 8pm, E.C. Mabie Theatre • *Travesties*, comedy by Tom Stoppard imagines the table talk when Lenin, James Joyce and Tristan Tzara were in Zurich simultaneously in 1917, Iowa Summer Rep 2003, July 4, 6pm; July 6, 8-13, 15-16, 8pm, David Thayer Theatre • *The Real Thing*, by Tom Stoppard, Iowa Summer Rep 2003, July 17-19, July 24-26, 8pm, E.C. Mabie Theatre • *The Real Inspector Hound*, reading of the Stoppard play, July 23, time TBA, David Thayer Theatre, for info, call 335-2700.

**AUDITIONS, CALLS,
ETC.**

Submissions sought: Johnson County Conservation Board Photo Contest, for all ages. Submit photos in categories: Wildflowers and Plants, Wildlife, People in Nature, or Nature's Power. Winning entries awarded prizes and displayed at the County Administration Bldg. and the Operations Center of the Conservation Board at Kent Park. Entry deadline Sept. 5. Get entry forms and rules by calling 645-2315 or visiting www.johnson-county.com/conservation/index.shtml, then opening the Summer 2003 Conservation Connection Newsletter to page 6.

COMEDY

The Green Room
509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350
Lightning in a Bottle, Iowa City's new improv theater, July 13 & 27, 8pm.

WORDS

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art
410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
"Ideas: Where I Get Them and What I Do With Them," book artist Emily Martin, Thursdays on Third, July 17, 5:30-6:30pm.

The Green Room
509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350
Poetry Slam, June 9 & 23, 9pm.

The Java House
211 E. Washington St., 341-0012
KSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am
The Eddie Piccard Trio, IC Jazz Festival director Steve Grismore gives a sneak preview of the three-day event, July 4 • UI President David Skorton, July 11 • Gender identity discussion with Cianan Russell, a UI student who is a mid-transition female-to-male transsexual, and Dr. Christopher Cooper, Director of Pediatric Urology at the Children's Hospital of Iowa, July 18 • Young people participating in the UI's Youth Entrepreneur Camp talk about their experiences, July 25.

Northside Books
203 N. Linn St., Iowa City
Marc Linder, professor of Labor Law at the UI College of Law, reading & discussion of his *Void Where Prohibited* books about the trickle-down effect of bathroom break regulations and the right to urinate on company time, July 18, 7:30pm.

Pappajohn Business Bldg.
UI campus, Iowa City
"Using the Human Rights Framework to Combat Abusive and Exploitative Child Labor," research colloquium, July 8-10, Room W401, 384-0011 for more info.

Prairie Lights
15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City (unless otherwise
noted), 337-2681

All 8pm (unless otherwise noted)

Broadcast live on WSUI (unless otherwise noted)
Workshop grad Amy Hassinger reads from her first novel, *Nina: Adolescence*, July 7 • Albert Goldbarth reads from his first novel, *Pieces of Payne*, July 8 • Workshop grad Marcos McPeck Villatoro reads from his private eye novel, *Home Killings*, July 9 • Neil Gordon reads from his new thriller, *The Company You Keep*, July 10 • Workshop grad Tom Averill reads from his second novel, *The Slow Air of Ewan MacPherson*, July 11 • Sherman Alexie reads from his new collection of short stories, *Ten Little Indians*, July 12, 7pm, Buchanan Aud. • William F. Duffy Jr. of Cedar Rapids reads from *Destiny Ours*, July 14 • Iowa's Poet Laureate and long-time Writers' Workshop professor Marvin Bell reads, July 15 • Arthur Phillips reads from *Prague*, his novel of American expatriates in the '90s, July 16 • Iowa farmer poet Michael Carey reads from his new collection, *Holy Ground*, July 17, Buchanan Aud. • Elizabeth Berg reads from her new novel, *Say When*, July 21, Buchanan Aud. • Workshop grad poet Michael Dennis Browne, July 22 • Afro-Canadian scholar Austin Clarke reads from his novel, *Polished Hoe*, July 23 • Poet John Thompson reads from his third book of poems, *Tender Revolutions*, July 31, no radio.

Yacht Club
13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464
Myth America (poetry, performance art, music), July 9.

