

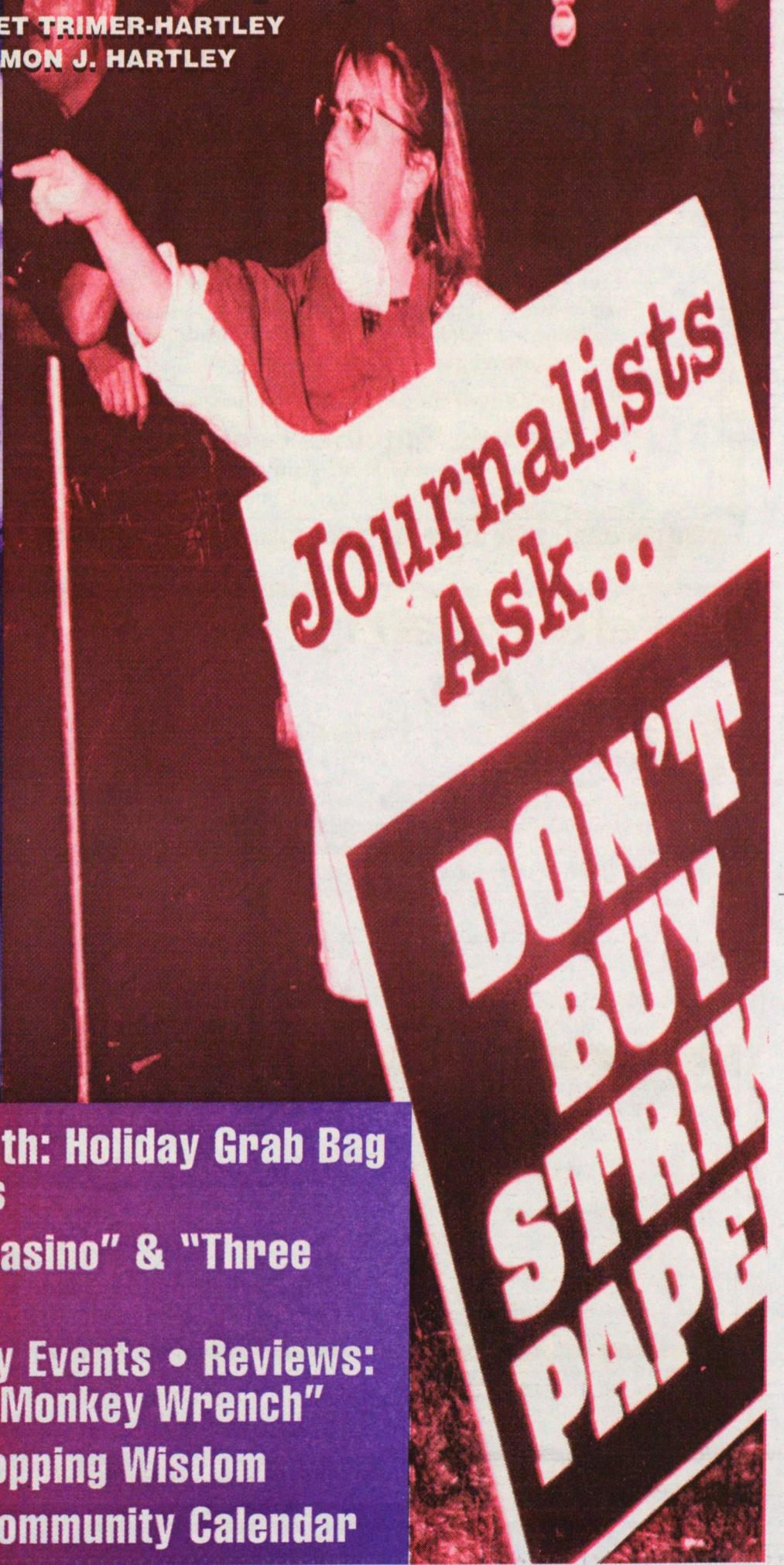
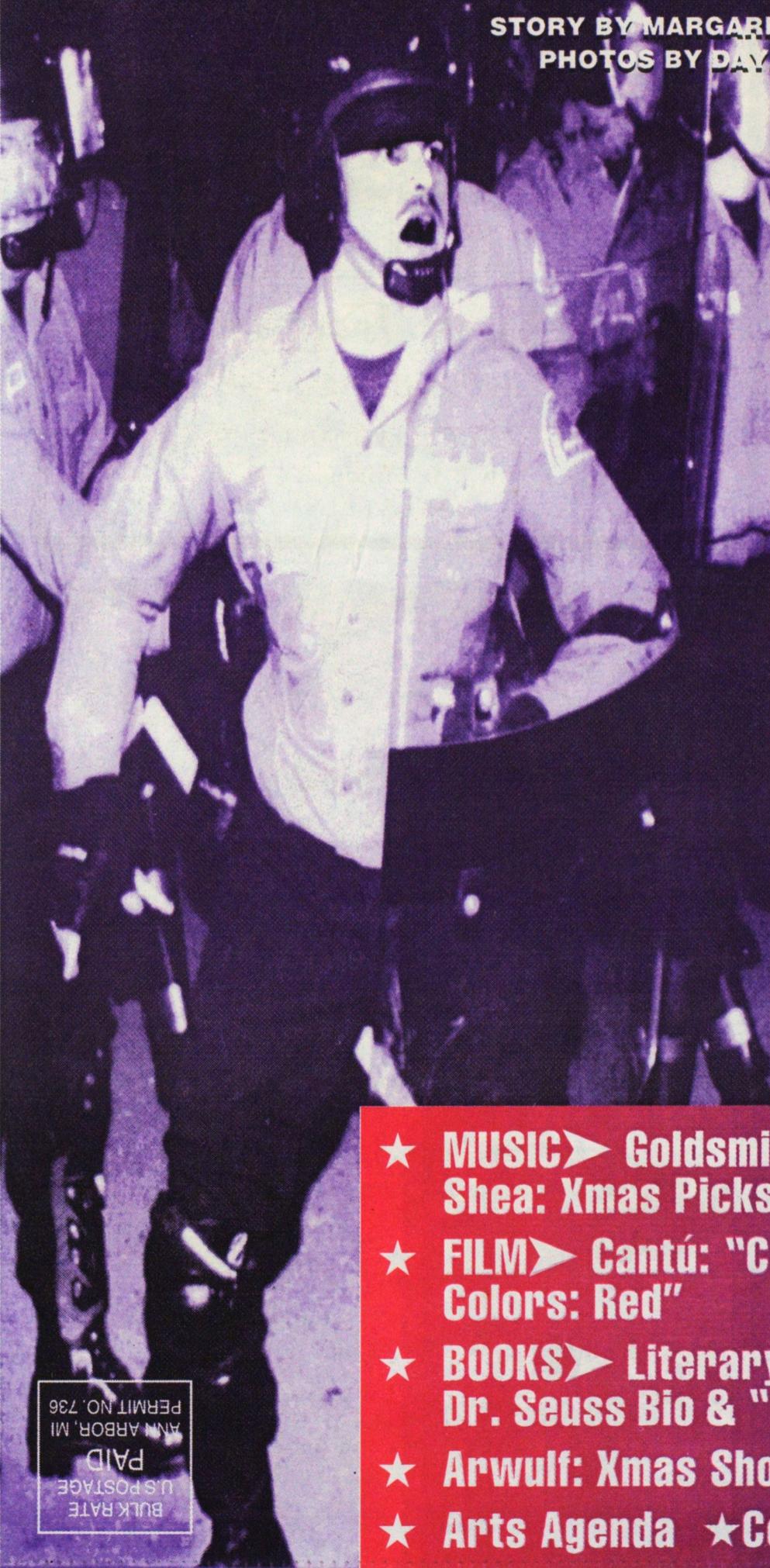
AGENDA

ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

The Battle of Detroit

Media Monoliths vs. Newspaper Unions

STORY BY MARGARET TRIMER-HARTLEY
PHOTOS BY DAYMON J. HARTLEY



- ★ **MUSIC** ➤ Goldsmith: Holiday Grab Bag
Shea: Xmas Picks
- ★ **FILM** ➤ Cantú: "Casino" & "Three Colors: Red"
- ★ **BOOKS** ➤ Literary Events • Reviews: Dr. Seuss Bio & "Monkey Wrench"
- ★ **Arwulf: Xmas Shopping Wisdom**
- ★ **Arts Agenda** ★ **Community Calendar**

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LETTERS

Love us? Hate us? Have a response to an article we published? AGENDA wants to know what you think! Send letters by the 20th day of the month preceding publication of our next issue to: AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Please include your address and phone number (for verification purposes). AGENDA reserves the right to edit or reject any letter. We give preference to letters under 400 words.

AFSC SUPPORTS STRIKING WORKERS

Enclosed is a contribution for the [Detroit newspapers workers] strike support ad and strike fund on behalf of American Friends Service Committee's Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues Program [see COVER STORY, page 4, and poster, pages 10-11]. Over two-thirds of the money was donated by individuals on our Program Committee; the rest is from Program funds. Also enclosed is a contribution from the AFSC Criminal Justice Program.

As an organization committed to nonviolent ways of solving conflicts, we deplore any violence done by anyone involved in or supporting any side in this conflict. We want to be clear about two things, however. First, it appears to us that there has been systematic violence against the strikers backed by management, about which it has been difficult to get good information through the media. Second, violence comes in many forms other than physical; failing to bargain in good faith, hiring replacement workers, and trying to destroy unions does great violence to people who are simply trying to earn a decent living—both to people involved in this strike and to those in other situations who will be affected by the outcome of this conflict.

We want to thank AGENDA for the work it is doing to give the public information from the point of view of those who are on strike—a viewpoint that has been all too hard to come by. This is a real gift to the community—especially if it includes a broader analysis of the implications for working people across the country, which we anticipate that it will.

Jan Wright, Director
Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues Program
American Friends Service Committee
ANN ARBOR

POETRY SLAM SLAM SLAMMED

Hope I'm not too late to respond to Arwulf's thoughts on poetry slamming. I live out of State now and only just received the Sept. and Oct. AGENDAs.

Arwulf is the most brain-alive person I know and it's been my good luck to share a stage with him at the Del, PerfNet, Mendelssohn, and yes, the A2 Poetry Slam. I know he is uncomfortable with the practice of rating artists and their art, but in "Why I Do Not Slam" (Sept. issue) he makes statements about slamming that are not true. His rather prejudiced opinions are given as facts when in fact, factual they are not.

The two kinds of poetry slammers recognize are academic v. of-the-people, NOT printed v. performance. There simply is no rejection of the printed page which bothers Arwulf in his third paragraph, and so, the "scene" he withdraws from in his fifth paragraph does not exist.

