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AGENDA

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ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

GULF VETS & MCS: AGENT ORANGE AGAIN?

By Stephanie Harrell

When the Persian Gulf War ended two years ago, the 540,000 U.S. troops began returning amidst exclamations of low casualties and a relatively quick and painless war for the allied forces. Soon after, however, complaints of rashes, itching, aching joints, hair loss, tooth loss, and fatigue were being reported to Army physicians by some returning soldiers.

Last fall, the ABC news program "20/20" and National Public Radio's "All Things Considered" covered the story of these "unexplained illnesses." On both programs sick veterans expressed their frustration with the Army's responses to their illnesses. The Army had offered them a range of responses from saying the symptoms were too non-specific to be diagnosed to saying—as the Army Surgeon General's office concluded in a 60-page report—that stress was the main cause.

Since these two programs aired, there has been little major news coverage or follow up. For the sick veterans and their supporters, however, the matter has not only remained a grave health issue, it has taken on a political dimension as well.

There are veterans and physicians who believe the cause of these illnesses is multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS) brought on mainly by petrochemical exposure in the Persian Gulf. The government's unwillingness to believe this unconventional diagnosis, they say, has as much to do with saving money and pleasing the powerful Chemical Manufacturers Association and the petrochemical industry as it does with differing medical opinions.

Speculation has surfaced that the government is handling this matter in much in the same way it handled the Agent Orange controversy after the Vietnam War. In the earlier case, the government insisted for years that a link could not be proven between Agent Orange exposure and sick Vietnam veterans. Only recently did the Veterans Administration (V.A.) acknowledge that soft tissue sarcoma and non-Hodgkin lymphoma—from which many Vietnam veterans suffered and died—were "as likely as not" linked to Agent Orange exposure.

Today some fear that the government's lack of faith in the unconventional diagnostic procedures used by environmental physicians on Persian Gulf veterans is

only compounded by the enormous stake petro and other chemical industries have in maintaining that their products do not make people sick.

"The Chemical Manufacturers Association has 20 full-time lobbyists in Washington and they are extremely powerful," said Dr. John Boyles, a Centerville, Ohio-based otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist) who has treated eight veterans for MCS. "They know all about environmental medicine, they know all about multiple chemical sensitivity, and they say it doesn't exist."

A series of telephone interviews with sick veterans, environmental physicians, and government officials has revealed a web of differing opinions. Not even the numbers can be agreed upon. The Army Surgeon General's office says there are about 300 cases, yet Dr. Boyles predicts the number could reach into the thousands because of misdiagnosis of veterans' symptoms. Numbers aside, the fact remains that there are sick veterans who are not receiving the treatment they feel they need.

Sgt. Ronald Brandes of Milan, Indiana is one of those soldiers. Brandes was two months away from retirement from the reserves when his unit was called up for service. He chose to re-enlist for six years in order to go to the Gulf. While in Saudi Arabia, Brandes was exposed to an enormous amount of petrochemicals. He explains: "The water that we took our showers with was laced with fuel oil, diesel fuel [from fuel transport trucks that had not been properly cleaned]. In our heaters that we used in the tents at night we burnt whatever type of fuel we had. I'm a mess sergeant, so I was exposed to the cooking heaters all day, and we kept our flaps down due to the sand blowing.

"And then they had the oil fires, of course. We saw the smoke quite a bit from it. And we put diesel fuel on the ground to keep the dust down, so basically our tent was surrounded by diesel fuel."

Brandes started feeling ill while in the Gulf, but attributed it to the heat and the different environment. Three days after his arrival home, however, he reported to the hospital where he was stationed at Fort Van Harrison with rashes, severe sweating, itching, fatigue, and aching joints.

(see GULF VETS & MCS, page 5)

GAY & LESBIAN RIGHTS



PHOTO: LINDA WAN

Washington D.C., April 25—Holding the American flag, Felix Jimenez of Grand Rapids leads a contingent of homosexual Michiganians and their friends toward the Capitol. "We are all Americans," said Jimenez, "and today we (gays and lesbians) are using the system to gain our rights."

"Our Rights Are Non-Negotiable"

By Donna Red Wing

Editor's Note: Right-wing and fundamentalist groups launched two state-wide ballot initiatives in 1992, attempting to preclude gay men and lesbians from protection under state or local civil rights statutes. Oregon's Amendment Nine lost at the polls last November while Colorado's Amendment Two passed.

Since then, anti-gay groups are continuing their efforts in Oregon and have launched similar campaigns in several other states—among them Michigan, Idaho, California and Florida. Gay rights groups, meanwhile, are garnering their forces to fight back.

The U-M Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office, The Ella Baker-Nelson Mandela Center for Anti-Racist Education, and Gay Liberation Front presented a conference on March 27 entitled: "What to Do about Nine and Two: Organizing to Ensure Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual Rights." Speakers addressed the recent campaigns to limit the civil rights of gay men and lesbians, and discussed ways to organize against these campaigns.

What follows is an abridged transcript of remarks made at the conference by Donna Red Wing of the Portland (Oregon) Lesbian Community Project.

As we look at the challenging and volatile political seasons of 1993 and 1994, we must ask the questions: Who will define our freedom? Who will define democracy in the state of Michigan? Clearly, George Matousek and the Michigan Family Values Committee (MFVC) would like to take on that task. If their anti-gay, lesbian and bisexual legislation were to pass it would profoundly alter the lives of all Michiganders. Nullifying all past and present gay rights and prohibiting all future legislation, it is a shilling piece of legislation that allows certain acceptable people—the Michigan Family Values Committee and their followers—to label and control the destiny of others.

(see GAY & LESBIAN RIGHTS, page 14)

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"Barrack Buddies & Soldier Lovers"

While the public is growing more aware that there are gay men and lesbians in the U.S. military, knowledge remains scant of what their sex and social lives are really like. In "Barrack Buddies and Soldier Lovers" author Steve Zeeland uses conversations with 16 GIs to challenge assumptions and stereotypes of gay (and straight) men in the military.

Zeeland will speak at Common Language Bookstore (214 S. Fourth) on Tues. May 11 at 7:30 pm. Call 663-0036 for more information.

NOW Sponsors "Count On Me"

"Count On Me," a play about the role of Michigan women in the fight for liberty, justice and the right to vote, will be the feature presentation of the May meeting of the Ann Arbor-Washtenaw National Organization for Women. The meeting will take place Tues. May 11 at 7:30 pm at the Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw.

"Count On Me" brings to life historical events including the days of the underground railroad and the rallies for women's suffrage. "Very few Michigan women know of their rich history in political action," said playwright Randi Davis. "It is a story that gains relevance with time, as women move forward into professional careers and key political offices." For more information call 995-5494.

Norplant Funding Available

The Michigan Department of Public Health now offers financial assistance for low-income women and students who wish to use the five-year contraceptive Norplant.

Norplant has a high initial cost (approximately \$600) which is prohibitive for most women with no insurance. Medicaid recipients are already eligible for this method. Now many other women may purchase Norplant on a sliding-scale fee.

Norplant comes in the form of six thin capsules that are inserted into a woman's upper arm. The capsules contain a low dosage of the hormone progestin, which is slowly released to prevent conception over a five-year period.

For more information or to schedule an appointment call 973-0155 in Ann Arbor, 485-0144 in Ypsilanti, or 517-482-1500 in Lansing.

L.A. Panther Leader Up for Parole

Geronimo Ji Jaga (Pratt), a Vietnam veteran who led the Los Angeles chapter of the Black Panther Party in the 60s, is one of the world's longest-held political prisoners. In 1971 he was convicted on murder and robbery charges—for a crime that took place while he was at a Panther leadership meeting 300 miles away. Although FBI bugs picked up and recorded all such meetings, the tape of that particular day's gathering was mysteriously "lost."

Now, after 22 years, California authorities are considering Geronimo's petition for parole. The hearing, after being postponed several times, is now scheduled for May 12. To help free Geronimo, send letters demanding his release to John Gillis, Chair of California Board of Prison Terms, 545 Downtown Plaza, Ste. 200, Sacramento, CA 95814.

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Help for Parents With Disabilities

Parenting with a disability is not very different than parenting without a disability. Often, however, it takes a little extra creativity and support from others in the same situation.

With this in mind, two mothers with disabilities have formed a parenting discussion group. The group meets from 7-9 pm on the third Thursday of the month at the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living, 2568 Packard Rd. (Georgetown Mall). For more information call 971-0277.

Mother's Day Rally at Prison

Supporters will gather for the 3rd straight year in front of Scott Women's Correctional Facility in Plymouth on Mother's Day, Sun. May 9, to show support for women inmates and the problems they face in the criminal justice system. The rally begins at 1 pm. Call Susan at 741-0028 for more information.

Safe House Needs Volunteers

The Domestic Violence Project/SAFE House, which provides services to survivors of domestic violence, needs your help! Volunteers are needed in all program areas including answering the crisis line, providing child care, counseling, facilitating support groups, and public speaking.