**EVENTS/
FESTIVALS**

Cedar Rapids Freedom Festival
Through July 6, various locations, Cedar Rapids,
365-8313
Multiple activities, freedomfestival.com for details.

Coralville Fourth of July Celebration
July 3-4, Coralville
Music (see *Music Festivals* listing), parade (July 4, 10am), fireworks (July 4, dusk) and more.

Iowa City 4th of July
Fireworks, 9:30pm, Lower City Park.

Muscatine County Fair
July 16-20, West Liberty, 627-2414
See *Music Festivals* listing.

West Branch 4th of July
Pancake Breakfast, 7-11am; Parade, 10am.

MISC.

Arts a la Carte
20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526
Couples Massage Class Fund-raiser, with Shari Stevens, licensed massage therapist and Reiki master, July 9, 7:30-9:30pm.

just in case...

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Iowa City's
OTHER NEWS

Wednesdays 10-11 am
Saturdays 11am
on PATV Cable Channel 18

The *only* regularly produced TV
news program in Iowa City!

CD and Record Fair

July 6, 10am-5pm, Sheraton Hotel, 337-4058
Thousands of discs and records for sale, plus memorabilia,
358-9713 for more info.

Coralville Farmers Market

S.T. Morrison Park,
swimming pool parking lot, 354-3006
Monday-Thursday, 5-8pm, through Oct. 10.

Iowa City Farmers Market

Chauncey Swan Parking Ramp, corner of
Washington and Gilbert streets, Iowa City
Wednesdays 5:30-7:30pm and Saturdays 7:30-11:30am,
through October.

**CLASSES/WORKSHOPS/
CAMP**

Arts a la Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City, 354-1526

Arts a la Carte Summer Camp for Kids, includes dance,
mask making, storytelling, games, etc.: Session 1 (grades
1-3), July 7-11, 8am-12pm; Session 2 (grades 4-6), July
14-18, 8am-12pm. To register, call Kim at 338-5840 or
400-0298 • Habeas Corpus: Interdisciplinary Body Class,
jazz, ballet, modern, Disco, repertory, through summer,
Mondays 8:30-10pm, call Nora at 354-1526 or visit
www.artsalacarteic.org.

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592

Performing Arts Camp: July 7-25, Session 3: 9am-12pm
(ages 7-10), "Many Minis Salute 100 Years of Walt
Disney," Session 4: 1-4pm (ages 10-13), "James and the
Giant Peach."

It's time to "meet the folks"
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GRANDEST and FUNNIEST
hit musicals!

La
Cage
aux
Folles

July 11-26



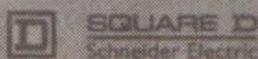
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lavish costumes and you have

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at

Theatre Cedar Rapids

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Thur July 3 **KELLY PARDEKOOOPER**

Fri July 4 **BIG SANDY & HIS FLY-RITE BOYS**

Sat July 5 **BRAND NEW**

Sun July 6 **JEFF HANSON**

Tues July 8 **THE LEGENDARY SHACK SHAKERS**

Thur July 10 **MIDTOWN**

Sat July 12 **FROGS**

Fri July 13 **THE PERNICE BROS.**

Sun July 20 **ALLISTER**

Sat July 24 **JETS TO BRAZIL**

25¢ TAP BEER
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TUESDAYS 7-11
WEDNESDAYS 7-11

BEER GARDEN

Strange but True!

News Quirks

Compiled by Roland Sweet

Curses, Foiled Again

When police in Suffolk County, N.Y., asked the driver of a truck they stopped to step out of the vehicle, he sped off. The pursuit ended 10 minutes later when the truck turned into a police headquarters parking lot. The driver, Troy C. Stephani, 32, told the arresting officers that he didn't pull over because "he wanted to finish smoking the crack cocaine that he had in his truck."

Appearing in court for a traffic citation, Robin Loftin, 18, of Carlsbad, N.M., removed his hat when Judge Walter Parr entered the courtroom, and a marijuana cigarette fell out onto the floor. Parr cited Loftin for contempt and ordered him to the county detention center.

Campaign Finance Reformist

Bobby McLamb, a former candidate for South Carolina agriculture commissioner who went to work for his opponent in the Democratic primary after his loss, admitted diverting some of her campaign funds to pay off his own political debt.