Arwulf says once the A2 Slam got going he

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

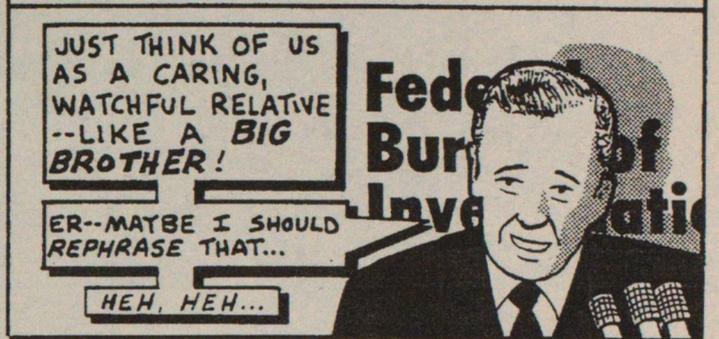
THESE ARE DANGEROUS TIMES, CITIZENS! THERE ARE TERRORISTS LURKING EVERYWHERE!



BUT HECK-- WHY STOP THERE? WHY NOT GIVE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS THE POWER TO SEARCH ANYONE'S HOME-- AT ANY TIME-- FOR NO PARTICULAR REASON? THEY'D SURE CATCH PLENTY OF CRIMINALS THEN!



OUR GOVERNMENT IS TRYING TO PROTECT US, THOUGH! FOR INSTANCE, THE FBI WOULD LIKE TO TURN THE DEVELOPING INFORMATION HIGHWAY INTO A GIGANTIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM -- CAPABLE OF MONITORING ANYONE'S PHONE CALLS, E-MAIL OR CREDIT CARD EXPENDITURES...



FOR THAT MATTER, WHY DON'T WE STOP HOBBLING THE AUTHORITIES WITH THE NEED TO GATHER EVIDENCE AND HOLD TRIALS -- AND SIMPLY ALLOW THEM TO IMPRISON ANYONE THEY WANT! AFTER ALL, WHAT'S MORE IMPORTANT -- A FEW MEASLY CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS... OR AN ORDERLY SOCIETY..?



TOM TOMORROW © 11-8-95

participated for years. Wrong. He OCCASIONALLY participated for years—BIG difference. I was there every month from the startup. I share Arwulf's dislike of rating art & artists, but I hung in there and saw the A2 Slam grow into something beautiful. I'm honored to have been a member of A2's team in the National Slam for three years and one of the unaffiliated competitors last August. The Nationals bring together so many damn fine human voices. Would that Arwulf had been there to hear them.

In his seventh and eighth paragraphs Arwulf damns Vince Kueter with very faint praise—Vince put a LOT of work and many of his hard-earned dollars into making our slam another outlet for area poets and a place for feature poets to have a payday. Arwulf's putting down the A2 Slam's "German Beer Hall" venue I find mean-spirited. What does Hitler have to do with slamming? I don't love the Heidelberg either, but when 100 or 150 people gather to listen I'd do poetry in an Ojibwa burial ground.

Arwulf pads his column with several paragraphs of Ron Allen's thoughts on slam poetry. I know Ron Allen to be a true child of Erato; he has done much for poets and poetry for many years—but his statements are ELITIST. Such elitism is what slammers hate about academic poets, and I'm sad to read a man like Ron Allen speaking from the same twisted viewpoint. ALL forms of poetry have value and anyone who would suppress any form is a bluenosed scardycat censor.

Arwulf's paragraph 14 is buffalo chips. Loud white men do not dominate slamming, especially at the level of the Nationals. Loud racial minority men and loud women do. If Arwulf had attended last August he would know this. Paragraph 14 is ugly. Sounds like Arwulf is trying to trash slamming with the club of Political Correctness. Ugly.

Let's not pass by Arwulf's flip answer to Larry Francis' angry letter (Oct. issue). Larry was unkind to call Arwulf a name, but nowhere does his letter say Ron Allen is a bigot and it was small of Arwulf to imply it did. And Arwulf's saying his column was "some of the only non-laudatory press which the Slam has ever received" is laughably untrue. Shocking, coming from someone I respect so much. The A2 Slam and slamming as a whole gets very little press at all, and almost none of it laudatory. Slamming is

a natural target for cheap shots and ignoring 'cuz it scares the elitists.

Schism? Not if we slammers can help it. It's boring to divide and argue. I challenge Arwulf's anti-slam stance only to correct the untrue picture he paints. Slamming is here to bring people in to poetry—and we brought in 1100+ at the National finals—so have a care, all you who would limit and exclude. All forms of Art advance us as humans, and all types of poetry should be celebrated. Not derided. Not put down.

Wolf Knight
MARLINTON, WV

"REAL" ART COMES IN MANY FORMS

To me it seems not so much a matter of "Real Art" vs. "Fake Art" [see AGENDA's Art Issue, July/Aug., 1995, and Letters, Sept., Oct., and Nov., 1995]. It's more a matter of normal, everyday, "run-of-the-mill-art" vs. something that aspires for and/or achieves something magical, powerful and extraordinary. Or, in simpler terms, it's a matter of mainstream art vs. experimental art or safe art vs. dangerous art.

There are those of us who still believe that painting and drawing are more than just pretty pictures on the wall, that music can change your life and doesn't belong just in the background and that the other arts can also be powerful and transforming as well.

There are still those of us who believe that passion/emotion/intense feeling, overactive imagination/dreamlike visions and magic (that which has a "spell" which cannot be explained) are important parts of art.

Those who believe *only* in empty "beauty for beauty's sake" or in slavishly following the latest "trends" are the opposite of anyone who would dig deep into his or her own soul, spirit, mind, heart and body.