Volunteers are also needed for the On-Call Team, which provides immediate assistance to survivors of domestic violence after an arrest has been made. Training begins May 14. Call 995-5444 to schedule an interview.

GEO/U-M Reach Agreement

Last month, after six months of bargaining, the Graduate Employees Organization (the union of teaching assistants at U-M) reached an agreement with the U-M administration.

The most hotly contested item during negotiations was health benefits—the administration sought to replace current teaching assistant (TA) benefits with an inferior package. The union won on this issue and will retain current benefits.

In addition, the new contract includes a 3% salary increase over each of the next three years and an \$80 cap on the university registration fee.

The Graduate Employees Organization AFT/MFT Local 3550 represents over 1,500 Teaching and Staff Assistants. TAs formed GEO in 1974 to protect and serve the interests of graduate student assistants. For more information call GEO at 995-0221.

AGENDA


Ann Arbor's Alternative Newsmonthly

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**Low Interest Rates:
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As I write this, interest rates are the lowest in 20 years. If you are a homeowner, the low rates should cause you to think about your housing situation, present and future.

For example, magazines and newspapers are full of advice, primarily: "Save money by refinancing your mortgage." In my view, however, there actually are four options available to homeowners:

- (1) Move to a different house, because low interest rates are in your favor both when you sell and when you buy.
- (2) Renovate your current home, using a low-rate loan to finance the improvements.
- (3) Sit tight with your current mortgage and home.
- (4) Refinance your mortgage.

When considering these options, decisions should be based on the many circumstances that vary with each homeowner, such as how long you expect to own your house, the current market value of your home (as is or as renovated) and the availability of the kind of house you would want to move to.

If you would like some expert advice when pondering these matters, please give me a call. I would be happy to consult with you, but you would have no obligation to me.



Bob Hefner



PHOTO: Brian Srock

Publisher Jesse Arana contemplates Tyree Guyton's Heidelberg Project at an Art Light interview.

Art Light R.I.P.

By Todd Spencer

Last summer saw newspaper boxes materialize all over Ann Arbor's downtown sidewalks sporting a new monthly arts newspaper, Art Light. Now those boxes are all empty, as Art Light's unlikely publisher had to call it quits after eight issues.

Art Light readers turned to the newspaper for gallery listings, artist profiles, commentary on the local arts community, and the work of local photographers and poets. Twenty-eight-year-old Jesse Arana, Art Light's founder and publisher, leapt many hurdles and crossed many bridges in the eight-month attempt to make it a viable commercial proposition. In the end, however, saddled with a shrinking volunteer staff and money problems, Arana laid the publication to rest in March.

Arana dove into the Art Light project head-first. As the newspaper boxes indicated, his was no hobby but a serious effort to establish Art Light as a local fixture. Such an undertaking would be a difficult and ambitious proposition for anyone, but especially for Arana. He undertook the creation of Art Light just a few short months after arriving on Ann Arbor's doorstep, fresh from six years as a Hindu monk. He got a job at a Taco Bell, rented an apartment and joined the Artist's Co-op.

"I was a very restless kid," says Arana, naturally enunciating every word with precision. "I've always desired to do things that were beyond my reach...which is why I could start something like Art Light, because I can sit down and say, 'This is impossible. You have no capital, you don't even have a car, you don't know anybody in this town, so start a monthly newspaper on the arts.' That's the type of project that appeals to me for some reason."

Arana's personal history is as evocative as the opinions, words and images

that were often found in his newspaper. He grew up in Geneseo, New York, near Rochester. He dropped out of school at the age of 14 so he could attend art and

literature classes at the local college where his father taught. He then studied painting in Paris. At age 20 he found himself a starving artist in Rochester with a painting studio, a rock band, and a theater internship. He also found himself unfulfilled. "I was doing everything I wanted, and still, I wasn't happy," mused Arana.

He decided to devote himself 24 hours a day to the spiritual, which led him to six years of monastic life as a Hindu monk. After completing a ten month hike across the United States with another monk, and writing a book about the experience, he decided to defrock. He then came to Ann Arbor to finish his degree and to try to get his book published.

Sporting a five o' clock shadow and round glasses, Arana doesn't necessarily look like a monk. But his dark hair is closely cropped, his clothes are earth-toned and his bare feet dig into his front room carpet.

The idea for Art Light ("Light" referring to "enlightenment" and not a play on distillery ad copy) came to Arana after he attended an arts dialogue hosted by the Performance Network in February of 1992 entitled, "Outlook Arts: Lookout!" The program was a series of panel discussions by artists and arts organizations concerned predominately with Governor Engler's efforts to completely eliminate state funding for art and culture. Under Engler's plan the Michigan Council for the Arts (MCA), the organization that allocated grants to artists and arts organizations, would be eradicated.

At the time Arana attended the aforementioned program at the Performance Network, a statewide grassroots cam-

(continued on page 4)

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(FROM PAGE 3)

paigned to stop Engler's plan had been successful, but the MCA still found its budget slashed by 40 percent. The arts community in Ann Arbor was going to suffer and some saw the need for the diverse art organizations to come together in order to fight for survival. Arana spoke to politicians, artists, arts administrators and gallery owners, and decided that Ann Arbor needed a forum in which groups could announce their plans and events, could pool their resources, and could exchange ideas to solve problems and help each other through the financial crisis.

Although Art Light was successful on many fronts, creating such an arts dialogue was not one of them. Arana criticizes administrators and organization directors for not jumping aboard. "The plan was to use them (art organizations) as a revenue source, to have them buy space in the paper," he explained. "Art Light could have been a perfect vehicle to support the non-profits by drawing more people to them. It was directly along the lines of what the MCA was telling them, which was to start looking at ways to market themselves, to make a profit, to wean themselves away from public money."

"I went out into the arts organizations and a good number of them told me, 'You're crazy, this is impossible, it'll never happen, we're not interested.'"

So why didn't they bite? Nan Cheezek, the executive director of the Washtenaw Council for the Arts offered this explanation: "If the divergent segments of the art community in Ann Arbor are going to come together, and they do need to, it has to happen face-to-face in person. That's not the kind of goal you can set for a newspaper to accomplish. I can become educated and informed through something like Art Light, but it's not going to get me involved."

Cheezek says that more successful dialogue occurs at events such as "Outlook Arts: Lookout!" She also mentioned the monthly Network Lunch meetings at the Real Seafood Company as a better tool by which to accomplish Art Light's purported goals.

Cheezek does have praise for the newspaper, however. "Art Light was informative. Some of the articles were very controversial and that was good because it stirred things up, and that was needed," stated Cheezek. "There's a place in this community for an arts newspaper, I just don't know what that place is. Jesse put out a good one, but he was a little unrealistic about what it could accomplish."

When Arana figured out that the money for the publication was not going to come from the arts community, he looked to the business sector, where he was pleased to find much support. In the end, however, it was not quite enough.

The segment of the arts community that will most miss Art Light is, arguably, the poets, fiction writers, and photographers. They're the ones who could look to the newspaper to see the work of their fellow artisans or as a place to publish their own work. In its eight issues, Art Light showcased local poets such as Josie Kearns, Matt Smith, and David Orlovski, and featured photographers like My-Linh Kotre, Yitah Wu, and Stephen Graham.

"It really did serve the artists," says Arana. "Most of the artists felt that even if they didn't agree with everything that was in Art Light every month—or it wasn't their taste—they were still rock-bottom

glad that it was there." Local writers also appreciated Arana's non-competitive philosophy when it came to choosing what to publish. There was no need to send your work to Art Light on a micro disk with a cover letter and a S.A.S.E.

"It was low-tech," says poet Justin Wright. "I just went over to his house and showed him my stuff. He picked out the two he liked best and I typed them into his computer. It's a rare opportunity that you get to meet and befriend the publisher of your poems."

"A lot of writers," says Arana says with a smile "were surprised they didn't have to slit their wrists in front of me to get published."

Another service for which Art Light will be missed is the monthly gallery listing. As an outsider turned insider, Arana was surprised at the lack of attention the local art galleries received, especially when compared to the super hype garnered by the Art Fair.

"It's just as easy for people to go to the galleries that are here year round as to walk around in the heat of some Roman festival with 200,000 other people. At the galleries you can stand and stare in silence at the work. The gallery page was an attempt to bring people in to see those works—stuff that may be truer and better art than what you find at the Art Fair."

The newspaper was successful in almost everything it set out to do, except serving as an arts dialogue and becoming financially self-sustaining. There are some lessons that Arana could pass along to any who would follow in his footsteps.

"If I had either a slightly larger pool of regular advertisers or one more person on staff selling ads, even if only a few every month, we'd still be printing right now. But finding a volunteer to go out and sell ads is really really shooting for the moon. Art Light was simply a typically undercapitalized small business."