Mile-High Club Dropouts

When Robert Radder, 26, and Dollie Drape, 29, met this Valentine's Day at the Seattle, Wash., airport on their way to Anchorage, Alaska, they were instantly attracted to each other. After boarding the plane, they asked to be seated together, and passenger Gregory Alexander, 41, obliged by switching seats with Radder. The couple began making out, but soon they were arguing loudly, then swearing at each other. When a passenger told them to be quiet, Radder challenged the passenger to a fight. Flight attendants awoke Alexander and asked if he would swap seats with Radder again, but he erupted in anger. When the plane landed at Anchorage, authorities arrested all three.

One for the Book

Kent French claimed the title of the world's fastest clapper by clapping 721 times in 60 seconds during a live performance on KOTA radio in Rapid City, S.D. The performance was taped for submission to the *Guinness Book of World Records*. French said that he trained by clapping at

least 2,000 times a day for three months leading up to the big event.

Sex Is a Real Charge

Manfred Lubitz, 65, prepared to watch porn movies by wiring himself up to a home-made sex toy, which had a vibrating mat, massage pads and electrodes attached to his genitals. Expecting a thrill, he was electrocuted instead, according to police in Malaga, Spain, where the German immigrant lived. "There seems to have been a power surge while he was watching a film, called *Hot Vixen Nuns*," a police representative said. "And the apartment was damp." Lubitz had boasted to friends that his Orgasmatron, named after a sex machine in the Woody Allen film *Sleeper*, "was better than a woman and a lot cheaper."

Homeland Insecurity

After a genetically modified strain of a bacterium that causes pneumonia in pigs was reported stolen from Michigan State University, pig farmers across the United States feared they would be the next targets of bioterrorism. The magazine *New Scientist* reported this winter that, according to the US Department of Agriculture, the extra-lethal strain never existed. A former employee of the university staged the theft to hide the fact that \$750,000 worth of research into a vaccine against pig pneumonia was never actually conducted.

Join the Parade

The New Mexico House approved legislation designating the second Tuesday in February as "Extraterrestrial Culture Day" to "celebrate and honor all past, present and future extraterrestrial visitors" to the state. Rep. Dan Foley of Roswell, where some say aliens crash-landed in 1947, explained that he introduced the proposal to "enhance the relationships among all the citizens of the cosmos, known and unknown."

Disorder in the Court

The Florida Supreme Court reprimanded Circuit Judge Sheldon Schapiro for making inappropriate remarks in his courtroom on at least 13 occasions. He once told a defense attorney, "Do you know what I think of your argument?" and then pushed a button on a device that made the sound of a toilet flushing.

Crime and Punishment

A German court in Hanover ordered a 19-year-old man who stole a laptop computer to dig a new swimming pool for the computer's owner. The victim, a 41-year-old insurance agent, suggested the unusual punishment, sparing the thief the minimum six-month suspended jail



Live Music & BBQ

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Friday July 4

BILLYEE JANEY

Blues powerhouse

Saturday, July 5

B.F. BURT & THE INSTIGATORS

Awesome

Monday, July 9

MYTH AMERICA

Poetry, performance art and music

Friday, July 11

MINI BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

Featuring The Schwillbillies and Alma Hovey Hayride

Saturday, July 12

ENGLERT BENEFIT

The Schwillbillies • Tom Jessen and the Faded Blue Geniuses • Dave Olson and the One-timers • Shame Train • Alma Hovey Hayride • Letterpress Opry

This is awesome that we are able to do this.

Thursday July 17

CLEAN LIVIN'

Going-away party in style \$1 pints, blue dolphins, Captains!

Friday July 18

STAR CANDY w/SEMI-TONE

This is going to be FUNKY!

Saturday, July 19

JOHN RESCH & THE DETROIT BLUES

2002 Iowa Blues Challenge Champions

Thursday, July 24

FUNDRAISER

Mud River All Star Jam

Sam Knutson, Tom Jessen, Brandon Ross and many others

Friday, July 25

AFRICAN NIGHT

Featuring African food and music

Saturday, July 26

BROTHER TRUCKER CD Release Party!

More gnarly roots rock

Live Music & BBQ served 11am-2am

Every Sunday- **BLUES JAM**
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sentence. "The work should be completed within three months," court representative Stefan Joseph said.