There's a sense of reaching into the unknown. Painter Albert P. Ryder wrote: "Have you ever seen an inchworm crawl up a leaf or twig, and then clinging to the very end, revolve in the air, feeling for something, to reach something? That's like me. I am trying to find something out there beyond the place on which I have a footing."

Tyree Guyton once told me he was ready to die for his art if it ever came to that. Someone who is not a serious artist himself may have trouble taking such a statement seriously. Yet I can see exactly what he means.

Kenneth Patchen said: "The cult of the mediocre is in everything. ... The only art form that's worth a damn is when a man tries to offer up something out of himself, out of his own head, his own emotions, his own dreams, his own heart, his own guts—the rest is vomit-smearred cardboard; one-dimensional; a made-up fraud."

Pablo Picasso said: "Painting is freedom. If you jump, you might fall on the wrong side of the rope. But if you're not willing to take the risk of breaking your neck, what good is it? You don't jump at all. You have to wake people up. To revolutionize their way of identifying things. You've got to create images they won't accept. Force them to understand that they're living in a pretty queer world. A world that's not reassuring. A world that's not what they think it is."

I could cite many other of this century's best artists. I could go back to other times. But the point is that the most radical, wild, ahead-of-its-time, adventurous, playful, boisterous art always has trouble finding a forum or a champion.

We in the Ann Arbor-Detroit area surely have such a supporter in Jacques Karamanoukian.

I admit to being part of a current three-person show there and I also showed there last year. But I don't think I'm biased or that my vision in this regard is distorted or off-base.

Those who go out to galleries but feel they have progressive tastes would do well to give Galerie Jacques a try.

I personally feel no strong ill will to mainstream galleries. I think there's room for both visions. It's just that typical galleries are many and galleries that take chances are few. I search for those that fall in between the two extremes—hoping to see *something* I'm looking for. I keep an open mind and open eyes.

As for Dan Moray's text—yes, a cute letter and people do have egos—yet he displays no real understanding of or insight into the situation, from my side of the fence.

Thanks to AGENDA and keep up the good work!

Maurice Greenia, Jr.
DETROIT

AGENDA

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August, 1995:
Sterling Hts. Police and
union picketers clash
at the Sterling Hts.
Printing Plant.

The Battle of Detroit

Newspaper Unions vs. Media Monoliths

STORY BY MARGARET TRIMER-HARTLEY • PHOTOS BY DAYMON J. HARTLEY

As an electrician for the Detroit Newspaper, Inc., Mike Moran thought he had it made.

He wasn't on strike. He wasn't a scab. His union had a contract.

But crossing other union members' picket lines day after day nagged at him. Unsafe working conditions frightened him. And nightmares about his future kept him awake.

So last month he and seven other electricians put their jobs and their principles on the line and joined more than 2,000 newspa-

STORY BY Margaret Trimer-Hartley, a striking Free Press Education Writer. Margaret had been at the Free Press for 10 years and had won numerous awards for her stories about Michigan's schools.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY Daymon J. Hartley, a striking Free Press photographer. Daymon had been at the Free Press for 12 years and had traveled to Nicaragua, El Salvador and the Occupied Territories of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. He was named Michigan Press Photographer of the Year in 1990.

per workers in their five-month strike against the Detroit News, the Detroit Free Press and their parent company, Detroit Newspapers, Inc.

"There's no future for us in there right now," said Moran, 37, a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 58. "It doesn't matter that we have a contract. Union is union to the company. They'll do anything to bust us all, and we have to do whatever we can to stop them."

Indeed as winter sets in many strikers are becoming increasingly militant. They've adopted the slogan "Victory by Any Means Necessary." They're sporting T-shirts bearing those words and a photo of company guards attacking strikers.

And the Unity Victory Caucus, a new group of middle-level leaders from the six striking unions, has emerged and is urging the union leadership to pursue a more confrontational strategy.

"We're not here to push for violence," said Rick Torres, a striking truck driver from Teamsters Local 372. "But we recognize that it's going to take more than an advertis-

ing boycott to win this strike. ...It's going to take militant, decisive action."

The striking unions involved in the second-longest newspaper strike in Detroit's history are: Teamsters Local 372; Teamsters Local 2040; Newspaper Guild of Detroit Local 22; Graphic Communications International Union Local 13N; Detroit Typographical Union (CWA) Local 18; and Graphic Communications International Union Local 289 M.

Union Busting 101: Goon Squads, Deep Pockets, & Propaganda

Despite projected losses of about \$100 million by the end of the year, Knight-Ridder, Inc., which owns the Free Press; and Gannett Corp., which owns the News, also appear ready and willing to go to any extreme to win.

"Are they willing to let somebody get killed?" asked Steve Babson, labor program specialist at Wayne State University (WSU). "Well, they are certainly quite happy to play with fire. They're pursuing strategies that raise the possibility of violence and increase the risk of death."

Perhaps the most visible examples of the determination—and the frustration—on both sides can be seen on Saturday nights at newspaper distribution centers across metropolitan Detroit. The unions began targeting distribution centers after Labor Day when Macomb County Circuit Judge Raymond Cashen slapped them with an injunction. The injunction prevents mass picketing in the driveway of the paper's main printing plant in Sterling Heights.

Violent clashes between strikers and company guards at the distribution centers have dominated headlines nationally and damaged the unions' images with some people.