Arana also says that if he were to do it over, he would not have attempted to get readers to pay for their copy. "I got boxes right next to The Ann Arbor News so everyone would know this was for real, and I wanted them to put fifty cents in the slot. It was an experiment. Everyone told me we should go 'free' right away, and they were probably right. I could have made a faster, bigger impact by making Art Light free from the beginning, instead of just the last three issues. There are a lot of other free papers; it's a tradition here. We later went 'free' because we weren't serving our advertisers."

In mid-March Jesse came to terms with the masochism that would be involved in going any further with the arts paper. "I realized I was doing it more and more alone. I didn't even have a vehicle to take it to press. When you're doing a 5,000-copy publication and the printing press is two hours away, and you have to do distribution for two or three days...to work on an issue knowing you don't even have the ability to take it to the printer is a big spiritual letdown. So not only was I making difficult editorial decisions and hopping on the phones in the morning asking people for an extra hundred dollars. I was also carrying around the burden of knowing that even if I print it, I can't distribute it. I literally distributed 3,000 of this last issue's copies on my back, walking around town."

In the end, as you might expect from a Hindu monk, Jesse Arana has no regrets, and is happy for his successes. "If 500 years from now we crack open a copy of Art Light, we can look at all these people who were making art in Ann Arbor. That thought alone is enough for me."

The segment of the arts community that will most miss Art Light is, arguably, the poets, fiction writers, and photographers. They're the ones who could look to the newspaper to see the work of their fellow artisans or as a place to publish their own work.

GULF VETS & MCS: AGENT ORANGE AGAIN?

(FROM PAGE ONE)

"They treated me somewhat for the itching—said it was fatigue and stress," said Brandes. "But I ran my own business prior to leaving for the Gulf, and I felt I knew what stress and fatigue was and it didn't feel like this is what I had."

Brandes was contacted by Major Richard Haines of New Albany, Indiana. Haines is a former National Guard division fuel officer who—familiar with MCS—became alarmed when he learned of the unexplained illnesses. He began doing research and collecting information. Now 1,500 work hours and \$16,000 of his personal savings later, he has a huge data base containing information about MCS and over 250 sick veterans.

Haines put Brandes in touch with Dr. Boyles. Brandes tested positive for petrochemical poisoning and is now being treated successfully by Dr. Boyles. The Army, however, will not acknowledge or pay for this treatment.

"At this point I have not asked the government for anything but medical attention," Brandes said. "Like I told the doctors and I told my unit, all the money in the world isn't nothing without your health. Basically I have not asked the government for a dime, no compensation in any way other than medical treatment—get me better, get me back on my feet. And maybe I get to see a doctor once a month."

"And like I told them when I started seeking outside help, once a month doesn't get it. I feel so bad in between seeing the doctor, you know I just feel like my insides are dying sometimes. And, you know, the doctor at Fort Knox, the internal medicine doctor is really trying to help me but they don't want to acknowledge petrochemical poisoning."

Brandes did request that the Army test him for petrochemical poisoning, but said one doctor replied, "It's a very expensive test, but—not that money is a problem—we don't feel it's necessary."

Last October, having received little or no response from Army officials after updating them (through his chain of command) on the information he had collected on sick veterans, Haines presented his findings to the American Academy of Environmental Medicine (AAEM). AAEM Assistant to the President Earon Davis described the 500-member organization as being "on the cutting edge of medicine." Their role, however, is considered controversial by government and medical establishments. At any rate, the academy agreed to Haines' request to examine sick veterans for evidence of chemical sensitivity.

"Petrochemicals, over long term exposure, get deposited in the fat, and that's a proven fact," said Dr. Boyles, a member and former president of the AAEM, explaining how they are able to test for MCS. "What happens is even after you're taken away from this bad environment, it keeps coming out of your fat. What we're talking about is people who have either had a big exposure to solvents and chemicals or continued long exposure to the point where they then become allergic to chemicals and then even small doses will cause them to become sick while the same doses won't affect most of the population."

"Well, these guys were subjected to such huge doses for such a long period of time that many of them developed sensitivity problems. Now they come back home and try to go back to jobs that involved chemicals that they never

had any trouble with before and now they have trouble. Now they have trouble being around perfumes and gas fumes and anything like that. And their immune systems are low enough that almost all of them have fungus problems. These guys are really ill."

The Army and V.A., however, see things differently. According to the Army Surgeon General's spokesperson Peter Esker, "There is no common thread" linking the unexplained illnesses of the 344 soldiers they have on record. He insists that the Army has not ruled out any possibilities and that "there are physicians across the spectrum of the Army Medical office looking at this, at the environmental aspect, at chronic fatigue."

"There's no separate little cell of researchers looking at this," Esker said. "Each patient that we are seeing is being treated on an individual basis."

As for the V.A., in August 1992 it announced the establishment of three Environmental Medicine Referral Centers to "deal with Persian Gulf veterans whose symptoms defy explanation through the usual diagnostic and therapeutic endeavors of a local V.A. center." The centers are located in Washington, D.C., California, and Texas.

"The purpose of the referral centers is to have a locus, if you will, of specialty collaboration available," said V.A. spokesperson Terry Jemison during a March telephone interview from Washington, D.C. "The basic criteria for referral is that the patient has essentially stumped the local diagnostician and the primary care givers at the local V.A. medical center."

Other than unexplained illness, Jemison said he "does not know if there is any essentially unifying diagnostic indication there. The chemical hypersensitivity is the one diagnosis that we've seen that is probably the only diagnosis that is repetitive. We've seen several cases of that."

Once at a referral center, Jemison said, patients are treated on an individual basis. "The tests that are being done are what tests are medically indicated in conjunction with the work up that is necessitated by the veteran's symptoms," he said. "There is no set protocol of special tests for veterans who come to referral centers."

When asked about the testing and treatment being performed by doctors such as Dr. Boyles, Jemison expressed cautious skepticism.

"There's been a couple of reviews of what the literature shows with regard to the efficacy or the effectiveness of the [AAEM recommended] treatments that have been very contradictory," he said. "There haven't been large-scale epidemiological studies to show that there is value, clearly and unequivocally, in those sorts of methods of provocation neutralization therapy, sweating out toxins, and of vitamin and mineral supplements [methods used by AAEM physicians on patients like Brandes]. It's an area that is certainly very interesting, that we would view generally as being something of a research challenge—one that we would expect to raise with our contractors. We hope to, in the near future, be engaging in a multimillion dollar scientific study on the Persian Gulf environment and health effects that will take place over a number of years."

Dr. Boyles submits that one of the biggest problems is that MCS is hard to test for and that there is no genuine marker. He adds that there are sophis-

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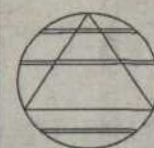
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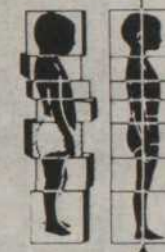
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EARTH PAGE

Michigan Residents Fight Nuclear Waste Dump

By Phillis Engelbert

A new storm is brewing on the shores of Lake Michigan, and this one isn't caused by Mother Nature. Area residents are fighting plans by Consumers Power (CP) to create a high-level nuclear waste storage facility at their Palisades nuclear power plant near South Haven.

To communicate their message, 150 people gathered outside the Palisades plant on Saturday, April 24. They came from all over Michigan and from as far away as Wisconsin and Ohio. No representative of Consumers Power (CP), which owns the Palisades plant, came out to greet them. (The protesters weren't even allowed in the plant's parking lot which is normally open.) This follows the pattern set by CP and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), which have exempted the public from the decision making process about the waste storage at the plant.

As of now five 18-foot tall concrete storage casks for spent nuclear fuel rods (waste byproducts of the nuclear fission process) stand completed on a concrete pad in a critical dunes area just 150 yards from the shore of Lake Michigan. The plans call for a total of 25 such casks. The NRC ruled to approve the casks on April 2. Thirty days from that date the NRC may grant a certificate of compliance. On receipt of the certificate, CP can start loading the waste. The projected date to begin loading is May 8. At this point, only legal action by the state or private interests can stop it.

Given that stored wastes will remain highly toxic for centuries, area residents and members of environmental groups are worried about the potential threat the casks pose to the Great Lakes. The casks are considered unsafe by both environmentalists and some experts within the nuclear industry. An accident, they argue, could lead to long-term contamination of Great Lakes, which account for 90% of this country's fresh water and one-fifth of the world's fresh water.

The Palisades nuclear plant opened in 1971. Since that time plant operators have stored all the spent fuel rods in a holding pond on the plant's grounds. The pond is nearly full now and CP needs another place to store them. This dilemma has led to the construction of the casks. Opponents say that considering the plant's structural problems, a better option is to retire the plant.

Any waste storage facility at a plant is designated "temporary" by the Department of Energy (DOE). The DOE, according to its own rules, has an obligation to provide for the permanent disposal of nuclear waste by 1998. As of now, no site exists for this purpose. There are plans to

create such a facility at Yucca Mountain, Nevada. The projected storage capacity of this site, however, will not be great enough to meet the needs of nuclear plants nationwide.