Rodney Dangerfield Award Winner

Kelvin Bailey, 47, the mayor of Eagle Mountain, Utah, admitted fabricating a story about being kidnapped by a hitchhiker. "He said he felt unappreciated for the job he does," FBI Special Agent George Dougherty said, "and that he is under too much pressure."

The Honeymoon Is Over

Even though Texas doesn't recognize gay marriages, Judge Tom Mulvaney granted a divorce to a Beaumont couple, Russell Smith, 26, and John Anthony, 34, in March. Smith and Anthony had been granted a license of civil union in Vermont in February 2002.

Police in Mill Hall, Pa., said that Frank W. Shope II, 34, married Lori Ann Spangler, 35, after a five-week courtship, but after the ceremony the couple began arguing during a small reception in a bar. The dispute escalated after they returned home. Just after midnight, police said, Shope shot his bride, then shot himself in the head. Both were pronounced dead at the scene.

Bare It and Grin

Sheriff's deputies in Vancouver, Wash.,

arrested Christopher Scrivner after he picked up his order at a McDonald's drive-through window while naked from the waist down. Deputies said that Scrivner told them the idea "just popped into his head."

Southwest Airlines fired two pilots who reportedly took off their clothes in the cockpit during a flight, then asked a flight attendant to bring them paper towels and soda water. The pilots insisted that one of them removed his uniform only after spilling coffee on it but offered no explanation why the second pilot might have removed his clothes.

Litigation Nation

John Krumel sued the city of Fremont, Neb., to make it order some residents to move their mailboxes away from the sidewalks. Krumel, who is blind, claimed during the federal trial in Omaha that the mailboxes obstruct his access to the sidewalk and that he keeps running into them and hurting himself.

Downsizing Looms Ahead

Record demand for breast implants has resulted in a silicone shortage in Brazil, according to plastic surgeons there. Paulo Matsudo, director of the Brazilian Society of Plastic Surgery, noted that imports are insufficient to ease the crisis. "Brazil is a

tropical country with a huge seaside, and the population shows off their bodies a lot," Matsudo said. "Brazil is a country that likes beauty, and people want to have plastic surgery."

Hazards of Rock Music

While the Norwegian death metal band Mayhem was carving up a dead sheep as part of its performance in Bergen, the animal's head flew off lead singer Maniac's knife and struck audience member Per Kristian Hagen, 25. "My relationship to sheep is a bit ambivalent now," Hagen said after filing involuntary assault and battery charges against the band. "I like them, but not when they come flying through the air."

Compiled from the nation's press by Roland Sweet. Submit clippings, citing source and date, to POB 8130, Alexandria VA 22306.



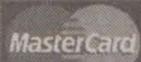
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CANCER (June 21–July 22) Cancer's problem in June, if you want to call it a problem, is an overabundance of opportunities and a rapid expansion of present business and professional activities. You still have to live your old life, with its obligations and responsibilities, while a brand new life starts up right on top of the old one. The key to survival will be prioritization and coordination. As carefully and gracefully as you can, phase out old involvements and phase in the new ones. This is a long-term process.



LEO (July 23–Aug 22) Most of the real excitement this month is either very subjective or very secret. Outwardly, events will bring you creative, romantic and financial luck. However, these benefits will pale beside the positive, inner transformations. These will bring you a new and welcome freedom from fears and hang-ups that have held you back. These inner changes will also bring the personal strengths needed to achieve financial independence, an increasingly important goal for Leos. Partnership matters will keep trying to get complicated and confusing. Make sure they remain simple and clear.



VIRGO (Aug 23–Sept 22) Virgo, being an orderly, detail-oriented sign, has probably been hoping for a quieter life than the one the stars have planned for them. Your idea of the perfect lifestyle, and your life itself, will soon be transformed by a lot of independent, unpredictable, even radical new people. Nerds, metaphysicians and politicians will all be included. None will make for the kind of quiet and routine lifestyle Virgos prefer. Fortunately, the underlying aspects are quite harmonious, and Jupiter, the planet of wealth and economic expansion, will soon enter Virgo. Enjoy.