Experts and witnesses, however, say the Vance and Asset Protection Team security firms hired by the companies months before the strike began are known for union-busting tactics. One of their most effective strategies is to provoke hostile confrontations and then blame strikers.

"Their role is to engineer circumstances to produce an injunction," Babson said. "They pick points where they can act in a provocative manner and attract media attention in their favor."

The 1,200 guards hired by Detroit Newspapers, Inc., have driven trucks into large numbers of strikers, hurled metal objects at picketers and set their own vehicles on fire, witnesses said. When strikers fought back, the guards filmed them and turned the footage over to the police, media and court officials.

Reports on television and in the New York Times, Wall Street Journal and other national publications have spotlighted the violence. They also have echoed the Free Press' and News' line that the strike is over because the unions have been unable to stop production and almost half of the Newspaper Guild's 650 members have crossed their picket lines and returned to work.

But Roger Kerson, spokesman for the Metropolitan Council of Unions, the umbrella organization of the six striking unions, denounced reports that the strike is over and criticized the media's slant toward the companies.

"They're trying to win in perception what they can't win on the ground—which is the hearts and minds of the citizens of the metro Detroit area," Kerson told the Detroit Journal, the strikers' online news service.

Kerson said the media tend to accept and report as true virtually everything the company or the police say. They relentlessly challenge or ignore union claims, he said.

"They put a whole different standard of proof on a union member," Kerson said. And that, he added, has often made it difficult to keep the strike in the news.

Striker Strategy: Taking the High Road

Last month, new union strategies gave the striking workers a public relations boost.

The unions successfully launched The Detroit Sunday Journal, the largest strike paper ever produced nationally. About 300,000 copies of the 48-page tabloid sold vigorously. One day after it hit newsstands, according to union officials, advertisers were eager to buy space and readers were seeking subscriptions.

The unions also joined in a class-action federal anti-trust lawsuit Nov. 21, alleging that the Free Press and News violated the terms of the joint operating agreement by producing combined papers for the first several weeks of the strike. In 1992, the companies added an amendment to the original 1989 merger agreement, but it was not approved through proper channels.

The original agreement allows for joint papers only on weekends and holidays.

Additionally, hundreds of strikers and supporters beefed up peaceful picketing activities and fanned out across metro Detroit the day after Thanksgiving—the busiest shopping day of the year—to leaflet at stores that continue to advertise in the Free Press and News. Their effort discouraged many shoppers from patronizing such stores as Art Van Furniture and Kmart.

The United Auto Workers (UAW), Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and dozens of other unions have supported strikers with money, their presence on picket lines, and assistance on advertising and subscription boycotts.

"We have so much support," said Susan Hall-Balduf, a striking Free Press copy editor. "I know because I open the checks that come to us from across the country. I open everything from \$1,000 checks to the \$2 check from the man in a nursing home in Wisconsin, who said that he sent all he could because he didn't want us to think that we're alone."

The JOA Factor: Unleveling the Playing Field

By most accounts, the papers are bleeding.

In 1994, the Free Press and News posted a record \$55 million profit. Now, 336 advertisers have pulled out of the paper while 378 have continued to or have recently run ads, union officials said. The companies have been forced to offer space at deep discounts, and they admit to at least a 25% drop in circulation. Knight-Ridder and Gannett each saw stock prices decline following reports of third-quarter losses.

"Every paper they are printing right now is losing money," said James Buckley, vice president of Media Studies at Market Opinion Research in Farmington Hills. "They can't sell their advertising for squat and they have much higher distribution costs."

But how much money and credibility the nation's two largest newspaper conglomerates are willing to lose before seeking to end the strike is anybody's guess.

"Their financial people have probably drawn a line and said, 'When we reach this point, that's enough,'" Buckley said.

But the companies have taken such a hard line that they would more likely shut down one or both papers than make major concessions to the unions, he said.

"Both sides have taken such a tough line that this is like our version of Bosnia," he said.

Even an end to the strike won't preserve both papers, Buckley said. He expects one to fold before long because joint operating agreements often lead to the demise of one of the papers. In Miami and Pittsburgh, JOAs meant one newspaper closed. The San Francisco Examiner and Chronicle also appear to be negotiating the closure of one paper.

JOAs are granted when one paper—in Detroit's case, the Free Press—is at risk of failing. They exempt papers from federal anti-monopoly laws and allow them to merge business operations while maintaining separate editorial voices.

"If there's a weak link, a strike is usually the straw that breaks the camel's back," Buckley said, adding that the Detroit Times folded after the nine-month Detroit newspaper strike in 1968.

Top officials of Knight-Ridder and Gannett have written to shareholders and explained that the short-term losses of the strike will be balanced by long-term gains in efficiency.

Busting the unions, which many strikers and some analysts believe is the companies' goal, would enable them to more easily lay-off workers, pay lower wages, outsource and automate.

More significantly, eliminating unions at their Detroit holdings could help them out unions at their other papers and further cut staff and costs.

Knight-Ridder owns 28 papers, of which nine are unionized; Gannett owns 83 papers, of which only five are unionized.

Both papers own other media enterprises; their combined profits near \$2 billion.

In addition to the financial losses, the companies have also incurred a series of annoying, but less costly damages.

Dozens of carriers whose cars have been vandalized during the weekend confrontations have quit, thousands of dollars worth of company equipment has been damaged and city officials in Detroit and Sterling Heights have criticized the companies for



Sept., 1995: Walking the picket line at the Detroit News Building in downtown Detroit.

seeking their help escorting vehicles in and out of plant gates. That has required thousands of hours of overtime and has put the cities in the awkward position of accepting reimbursement from the newspapers or using tax dollars to foot the bill.