State agencies overseeing the project specifically stated that "spent fuel can be stored in dry casks at a plant only during the term of its operating license." It follows, then, that any storage system should also allow for the eventual transport of the waste. The Palisades casks, however, are designed as "storage" only. Each cask will weigh 128 tons when full.

Critics say that CP was irresponsible in going ahead with their limited-use cask, given that they knew the DOE is currently developing a "universal cask," capable of both fuel storage and transport. According to veteran anti-nuclear activist Mary Sinclair, in an April 7 letter to Sen. Carl Levin: "This means that the VSC-24 [Ventilated Storage Cask-24] cask planned for use at Palisades is already an outmoded design. To allow this waste to be loaded in these casks for which there is no transport plan would be a tragedy for Michigan and for the entire Great Lakes."

Another concern is that this particular cask has never been tested before. Its first use will be at the Palisades plant. Plant operators are relying on results from simulated computer tests. According to a fact sheet prepared by the mid-Michigan citizens group Don't Waste Michigan: "This means the workers, the public, and the Lake Michigan environment are the 'guinea pigs' for this first test of this dangerous technology."

Critics—both grassroots activists and nuclear industry officials—have cited problems with the design of CP's casks. One of their concerns is the lack of temperature monitoring equipment inside the casks.

The casks are to be cooled by passive air circulation. However, if the vents became blocked by debris, the temperature of the concrete could reach 650°F within one week. Concrete has a safe temperature limit of 350°F, after which it loses structural integrity.

Another point of contention is the surveillance plans outlined by CP. They call for a weekly drive-by inspection. Critics claim this isn't enough, particularly given that it is impossible to tell, from the ground, if vents in the upper portion of an 18-foot tall cask are clogged. Violations of construction codes while assembling the casks have also been sighted. One example is the use of pressurized air to force concrete into the forms, which may cause structural problems.

Palisades workers already experienced one problem during a fuel-moving exercise on March 1 when an electric cable in the control circuits of a crane overheated. The Ann Arbor News reported on April 15 that, according to the NRC, the incident occurred while moving an empty spent fuel storage basket and transfer cask. No injuries or release of radiation were reported.

Many of the storage facility's opponents would ultimately like to see nuclear power replaced with other forms of energy. Among them are Kay Haffner, who works with Palisades Watch, a coalition of citizens groups that coordinated the April 24 protest. "I think people are very unaware of the dangers of nuclear energy, including the people who work there. There is safe, alternative energy that creates more jobs," stated Haffner.

Palisades Watch encourages concerned individuals to write to Governor John Engler and Attorney General Frank Kelley and urge them to stop plans for the nuclear waste dump on the shores of Lake Michigan.



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-Vivian Stanshall of the Bonzo Dog Band

Night time in Treetown. Whatever it is you might be doing, there's something happening on a massive scale. A sporting event is being held a mile away, and thousands of young whips are following it closely on their television screens. Walking down the middle of the street in my neighborhood, you could hear the game, its every moment narrated with alacrity, blasting out of TVs in nearly every apartment.

Any occurrence which favors the home team brings howls and yelps from throats sticky with beer. A turn for the worse and there's rage in the air, just as frightening and only slightly less dangerous than their elation. If they win, there'll be a riot. If they lose, expect random acts of aggravated vandalism and a general mood of nastiness. Stay indoors and pray they pass out drunk before too much damage is done.

I remember sports. They tried it on me in junior high school. I was assigned a grimy little locker which I could stuff with filthy laundry and call my own. Showers were a sort of hell where certain boys would scream deafeningly, creating an atmosphere which in retrospect reminds me of the fire pits from Fellini's *Satyricon*.

I played football exactly once. They stood us in formation with our hands on our knees. A whistle sounded, and I was on the ground being stomped. Fuck this, I reasoned, and for the rest of that autumn I climbed a tree and read Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. Fuck you all. I'm reading and I can't be bothered now.

Obviously, I've got an attitude. My attitude has been shaped almost exclusively by the behavior of the athletically inclined. Why is it these creatures begin to fester and become dangerous over the incidental outcome of a game? Now, games in themselves are potentially healthy and exciting ways for people to get together and blow off steam. Problems arise when all the game does is to generate more steam. Soon the spectators explode all over each other and anyone who sportsmanlike. Suddenly it's far from sportsmanlike. It's terrifying.

Baseball, being a traditionally gentlemanly game, is fascinating. Periodic trips to see the Toledo Mud Hens have become a part of my exploratory American research lifestyle. The crowd is always bizarre, and one feels as if Kurt Vonnegut wrote the script. When people really care about something, it's nice to see them get enthusiastically involved.

Hockey, which at first comes across as a blood-spattered brawl, truly affects people's lives in a penetrating way. The Stanley Cup is a sort of Grail, taken quite seriously by believers of the Puck. So I'm not here to piss anyone off. It's not nice to piss people off, and an enraged hockey fan could be dangerous.

Detroit rioted when the Tigers won too many games a few years back. Remember? It makes some of us wish for failure. So, too, do I wish that all of these people could pay attention to something besides who's on top. Just about every time I write a piece for this paper, I find a way to complain about that much-abused phrase, "We're Number One." As long as this slogan comes out of these people's mouths, we are aligning ourselves with the rudiments of genocide and ethnic cleansing. This I believe!

Yet I feel for those who exist in the grip



PHOTO: DOUG KANTER/MICHIGAN DAILY

Win or lose the results are the same: Pictured above is 1991's version of the kids getting out of hand on South University.

The Kids Aren't Alright

By Arwulf Arwulf

of the Sport culture. I've a friend who grew up in a family of athletes, wherein he was expected to devote himself to football like his brothers did. Instead, this fellow's life revolves around cinema and alternative radio. He's even chucked the jocular alcohol mandate, and enjoys a well-organized, creative existence. Yet the upbringing is still there; months ago he awoke shuddering from a nightmare! In his dream he was pounding brewskies, and Bob Ufer was chastising him from the grave for having turned his back on a career in football! I was touched by this particular nightmare: the image of beers and Ufer is a sobering one.

I have begun to catch a glimpse of why basketball is of itself a beautiful thing. Friends have explained to me: it's improvisation. It's Jazz. I felt that quite distinctly when Roy Brooks and his Aboriginal Percussion Choir performed an exciting tribute to the game. He had actual bouncing balls and making shots, while another dancer blew a whistle and impersonated the referee. Jesus, that was beautiful. For a moment I saw the light and had to restrain myself from jumping up there and joining in. These were good men, happy with the sport. It was cool.

Back on the streets of Ann Arbor, the behavior of the mob who live by the scores is another thing altogether. Because the hate culture takes over, and I can't see the beauty anymore. Can't see for lookin'. See broken glass, bloody noses, and a high school boy who was caught in the wrong part of the crowd at the wrong time and got stomped into the street. For awhile, the reports from the hospital said he could have been paralyzed by his injuries. Fortunately, he recovered. But doesn't this sort of thing make you nervous?

For years I have been personally terrorized by jock brutality. Every time there was a home game during the autumn, my fence would get kicked in. Today there's only posts. Testosterone smashes redwood planks with a swift kick. I ran out of patience when my fence ran out of boards. Also when some drunken ass dragged a painted mannequin off of our porch and smashed it in the street. See it? A female in effigy being thrown to the pavement again and again. If he does this to a

statue, what will happen when he tries to interact with a living woman? Doesn't this sort of thing, I ask, make you nervous?

Who are these people? Think back. Around 1980, the administrative shirts at the U-M started talking about "Redirecting The University." They clearly stated that their goal was to "attract a different sort of person to the U-M." What this meant was that they were going to redirect Ann Arbor, by attracting a different sort of person to Ann Arbor. And this they have done.

The emphasis at the U-M is visibly focused upon athletics and business training (I assume there's a difference between the two). Humanities are going strong, but the direction of the big flow has surely changed, as per instructions in the script. The crowd is getting really weird. Narrow-mindedness is in resurgence. Some of the faces and the minds within are twisted with intolerance. I have never seen such a crop of materialistic, violent, misanthropic upstarts. And I've been watching this town for a good many years.

The kids aren't alright. Nobody's taught them how to party properly, which is quite important. To party in the streets is a joy and should be done intelligently, creatively. *Clean up after yourselves. Don't tear the town up, and you'd damned well better not start hurting other people, or you can get the fuck out of here.* But I could talk like this forever and it wouldn't really affect what these young folks are like. I'd say we've got a problem, and it's not going away.