LIBRA (Sept 23–Oct 22) Libra's romantic life continues mysterious and fascinating. Your work scene is becoming increasingly changeable, unpredictable and... well... strange. Your boss thinks all this is quite stimulating and reason enough to start making all kinds of needed changes. Meanwhile, you begin to see work as an opportunity to assert your independence and creativity. All of which somehow translates into an ambitious and occasionally cranky boss, inclined to make much greater demands on you. Fortunately, your Libran sense of balance and your delicate touch with other people will also be considerably enhanced.



SCORPIO (Oct 23–Nov 21) There is still a cloud over your living situation. The planetary influence responsible can generate endless complications. Do your best to keep domestic issues simple and clear-cut. Avoid intricate dealings and agreements. Micro-management and manipulation won't work, either. For the rest, Scorpios will find their ability to foresee, profit from and shape events greatly enhanced. All that positive synchronicity could be rather hard to take, though. Scorpios usually aren't happy unless they're pushing against some kind of resistance.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov 22–Dec 21) You will experience continuing pressures and numerous opportunities to make changes in long-term financial and living arrangements. And in your professional plans. Do not resist these pressures. It would be best to accept the inevitability of change. Instead of fighting it, join the lively, spirited debate taking

shape in your social and professional circles. Look to the future. You'll find active participation in this debate enlightening.



CAPRICORN (Dec 22–Jan 19) Capricorns are experiencing a change of personnel in their social and professional circles. These changes will be lasting ones. Capricorns are heavily dependent on their social and professional networks, even more than most. Consequently, these changes are likely to make you a bit nervous. However, they are under very positive and rather powerful aspects.



AQUARIUS (Jan 20–Feb 18) The emphasis for Aquarius is again financial. This month, the focus is on the importance of partners and associates. They are in a position to help and are benevolently disposed. Aspects will be ideal for making needed changes to your job situation and for building up long-term financial resources. But you are also likely to be at the center of ongoing debates and controversies. Don't let this distract you from all-important economic objectives. Success will require clarity and persistence.



PISCES (Feb 19–March 20) Pisceans are feeling amazingly independent. Inspiration, drive, courage and determination are at all-time highs. While you see no end of resistance and challenges from authority figures, none of it phases you. You know that time is on your side and your wishes will eventually prevail. Where you should take more care is with family members and business partners and associates. You will be especially dependent on business partners for material support. And family members will be feeling the strain of accommodating the changes that you are making in your life.



ARIES (March 21–April 19) With time to think, finally, you'll find that gaining relief from burdensome obligations is on your mind, especially where family and home responsibilities are concerned. There is a lot to be grateful for. The benefits of recent efforts are real, lasting and quite substantial, but it's time for more changes. In fact, your desire for greater personal freedom and a more fulfilling lifestyle is becoming more urgent and intense with each passing day. The planets will make it easy to work through any seeming sacrifice or compromise your plans require.



TAURUS (April 20–May 20) Planetary speaking, several rather heavy hitters are either solidly in Taurus' corner or soon to arrive there. In the years ahead, they promise substantial progress toward major goals—toward the fulfillment of major, life-long ambitions, in fact. In July, however, things will slow down just a bit. This is a brief and relatively quiet transition between two busy times. Use it to pick up details you had to let drop. Get some R&R.



GEMINI (May 21–June 20) Events over which you have little control are proceeding nicely anyway. You'll have to do something about that, eventually. For now, do your best to make yourself secure amidst the increasing cross-currents. But it should be some consolation that these developments are benefiting you financially. That will help you clear the economic hurdles standing between you and your goals. However, you would do well to leave room for variations and improvisations on your present plans. There are lots of turns in the road ahead. **LV**



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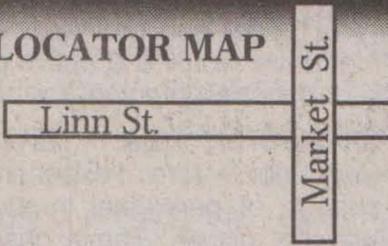
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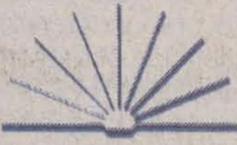
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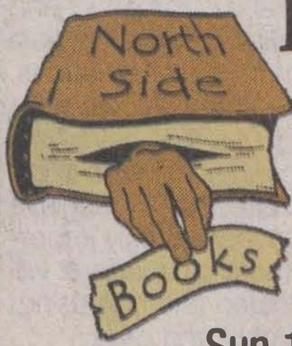
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