Additionally, top executives of the papers and Free Press sports columnist Mitch Albom have faced masses of picketers in their own neighborhoods.

But despite losses and hassles, the papers are still reaching readers. Nobody, however, is sure precisely how many since the papers declined to undergo an official audit.

But they are maintaining visibility. And that, Buckley said, is key if the papers expect to ever return to profitability.

Portrait of a Striker: Poor But Right

Shouting at scabs and former bosses from the picket line is cathartic for Susan Hall-Balduf, the striking Free Press copy editor. But being on strike has been more than just a chance to take a few jabs at those on the inside. It's a chance to teach her 13-year-old twins about courage.

"It is not more important to provide for their material wants than to teach them a lesson in moral courage," Hall-Balduf, 41, said. "If they go through lean times now when they are little and I'm protecting them, it will be easier for them to survive when

they are older. It will make them tough."

Hall-Balduf is working part-time at the Coffee Beanery at Eastland Mall in Harper Woods and is accepting food donations from the Teamsters food bank.

"My children ate Cheerios for four weeks," Hall-Balduf said. "But they will survive."

Hall-Balduf explained merit-pay, one of the key issues she went on strike over, to her children in simple terms. She told them that a merit-pay system can be as unfair to journalists as a mom giving candy to one of her children and depriving her others. "They have no problem understanding how unfair that is," she said.

Hall-Balduf said she is able to keep fighting after five months because she uses all the resources and donations available to her. A member of the committee that helps strikers who are in dire financial trouble, Hall-Balduf said she is puzzled why so many members of her union, the Newspaper Guild, refuse to seek help and instead cross their picket line and return to work.

"They just make me so angry," Hall-Balduf said. "They're proving that everything Knight-Ridder and Gannett stand for is justified. They're saying that money is more important than integrity. ... Personally, I'd rather be right and poor."

(SEE NEXT PAGE)

Organized Labor at the Crossroads

The issues that have separated management and union leaders in the strike are complex. Virtually every pivotal issue that labor has been grappling with for decades is at stake—wages, health care, new technology, outsourcing, merit-pay and downsizing.

"It's like a Noah's Ark of labor's struggle for the last 25 years," said Babson of WSU. "This is the single most important strike confrontation in Detroit in the last quarter century."

But at the bargaining table, the union and the companies are at a virtual stand-off.

At press time, the Free Press Unit of the Newspaper Guild is scheduled to meet with company bargainers Dec. 6. Nothing else is scheduled.

The companies' position seems to have hardened. They have said they can operate with about 700 fewer workers and have refused to fire replacement workers. The company offered the Newspaper Guild a 401K tax-deferred savings plan, but stood firm on a series of concessions.

The unions offered to return to work under the conditions of the old contracts and to submit unresolved issues to binding arbitration after 30 days of intensive bargaining. The company rejected the offer.

Workers have gone without an across-the-board cost-of-living raise since 1989, when the Detroit Newspapers, Inc. asked the unions to forfeit increases until the companies became profitable.

Now that the papers are making money, the unions are seeking their share.

But the company proposals seek deep cuts in the number of workers that staff the printing plant and distribute the papers. They also want to cut many full-time positions to part-time with no benefits or job security.

Merit-pay is a key issue for journalists. The company proposed eliminating across-the-board raises completely by the third year of the contract and replacing them with pay-for-performance increases. The companies declined to explain what criteria would be used to determine merit raises. Strikers say that without a better definition, merit-pay amounts to "favoritism pay."

The companies also wanted to designate some journalists as "professionals" (as opposed to hourly workers) because of their expertise in the subjects they cover. That label would exempt them from overtime pay and put them on salary. They would be on-



October, 1995: Vance Security goons advance on strikers at the Clayton distribution center in Detroit.

call all the time.

One of the most difficult company proposals is one that reduces the number of district managers, who are Teamsters. That would give fewer workers bigger distribution routes and it would change the status of carriers from independent contractors to agents. Such a move would give the newspapers control of subscriber lists and likely eliminate the union status of district managers.

The companies also are trying to cut health-care coverage and eliminate the traditional closed shops, which require workers to join the union as a condition of employment.

The companies say their proposals are necessary to eliminate so-called "featherbedding," which is forced overstaffing, and to remain competitive.

"The cost reductions they expected from the JOA just weren't coming and they had to do something dramatic," Buckley said of

management's position. "They can't keep wages high and have a lot of featherbedding. They have to tightly control costs because circulation revenue is limited and the advertising market is really competitive."

But the strike is about far more than economic issues, union officials said. "This strike is clearly not about money, it's about ideology," Roger Kerson, the spokesman, said. "It's about a corporation saying we're going to print our paper when and how we want without having to talk about it with any goddamn union official. Unfortunately, the laws of these United States say that if the workers have voted to have union representation, the company has to negotiate with them."

The National Labor Relations Board is scheduled in February to hear an unfair labor practices charge against the companies. A regional director for the NLRB on Aug. 31 ruled that the companies were guilty of unfair labor practices when they reneged

on an agreement to negotiate jointly with all six unions.

About 95 percent of initial rulings are upheld by the NLRB. A victory means that the companies could not permanently replace workers. They would be required to either fire the more than 1,000 replacements they've hired since the strike began July 13 or essentially pay two full work forces.

Drawing the Line Here & Now

Like the companies, Mike Moran, the electrician, knows the importance of staying afloat financially. But he's watched his wages stagnate over the years.