Let's thank all of those who are responsible. Especially those who sired such repugnant caligulas and raised them to spit in the faces of strangers. I've mentioned the hate-scravls which decorate the stalls of the washrooms on campus. Rarely have I seen such venom displayed in the noble arena of graffiti. Now here's an update: brothers of color responded to racist inscriptions by demanding that the chumps affix their names to the bold, hateful statements. Interestingly, the author of the most ethnically offensive graffiti now signs himself as "Wolverine." That's wonderful. Thank you whoever you are for being so concise. I can see the writing on the wall.

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MUSIC

After a seven-year sabbatical to study voice and piano, Pleiades Label recording artist Margie Adam is back. Her latest recording, "Another Place," is a collection of 13 "contemporary pop songs." Although

this recording shows Adam's considerable talent as a songwriter, it plays to a selective audience. Like folk music, it's not for everyone.

Margie Adam calls herself a "women's music" artist. This genre eludes easy definition. Perhaps it means that the music has qualities considered "feminine," such as sensitive lyrics, soft acoustic instruments, and soothing melodies with slow-to-medium tempos. It may also reflect a lack of musical aggression, dissonance and screaming electric guitars. But does the label "women's music" imply that the music will appeal only to women? No—the appeal of this recording transcends gender.

Adam's music is highly melodic. She accompanies her rich alto voice with elegant piano arrangements. Back-up instrumentals, including an occasional flute and harp, are performed by ten women musicians from jazz, rock and pop backgrounds. But much of Adam's strength is in her lyrics.

Most of Adam's lyrics speak of relationships and equality therein. The identity of the parties involved in a relationship are often left ambiguous. "We" can mean two people (genders unknown), members of a community, or even humanity and the natural world. Love, friend-

ship, a common purpose, or mutual respect are the bases of these relationships.

There are two songs on "Another Place" that stand out as real gems. "Talk With My Heart" is a song about trying to leave a situation which causes heartache and pain. Adam writes about one whose heart "wouldn't listen to reason" and who has "had enough of this treason." But when Adam declares "Here is my heart's refrain," instead of another line of lyric as might be expected, Adam gives us a beautiful, well-produced, haunting piano solo—truly a refrain from the heart.

"Another Place"



Margie Adam

In the "Long Haul" Adam speaks of the determination that people need to stick together through a situation until the very end. The sentiment of the chorus—"I am in it for the long haul/I will be there for the last call/You can count on me if you stumble and fall"—underlies much of Adam's music. Although the "long haul" seems to refer mainly to political struggle in this song, it could serve as a metaphor for a number of things, including marriage, friendship, or any lasting relationship.

Stylistically Adam might be compared to Greek-American singer Nana Mouskouri. Both are controlled vocalists who emphasize lyrics and melody. Both produce non-offensive, easy-listening music.

Adam's previous recordings, all on the Pleiades Label, include: "Margie Adam, Songwriter" (1976); "Naked Keys" (1980); "We Shall Go Forth!" (1982); and "Here is a Love Song" (1983).

—William Shea

Country music is hot right now. Country albums are selling in huge numbers. Fifteen of 38 country artists listed on a recent Billboard chart had million-plus sellers. Another indication of the resurgence in popu-

larity of country music is Fan Fair. This annual country music festival, held in Nashville, has been sold out in advance for two years in a row. At the Fair, fans get to meet country artists such as Loretta Lynn and Dolly Parton, and country-pop superstars like Garth Brooks, for pictures and autographs.

It is in this context that country artist Dwight Yoakam's latest release sees the light of day. "This Time" has all the earmarks of a classic country-pop album. There are lost-love songs ("Pocket of a Clown") and drinking songs ("Two Doors Down") which appeal to pure country fans, all screaming to be played on a honky-tonk jukebox. There are also beautiful pop melodies coupled with a pop production sound ("Ain't That Lonely Yet") which will surely appeal to a more pop audience.

With "This Time," Reprise Records is aiming to make Yoakam even bigger than Garth Brooks—no easy feat given that Brooks has sold over 27 million records. Yoakam is surely getting a boost in that direction with the daily airplay his music video "Ain't That Lonely Yet" is getting on VH-1, as well as the play his music is being given on pop radio stations. Given the strength of Yoakam's songwriting (he wrote or co-wrote ten of the 11 songs on the album) and his cool country twang reminiscent of Hank Williams, Yoakam is most capable of filling Brooks' boots.

"This Time"



Dwight Yoakam

Yoakam's sound has always set his music apart from artists who record in Nashville. Although he uses standard country instrumentation—pedal steel guitar, dobro, and fiddle—the balance, reverberation, and mix of the vocals and ensemble usually sound more pop than country. "This Time" is a continuation of this type of production. Yoakam may well indeed be the next county-pop superstar. "This Time" is an exceptional recording.

—Tom Rule

Zap Mama—"Adventures in Afropea 1" Luaka Bop/Warner Bros.

What do you get when you mix South African musical ensemble Ladysmith Black Mambazo and European group Le Mystere Des Voix Bulgares with a whole lot of fun? The answer is Zap Mama! You don't need a passport or to leave your living room to visit sounds from the other side of the globe. Let Zap Mama be your tour guide.

Zap Mama's cascading a cappella vocals are sung in English, French, Zulu and other languages and non-languages. Some songs are just vocal noises—but what beautiful noises they are. Many of the songs are traditional songs or stories that they have expanded on and made

their own. They perform a pygmy chant, a Zairean folk song, a Syrian song, and a tune with a Cuban rhythm.

One of the most beautiful and fragile songs is "Din Din," written by an anonymous 16th century Spanish composer. Other songs are just fun and irrelevant. "I Ne Suhe" is a short selection about (as far as I can tell) sneezing.

You may have heard their music already and not realized it. Both WDET and WEMU play this recording regularly. WDET has broadcast interviews with group leader Marie Daulne. Thank God for listener-supported radio (have you written a check lately?). Only there can we find such wonderful music.

—Tom Rule



"MYSTERY TRAIN"

Directed by Jim Jarmusch
Cast: Youki Kudoh, Nicoletta Braschi, Joe Strummer, Screamin' Jay Hawkins, Cinque Lee, Rick Aviles.
USA, 1989. In English and Japanese with English Subtitles. 110 mins.

HIDDEN GEM

Mystery Train is Jim Jarmusch's valentine to America. In this film Jarmusch digs straight to the soul of America's heartland—Graceland, and proceeds shooting. Elvis' Memphis forms the unlikely backdrop for four interrelated stories, the events of which overlap within literal yards of each other. The characters of these stories are, both literally and figuratively, riding the "Mystery Train."

Each of Jarmusch's movies—from "Permanent Vacation" (1980) to Cannes award-winner "Stranger Than Paradise" (1984), "Down By Law" (1986) and last year's "Night on Earth"—are cleverly attuned assaults on America's sensibilities. Each film, in its odd-ball fashion more quirky and delightful than the last, is a cock-eyed discourse on our social and cultural proprieties. Their common saving grace is the sheer good-natured doggedness of their characters' innocence.

This is why Jarmusch's characters stumble about their environments with only the most delimited of personal spaces and shaded horizons. They aren't so much in constant awe of their predicaments as they are in constant awe of their constant awe. Thus when in this feature Jarmusch focuses upon foreigners trapped in that most unlikely Mecca of American modernity—Elvis' Memphis—he bounces his sentimentality for all things American against these outsiders' inability to fully fathom the depths of their unexpected alienation.

First we meet a couple of Japanese teens—tourists actually, Jun and Mitzuko—who have come to town to visit Graceland and Sam Phillip's legendary Sun recording studios. They, like any good tourists, take a lot of photographs. Mitzuko's proud of her t-shirt collection and Jun's got a cigarette lighter smoother than matches.

In another part of Memphis, at the airport, Luisa's husband's coffin is being held up by customs and she can't ship the body home until the next day. She's Italian with just barely enough English to get around town.

When a panhandler later harasses her on a darkened street, Luisa steps into the lobby of the Arcade Hotel. There she literally bumps into Dee Dee, who's fleeing from her common-law husband because of her belief in their incompatibility. Dee Dee's waiting to catch the next day's train for Natchez, Mississippi.

The fourth story line concerns Dee Dee's common-law husband, Johnny, a British expatriate whom everyone calls Elvis because of his long sideburns. He is miserable because Dee Dee unexpectedly left him on the very day he was laid-off from his job. Johnny, his brother-in-law Charlie, and Johnny's friend Will proceed to get liquored up as they cruise town in Will's half-dilapidated pick-up truck. They commensurate about life's vagaries. They shoot a convenience store clerk during an aborted attempt to buy more liquor and then hide out in the Arcade Hotel.

The next morning at the Memphis train station, the ride bound for New Orleans calls for all aboard. Stumbling up to Jun's and Mitzuko's seat, Dee Dee asks if the train is bound for Natchez. All three passengers stare at each other incomprehensibly. The train takes off out of town in one direction while a half-dilapidated pick-up truck heads out of town in the other direction.

This is the story of "Mystery Train." But the beauty of Jarmusch's masterpiece is how much one can know about the story without really knowing much of anything at all. For Jarmusch himself knows there's something oddly engaging about candid snapshots which makes the whole exercise pointless—the charm behind the immediacy, so to speak. He's crafted a snapshot of remarkable fidelity to American lunacy in this break-through film.

Jun, Mitzuko, Luisa, and Johnny are somewhat like sophisticated tropical fish arbitrarily tossed into a foreign fishbowl. Their rules are roughly the same as everywhere else, but the natives joyfully play by another set of dimly perceived values.

Jarmusch chooses Graceland to represent the spiritual center of our post-modern culture. Vaguely in concurrence with Paul Simon's absurd notion that America shines like the Mississippi Delta, a shimmering national guitar, Jarmusch forcefully draws to our attention the unreasonable fact that we're witnessing the founding of a new civic religion in the Church of the Latter-Day Pelvis. And in its own way, like all such civic religions, this is ultimately no joke. In "Mystery Train" Elvis' spirit pervades Memphis with the same anthropological significance as religion, myth, and cosmology.

In constant accompaniment of "Mystery Train" is Elvis' 1956 recording of "Blue Moon." This beauty of a classic show-tune, adapted to a soft-spoken romantic rockabilly beat, is played in the film on cheap pocket radios, car radios, and a hotel lobby radio. It is pervasive in its intoxicating bonding pleasure, even as it unctuously freezes the film's four interludes in their concurrent time and space.

Each aspect of the narrative which ties together these disparate stories sheds light upon the ultimate lack of light itself. Jarmusch's "Mystery Train" is most certainly a mystery thing itself—post-industrial America rolling to its own beat in its own time.

— John Carlos Cantú



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MAY EVENTS



Blues Traveler plays the Michigan Theater (see 1 Saturday)

Send JUNE Calendar items by May 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public.

1 Saturday

"The Changing Face of Health Care in the 90s—Issues for People with Spinal Cord Injuries": U-M Dept. of Physical Medicine & Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 8:30 am-4:30 pm, Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Rd. Professionals and health care consumers provide a range of perspectives on specific health care issues, \$80/\$20 for people with spinal cord injuries. 936-7052

"Utopian Visions of the Body": N. Campus Commons Arts Multimedia exhibit by U-M architecture students. Mich. Union Art Lounge. Runs thru 3 Mon. 764-7544

Ongoing Exhibits: U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. "African Art From the Museum Collection: A Celebration" runs thru 1 Aug.; "Antiquities from the Kelsey Museum" runs thru 31 Mon; "An 18th Century Moment: The Legacy of Charles Sawyer" runs thru 30 Sun; "In Focus: Guercino's Esther" runs thru 16 Sun; "The Edwards Ledger Drawings: Folk Art by Arapaho Warriors" runs thru 2 Sun. 747-2063

Faculty Exhibition: U-M School of Art Inst. for the Humanities, Rackham Bldg. 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional works. Runs thru 31 Mon. 763-4417

"Uncle Andy's Story Hour": Little Professor Book Co. 11 am, 2513 Jackson Rd. Interactive reading and activities for children ages 4-10. Topic: May Day. 662-4110

Meeting: Gays & Lesbians Older & Wiser (GLOW) 11 am, Turner Geriatric Services, 1010 Wall. 764-2556

"Trees Are Terrific": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 1 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Road. Celebrate Arbor Day and learn about trees, \$3/\$10 family. 662-7802

Auditions & Theatre Workshop: Diversability Theatre 1 pm, Huron Tower Apts., 2222 Fuller Rd, Bldg. A. 971-0277

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre Company 5 & 8 pm, Strand Theatre, Pontiac. Music and dance of Americana in the 30s and 40s, \$19-\$24/discounts for studs, srs & groups; prices vary with days. 313-335-8100

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre Company 5 & 9 pm, New Center Theatre, Third at W. Grand Blvd., Detroit. Comedy about coming of age in the early 60s, \$19-

\$24/discounts for studs, srs & groups; prices vary with days. 313-875-8284

Lost World String Band: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Swing, blues, jazz & old-time country, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Blues Traveler: Prism Productions 8 pm, Mich. Theater, 603 E. Liberty. \$17.50. 645-6666

"Nonsense!": The Toledo Repertoire 8 pm, Tenth St. Theatre, 16 Tenth St., Toledo. Uproarious musical-comedy about five dithering nuns. \$15. 419-243-9277

Paul Vornhagen Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. \$5. 662-8310

2 Sunday

14th Annual Burns Park Run 8:30 am, Burns Park Elem. School, 1414 Wells. 5K and 10K races. One-mile Fun Run begins at 10 am. Includes brunch, \$6/\$3 fun run. 996-4086

Community Involvement Meeting: Wildflower Bakery noon, 208 N. Fourth Ave. Potluck brunch precedes the meeting at 11:30 am. Discussion of ingredients, finances and community relations. 994-0601

Feminist Achievement Awards Banquet: National Organization for Women noon, Gollywobbler, 3750 Washtenaw. Fundraiser for NOW honors four local women's rights workers. Cocktails and buffet lunch, \$25. 995-5494

"Mammals in Michigan": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 2 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Road, \$3/\$10 family. 662-7802

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 2 & 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 2 & 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals, & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm services, 3 pm social, Glacier Way United Methodist Church, 1001 Green Rd. 741-1174

Reading and Booksigning: Borders Book Shop 2:30 pm, 303 S. State. With Donald Hall, former U-M professor and author of "The Museum of Clear Ideas." 668-7652

"Nonsense!": The Toledo Repertoire 2 pm (see 1 Sat)

The King's Singers: University Musical Society 4 pm, Hill Aud., \$16-\$28. 764-2538

Swimming: Ann A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team (A2QUA) 4:30 pm, Mack Pool, Miller at 7th St. 663-0036

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 5 pm, Gallup Park. 434-4494

Meeting: Lesbians of Color Collective 5:30 pm, location TBA. 763-4186

Poetry Reading: Rendez-Vous Café 1110 S. University. Featured performers & open mike. Call for time, 761-8600

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan Community Church 6 pm, First Congregational Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsilanti. 485-3922

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6:30-9 pm, 122 W. Washington. 761-2530

Meeting: GLBi Veterans of America 7 pm, location TBA. 763-4186

John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers: Prism Productions 7:30 & 10 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First. Seminal blues outfit, \$12.50. 645-6666

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm, downstairs (back entrance), First Congregational Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsilanti. 485-3922

Madcat & Kane: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Harmonica virtuoso and versatile blues guitarist, \$9/\$8 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Paul Finkbeiner Session Night: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

3 Monday

Tenant Talk: Ann Arbor Tenants Union 6:30-7 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 936-3076

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

Writers' Forum: Ypsilanti District Library 7 pm, 229 W. Mich. Ave., Ypsilanti. Adult beginning and nonprofessional writers discuss their writing and share writing samples. 482-4110

Shamanic Journeys: Creation Spirituality 7:30 pm, Carriage House, 1522 Hill St. Learn the effects of postures on trance states. 665-3522

John Mayall and the Bluesbreakers: Prism Productions 8 pm, The Intersection, 1520 Wealthy SE, Grand Rapids. Seminal blues outfit, \$12.50. 645-6666

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm, 518 E. Washington. 763-4186

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Big band jazz. \$3. 662-8310

4 Tuesday

Watercolors by Doris Foss and Pat Due: N. Campus Commons Arts NCC Gallery. Runs thru 29 Sat. 764-7554

Blind and Visually Impaired Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30-7 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm. News and more for the Lesbian, Gay & Bi communities. 763-3500

Full Moon Ritual 7 pm, 1522 Hill St. 665-5550

AA Meeting for Lesbians & Bisexual Womyn: Sober Sisters 7 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 214 S. Fourth Ave. 662-7028

"The Next Step in Settling the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable channel 9. 769-7422

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm, 3200 Mich. Union. For women of all sexual orientations who grew up in any kind of dysfunctional home. 665-3706

Peter Himmelman: The Ark & Prism Productions 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Musician and mystic (fee). 761-1451

The Jayhawks: Prism Productions 8 pm, St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit. Country- and folk-inflected quartet, \$9.50. 645-6666

Meeting: Bisexual Women's Social Group 8 pm, location TBA. 763-4186

Meeting: Queer Action 9:15 pm, location TBA. U-M Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual student political organization. 763-4186

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

5 Wednesday

"Mills Along the Huron River": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. noon, Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Brown bag lunch with guest speaker, \$1. 994-4898

"Tyke Hikes": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 1 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver. Children ages 4-5 will explore pond life, animals and birds in three hikes, \$18 (includes all three). 662-7802

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 2 & 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms": WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm. Highlights women's local work and activism. 763-3500

Full Moon Ritual 7 pm, 1522 Hill St. For women only. 665-5550

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 7 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men's Adult Children of Alcohol-

ics 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm., St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 663-6395