And Moran knows that workers will never get their fair share if they don't fight for it.

That's why he's on strike for however long it takes to win fair contracts for all the unionized workers at the papers.

"Everyone is going to have to fight this fight sooner or later," Moran said. "Now's as good a time as any."

about this issue

THE COVER STORY & POSTER

This story on the strike, as well as the center poster, was made possible with financial assistance from AGENDA readers.

Early in November, members of a labor coalition spearheaded by Jobs With Justice, approached AGENDA about purchasing a full-page strike-support advertisement in this issue. AGENDA editors offered to raise funds to cover costs for a second page of the ad.

In mid-November AGENDA sent out a letter to our subscribers and advertisers, asking for donations for this purpose and to hire a striking reporter and photographer to produce a lead story on the strike. Many individuals, organizations and business responded to this letter—you'll see their names (among others) listed as supporters on the poster. AGENDA is thankful for every donation—large and small!

EDITORIAL NOTE ON BOYCOTTS

The unions representing the striking Free Press and News workers have called for three types of boycotts: a circulation boycott, meaning don't buy the papers; an advertising boycott, meaning don't advertise in the papers; and a consumer boycott, meaning don't patronize businesses that advertise in or sell the papers.

AGENDA supports these boycotts. We would add, as a footnote, that if you're boycotting a store, it's important to talk with the owner. Find out why they're advertising in or selling the papers and explain your opposition to this. This is more effective than merely taking your business elsewhere—and who knows, maybe you'll change someone's mind.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

• Cancel your subscriptions to the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News. Call 313-222-6500 and press "0" or call 1-800-395-3300.

• Subscribe to the Detroit Sunday Journal, the strikers' weekly paper. Call 313-567-9822 to order or to find out where to purchase single copies.

• Join picketers on Saturday nights. Call strike headquarters at 313-965-1478 to find out where you are most needed.

• Display a "No Free Press or News Wanted Here" sign on your lawn. To order the free signs, call 313-963-6619.

• Come to a Rally Concert Bazaar on Sunday Dec. 3 at 2 pm at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 58-1358 Abbott (east of Trumbull), Detroit. The keynote speaker will be the newly elected executive vice president of the AFL-CIO, Linda Chavez-Thompson. There is a suggested donation of \$5.

Over five months on the picket line is costly for strikers and their families.

Send contributions to the Striker Relief Fund

Funds go directly to families for food, housing, prescriptions, etc. Send check to: METROPOLITAN DETROIT AFL-CIO, Attention: Eric Lindemler (2nd floor), 2550 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48208

Here's my donation to the Striker Relief Fund

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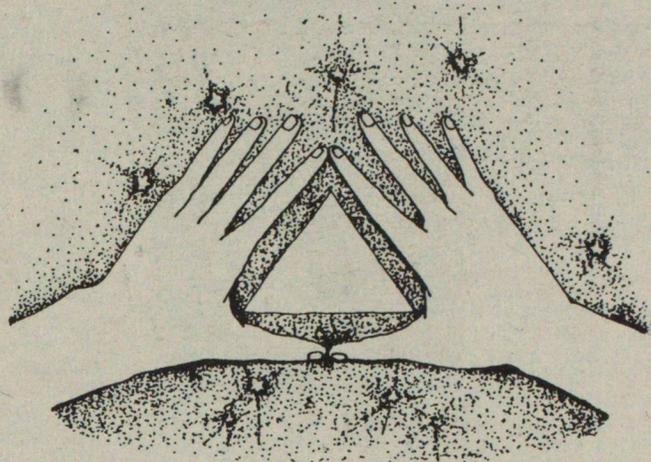
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AGENDA appeal, Dec. 1995

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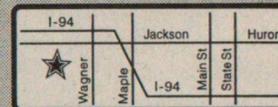
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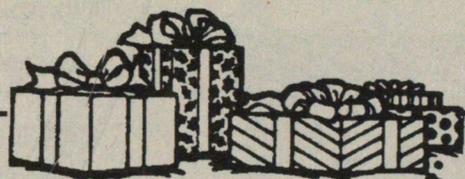
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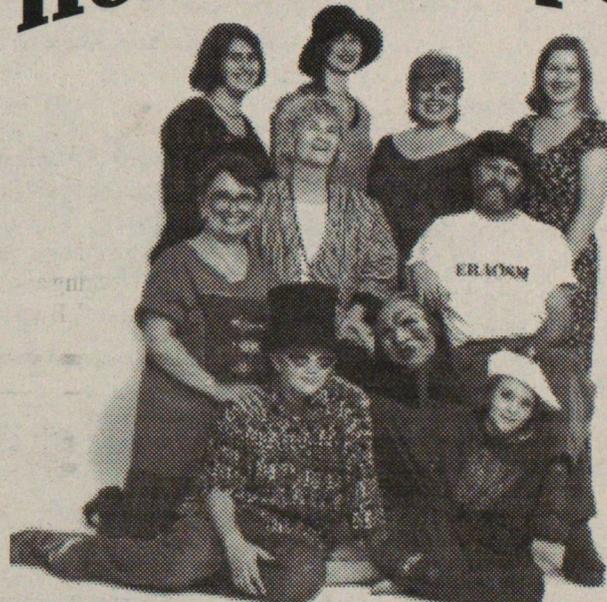
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Send your Literary Events for the January issue of AGENDA by December 15 to: AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