John Renbourn & Robin Williamson: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Folk baroque guitar and contemporary Celtic bard, \$12.50. 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm, Mich. Union. Ask for room # at information desk. 665-8438

Blue Sun: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Campus Commons. Classical to jazz, duets to quintets. 764-7544

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

6 Thursday

Julie Bedore White: Matrix Gallery 212 Miller Rd. Exhibition of drawings, paintings and ceramic tile mosaics based on the portraits of White's African-American neighbors. Runs thru 23 Sun. 663-7775

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Help expose myths about homelessness and confront businesses and politicians who contribute to existing poverty and homelessness. 930-0601

Meeting: ACTUP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm, Baker Mandela Center, 3 E. Engineering Bldg. 665-1797

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Auditorium. Ann Arbor May Festival kick-off, \$20-50. 764-2538

"Nonsense!": The Toledo Repertoire 8 pm, Burnham Bldg., Sylvania, Ohio. Uproarious musical-comedy about five dithering nuns, \$15. 419-243-9277

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Ann Arbor May Festival kick-off, \$20-50. 764-2538

"Yankee Dawg You Die": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Hilarious and poignant satire examines Asian stereotypes in film, \$9/\$7 studs & srs. 663-0681

Andy Cohen: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. An evening of Rev. Gary Davis, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451



"Yankee Dawg You Die" will be at the Performance Network May 6-22

Live Jazz Series: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Camp. Commons. 764-7544

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Live Jazz: Rendez-Vous Café 9 pm, 1110 S. University. 761-8600

"Alternative Spring Break": Peace InSight 9:05 pm, Cable channel 9. Live call-in show. 769-7422

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

7 Friday

Summer Clothing Give Away: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 9 am, Bryant Community Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Clothing for adults and children. Donations welcome. 994-2722

James Melville: Aunt Agatha's Books 12:30 pm, 213 S. Fourth Ave. Meet the creator of The Superintendent and author of "Otani Mysteries." 769-1114

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm, Dominick's, 812 Monroe. 763-4186

Reception for Julie Bedore White: Matrix Gallery 6 pm (see 6 Thu)

"The Next Step in Settling the Palestinian-Israeli Conflict": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 4 Tue)

Screaming Trees: Prism Productions 7:30 pm, Capital Theatre, 140 E. Second St., Flint, \$12.50. 645-6666

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm. (AA), Upstairs lounge (Alanon), St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 663-6395

Christine Lavin: The Ark 7:30 & 10 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Offbeat, outrageous humor, \$12.50. 761-1451

Continental Brass Quintet: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Campus Commons. 764-7544

Second Saturday: People Dancing 8 pm, 111 Third St. Solo dance performance by Whitley Setrakian. 996-2405

"Yankee Dawg You Die": Performance Network 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

Metropolitan Opera Orchestra: University Musical Society 8 pm, (see 6 Thu)

"Nonsense!": The Toledo Repertoire 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Varied recorded dance music (tonight with K!monne Savonne and Irene Nagler). Smoke- and alcohol-free. Children welcome, \$2. 996-2405

Larry Nozero with Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

8 Saturday

Dog Walkathon: Humane Society of Huron Valley 9 am-4 pm, 3100 Cherry Hill Rd. Walk six to 18 miles to raise money to feed and house homeless animals. Walkers must solicit pledges. 662-5585 ext. 113

Spring Crafts for Mother's Day: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 10:30 am, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Road. Children of all ages can create gifts for mom using Mother Nature, \$5. 662-7802

"Uncle Andy's Story Hour": Little Professor Book Co. 11 am. Topic: Mother's Day (see 1 Sat)

Canoe Auction: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. noon, Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Road. Used canoes and equipment. 662-9319

Cat Care Clinic: Humane Society of Huron Valley noon-2 pm, U-M Track & Field House, Fifth Ave. & Hill St. Held in conjunction with the Cat Fanciers Assoc. annual cat show (fee). 662-5585 ext. 113

Booksigning: Little Professor Book Co. 1 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. With Sam Breck, author of "It's A Small Town If...." 662-4110

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 5 & 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 5 & 9 pm (see 1 Sat)

Annual Banquet: Women's International League for Peace & Freedom 6 pm, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Social hour followed by food and entertainment from around the world, \$12/\$6 children. 483-0058

Over 30 Social Group: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. For lesbian and bisexual women. 663-0036

Detroit Women's Coffeehouse 7:30 pm, Red door, Unitarian Church, Cass & Forest, Detroit, \$5. 313-547-4692

Biza Somp & the Bichinis Bia Congo Dance Troupe: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Promotes the cultural heritage of the Congo, \$7.75/\$6.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

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Christine Lavin
Friday, May 7 7:30 & 10 pm
Opening act Andy Breckman

Greg Brown & Bill Morrissey
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No advance tickets

Richie Havens
Sunday
May 23
7:30 & 9:30 pm
Hit of the 1993 Ann Arbor Folk Festival!

Brave Combo
Tuesday, May 25 8:00 pm
No advance tickets
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Kanda Bongo Man
Wednesday, May 26 8:00 pm

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\$5.00 price valid only on a second pizza—not additional pizzas. Expires May 31, 1993. One coupon per pizza. Not valid with other offers or discounts. Not accepted at the William Street restaurant or Cottage Inn Cafe. Valid at participating stores. Limited delivery area.

AA Meeting for Lesbians & Bisexual Womyn: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 4 Tue)

"Extending the Concept of Global Security: Gender and Human Development": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable channel 9. Talk by Prof. Gita Sen of Harvard University. 769-7422

Meeting: Sierra Club 7:30 pm, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Prof. Gerald Keeler, U-M School of Public Health, will speak on "Air-Borne Toxics in Lake Michigan." 665-7345

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

Tish Hinojosa: The Ark & School-kids' Free Concert Series 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Mexican-American country-folk artist. 761-1451

Meeting: Bisexual Women's Social Group 8 pm (see 4 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

19 Wednesday

"Tyke Hikes": Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 1 pm (see 5 Wed)

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 2 & 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 7 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meetings: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Sign up at 7:30 pm for short set, \$3/\$2 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Blue Sun: Leonardo's 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Live Jazz: Rendez-Vous Café 9 pm (see 6 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

20 Thursday

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Parents With Disabilities Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

Meeting: ACTUP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

The Steve Chapin Band: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Chapin rose to fame with his brother Harry in the 70s. \$12.50. 761-1451

"Yankee Dawg You Die": Performance Network 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

"The All Night Strut": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Live Jazz Series: Leonardo's 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

21 Friday

Annual State Conference: National Organization for Women Mackinac Island. Workshops, speakers, elections and more. Runs thru 23 Sun. For info. call 995-5494

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 7 Fri)

"Kiss Me Screaming": PJ's Used Records 6 pm, 617 Packard. Live acoustic performance. 663-3441



Lynda Barry's "The Good Times Are Killing Me" is at the New Center Theater in Detroit through June 27 (see 1 Saturday)

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Canoe Instruction Clinic: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 6:30 pm, Gallup Park Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. One hour of instruction and one hour of practice. \$7.50. 662-9319.

AA Meeting for Lesbians & Bisexual Womyn: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 4 Tue)

"Prospects for Peace in El Salvador": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable channel 9. 769-7422

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

Brave Combo: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Dance to this band's dizzying array of styles. \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Meeting: Bisexual Women's Social Group 8 pm (see 4 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

26 Wednesday

Muscular Dystrophy Support Group: A2 Center for Independent Living 1 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms" WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 7 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meetings: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

Kanda Bongo Man: The Ark & Prism Productions 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Star of soukous—the new African dance craze (fee). 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Blue Sun: Leonardo's 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Live Jazz: Rendez-Vous Café 9 pm (see 6 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

27 Thursday

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Support Group for Women In Abusive Relationships: Domestic Violence Project 7 pm. Confidential group meets for ten weeks. Childcare available. 973-0242

Meeting: ACTUP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Ani DiFranco: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer/songwriter who challenges social conventions. \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

"I Hate Hamlet": Attic Theatre 8 pm, Strand Theatre, Pontiac. Comical ghost story in which the dead return to guide the living. \$10-\$13/discounts for studs, srs & groups; prices vary with days. 313-335-8100

Live Jazz Series: Leonardo's 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

Ray Brown Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 210 S. Ashley, \$15. 662-8310

28 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 7 Fri)

"Prospects for Peace in El Salvador": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 25 Tue)

Women's Potluck: Common Language Bookstore 6:30 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. 663-0036

"Mind's Eye—A Collection of Eclectic Goodies": Ann Arbor Artist's Co-op 7:30 pm, 617 E. Huron. Exhibit of sculpture, jewelry, carvings and more. Runs thru 24 June. 668-6769

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 7 Fri)

Espresso: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Campus Commons. Jazz and pop. 764-7544

Deadbeat Society: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Variations of bluegrass and modern swing. \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

"I Hate Hamlet": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 27 Thu)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Ray Brown Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 27 Thu)

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm (see 7 Fri)

29 Saturday

City Outdoor Pools Open for Summer: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. For fees and times call 994-2780

"Artists Among Us: Michigan Narrative Quilts": University of Michigan Museum of Art 525 S. State. Exhibition of quilts from the Civil War to present. Runs thru 15 Aug. 747-2063

Gays & Lesbians Older & Wiser (GLOW): LGMPO/GLF 11 am, Turner Geriatric Services, 1010 Wall St. 764-2556

Discussion on Universal Health Care: Circle Pines Center 4 pm, 8650 Mullen Rd., Delton. Followed by dinner and folk dance. 616-623-5555

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 5 & 9 pm (see 1 Sat)

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Ann Arbor's favorite bluegrass band. \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

"I Hate Hamlet": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 27 Thu)

Martin Simmons & Jerald Irish: Performance Network 9 pm, 408 W. Washington. Folk-rock ballads infused with blues and jazz. \$7/mem if you can, free if you're broke. 663-0681

Ray Brown Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 27 Thu)

30 Sunday

Feed the Poets: Del Rio 1:30-4:30 pm, 122 W. Washington. Features local poets and open mike. 761-2530

Memorial Day Observance: Arborcrest Memorial Park 2 pm, 2521 Glazier Way. Musical entertainment, refreshments, & a fly-over by the Yankee Air Force. 761-4572

"I Hate Hamlet": Attic Theatre 2 pm (see 27 Thu)

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals, & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm (see 2 Sun)

"The Good Times Are Killing Me": Attic Theatre 2 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Prospects for Peace in El Salvador": Peace InSight 3:05 pm (see 25 Tue)


Swimming: A2 Queer Aquatics (A2QUA) 4:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meeting: Lesbians of Color Collective 5:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Poetry Reading: Rendez-Vous Café 11:10 S. Univ. Featured poets & open mike. Call for time. 761-8600

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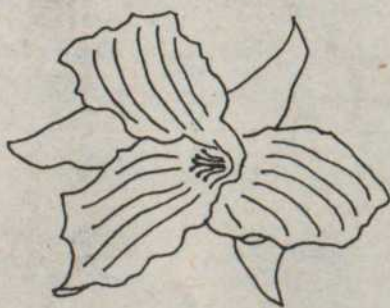
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GULF VETS & MCS

(FROM PAGE 5)

ticated immunological tests that can be done, but they are expensive.

"But just because we don't understand the physiological mechanism doesn't mean it doesn't exist," Boyles said. "When you get large numbers of people with exactly the same story and exactly the same symptoms and you find the lab abnormalities with the immunological tests—they're all alike—that's not psychological."

Again, the V.A., while not at all excluding the possibility of MCS, disagrees. Jemison explained: "The VA's inclusion of a major portion of its recent telecast [to VA hospitals around the country] to be dedicated to the area of MCS I think also is a recognition by the government that mainstream medicine does not have all the answers. But at the same time, we are very conservative with our patients and careful not to subject them to time and expense that might detract from mainstream care that might otherwise help them get better. We are moving cautiously in looking more at research possibilities as to what might be done in that area."

For those who believe in the sort of testing and treatment being performed by Dr. Boyles, however, the V.A.'s argument is reminiscent of the Agent Orange issue.

"To what extent we understand the biomedical nature of disease is helpful," Davis of the AAEM told American Legion magazine. "But by the time we have definitive data, half the people are dead. The fact that these people are sick, on its own, is enough to demand action. It boils down to whether we're a just, honest and compassionate society, or whether veterans and MCS victims are expendable and we should just let them die."

On March 30, the V.A. announced the appointment of a 16-member panel that includes environmental physicians to look at MCS, chronic fatigue, and post-traumatic stress syndrome.

Major Haines is optimistic. "I see it as a breakthrough because I think that they will consider modern environmental medicine testing and treatment," Haines said.

Meanwhile, Ron Brandes is still not able to return to work. As he continues to struggle daily with his illness, Major Haines continues to lobby Congress and to get information to veterans who might be sick. Dr. Boyles and other environmental physicians continue to test and treat sick veterans. And the Army and V.A., instead of providing more support for treatments that involve environmental medicine, continue treating sick veterans only in conventional ways, on an individual basis.

If you are or know of a veteran who has experienced health problems since returning from the Gulf and would like more information, contact Maj. Richard Haines at (812) 948-9366.

30 Sunday (from page 13)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan Community Church 6 pm (see 2 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6:30-9 pm (see 2 Sun)

"Booked For Sundays" Reading Group: Little Professor Book Co. 7 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. Discussion of Toni Morrison's "Jazz". 662-1440

Meeting: GLBI Veterans of America 7 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Kevin Burke's Open House: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. One of this generation's finest Irish fiddlers, \$12.50. 761-1451

31 Monday

Memorial Day Co-ed Volleyball Tournament: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 2 pm, 1519 Fuller Rd., \$40/team. 761-2460

Tenant Talk: Ann Arbor Tenants Union 6:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor C.I.L. 7 pm (see 3 Mon)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People, & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 3 Mon)



PHOTO: LINDA WAN

Washington D.C. April 25—Marchers carried banners representing different religious organizations including Christian, Jewish, and Buddhist groups. Here, David Michener of Ann Arbor, and William Strickland of Washington D.C., march under a Quaker banner which Strickland made himself.

GAY & LESBIAN RIGHTS

(FROM PAGE 1)

Much of the MFVC Campaign will be designed to miseducate and misinform. It will connect lesbians and gay men as predators. It will portray our community as inherently and aggressively immoral and disease-ridden.

They will tell Michigan that we are exotic sexual creatures who are guilty of the most horrific and base acts. They will say that, given the opportunity, we will molest their children and recruit them. They will say that gay men are responsible for AIDS and that we are a perverse abomination with the ability, but not the decency, to be normal. They will talk at length, and in graphic detail, of sexual acts and practices that most of us have never heard of.

They will say that although we are morally bankrupt, we have more money, are more educated and take nicer vacations than heterosexuals. They will paint our lives as thrill and pleasure-seeking, hedonistic and self-centered.

The MFVC will define the "homosexual agenda" as an extraordinary conspiracy, a well-endowed and politically powerful plan that, unless stopped, will violate and destroy the very fabric of traditional family values.

The MFVC will feed the fears that people have about us and will create grotesque caricatures, based on stereotypes of lesbians and gay men. They will feed those distorted images and stories to a public that is hungry for someone or something to blame.

Their rhetoric and their misinformation will fuel a climate of distrust and bigotry, of hate and violence against lesbians, gay men and bisexual people. Overt acts of vandalism, espionage and destruction will be juxtaposed against on-going personal attacks. Violence will increase both in numbers & intensity.

The reality of being lesbian, gay or bisexual, in Michigan, will mean that you live in a kind of terror, an overwhelming apprehension of danger. It will not be safe to be an "out and open" lesbian, bisexual or gay man. And, more than ever, it will be critically important, politically and personally, to be "out and open." The dilemma is extraordinary.

They get away with their nasty campaign because so few are willing to stand with us. They get away with it because so many lesbian and gay men lead closeted lives. They get away with it because if they're coming after me,

maybe, just maybe, they won't come after you.

The agenda for the Michigan Family Values Committee must be stopped. If they are successful with this mind-numbing initiative, they will expand their hit list. They will go after the other people and the other communities that they, and the dominant culture, perceive to be expendable—people of color, poor people, women, children, the disabled, non-Christians. Think about who has the power. Think about who makes the rules. Think about who might be next.

Look at the larger agenda of the MFVC. Ask the MFVC about choice, affirmative action, right to privacy issues, universal health care, the ERA, pregnancy, child-abuse prevention programs, parental leave and HIV education. Explore their connections with Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum, Concerned Women For America and Operation Rescue.

We must, I believe, commit to a campaign that tells the truth about the Michigan Family Values Committee and exposes its sexism, racism, bigotry, xenophobia and homophobia. We must let Michiganders know that the Michigan Family Values Committee is a lot more dangerous than the lesbian, gay and bisexual community. We must commit to a campaign that acknowledges the larger bigoted agenda of the Christian Right and that understands that, this time, in this initiative process, the focus is on lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals. We must put a queer face and a queer spin on our work. We must not sanitize our campaign. We must commit to a campaign that helps us to build our movement: our lesbian, gay and bisexual liberation movement.

Michigan must affirm and validate its lesbian, gay and bisexual citizens. It must embrace us, as individuals and as a community. Your rights as Michiganders are non-negotiable. This campaign, our campaign against bigotry, this wonderful campaign for justice and democracy, is compelling. We must move Michiganders to vote to defeat the Michigan Family Values Committee and its bigoted initiative.

To help organize against the bigoted agenda of the Michigan Family Values Committee, please call the U-M Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office at 763-4186, the Triangle Foundation at 313-537-3323, or the Michigan Organization for Human Rights at 517-887-2605.



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