1 Friday

Publication Celebration: Shaman Drum 8 pm, 315 S. State. DANNY RENDLEMAN reads from his new collection of poems "The Middle West," which has been praised by author Charles Baxter for its "compassion and tenderness, its ability to look at the unforgiving nature of our contemporary urban lives." Rendleman, a lecturer in the English Department at U-M Flint, will be on hand to sign books and share refreshments. 662-7407

"First Fridays" Poetry: Galerie Jacques 8:30 pm, 616 Wesley, featuring three Detroit poets: Maurice Greenia, Jr., Jim Gustafson, and Sarah Peters. 665-9889

2 Saturday

Children's Hour: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. ROSIE, from Maurice Sendak's book "Really Rosie," will tell the story of the little girl who has a vivid imagination. 668-7652

Discussion: Shaman Drum 7 pm, 315 S. State. MARY BLOCKSMA, a widely published Michigan author, speaks about improvisation as a spiritual path. Her most recent book, "The Fourth Coast: Exploring the Great Lakes Coastline from the St. Lawrence Seaway to the Boundary Waters of Minnesota," documents her solo travels along 5,000 miles of northern coastline. Blocksma, who lives on Beaver Island in Lake Michigan where she conducts writing workshops, will be on hand after the talk to sign books and share refreshments. 662-7407

4 Monday

Writers Series: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. RACHEL PASTER, when asked to describe her writing, responded as follows: "Neurotic Jew



Michigan author MARY BLOCKSMA will be at Shaman Drum to talk about her new book about the Great Lakes coastline. (see 2 Saturday)

tells true tall tales and reviews movies not yet made." RAUL SMITH spent most of his time in New York City and Brazil before coming to Michigan, and he began writing poetry and prose out of a sense of isolation in the Midwest. And Ann Arbor's NATHALIE PETERSON reads from her whacked-out collection of way-out stuff. Ken Cormier, 481-9101

5 Tuesday

Publication Celebration: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. BRUCE MANNHEIM celebrates publication of "The Dialogic Emergence of Culture," which he co-edited with Dennis Tedlock. In this collection of essays, 13 prominent anthropologists reformulate the idea of culture. They show how language and culture—and anthropology itself—are continuously created and recreated in dialogues. Mannheim, U-M Assoc. Prof. of Anthropology, will be on hand to sign books and share refreshments. 662-7407

6 Wednesday

Publication Celebration: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. W. ANDREW ACHENBAUM celebrates two new books: "Crossing Frontiers: Gerontology Emerges as a Science" and "Profiles in Gerontology: A Biographical Dictionary." "Crossing Frontiers," which he authored, is the first book-length study of the history of gerontology, providing, one critic observes, "insight into the modest 20th-century beginnings of gerontology and helping us prepare for the field's likely acceleration in the next century." "Profiles in Gerontology" was co-authored by Daniel Albert. 662-7407

7 Thursday

Reception: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. Sigma Lambda Beta, a Latino fraternity, celebrates the conclusion of their second annual "Leer es Vivir" (To Read is to Live) Book Drive. The goal of the drive is to increase the number of

books available by Latino/a authors, furthering the creation of an intellectually nurturing environment. In support of the drive, Shaman Drum Bookshop will offer a ten percent discount on any books purchased for donation to Sigma Lambda Beta. 662-7407

8 Friday

Book Signing: Shaman Drum 5-7 pm, 315 S. State. DEBORAH MEIER, whom the Washington Post called "one of the best known and most celebrated educators in the country," signs copies of her book, "The Power of Their Ideas: Lessons for America From a Small School in Harlem." The book is a passionate defense of public education. For 20 years, Meier has led one of the most remarkable public schools in the country, Central Park East in East Harlem. She is also a fellow at the Annenberg National Institute for School Reform at Brown University. 662-7407

Poetry Reading: Shaman Drum 8 pm, 315 S. State. BOB HICOK reads his poems in celebration of his new collection "The Legend of Light," chosen for the Felix Pollak Prize by Pulitzer-Prize-Winning poet Carolyn Kizer and described by poet Thomas Lux as "vivid, quirky, and deeply human." Hicok is also an automotive die designer and computer system administrator. He will be on hand after the reading to sign books and share refreshments. 662-7407

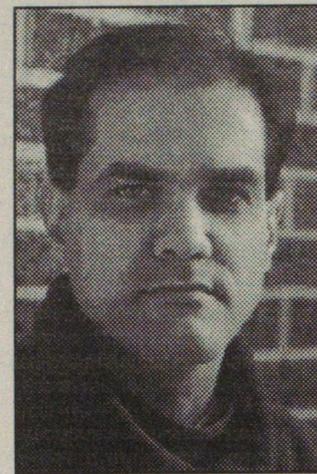
9 Saturday

Children's Hour: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. Guest story teller ANNETTE BOWMAN will read holiday stories. 668-7652

11 Monday

Writers Series: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Ypsilanti's KURT LINDEMANN blends ideas, imagery, humor, and performance into a set of poetry and

monologues. Also, Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti-based PANOPTIC FILM/VIDEO presents a special screening of its brand-new, feature-length movie project entitled, "MARWOOD'S GHOST." This Victorian-era comedy/ghost-story follows the trail of two pernicious brothers and their haughty cousin, Marwood, who is being mercilessly haunted by the ghost of Etta Sims. Ken Cormier, 481-9101



BOB HICOK will be at Shaman Drum reading from his new collection of poems. (see 8 Friday)

12 Tuesday

Discussion & Book Signing: Borders 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. DOROTHY WINBUSH RILEY will talk about her new book, "The Complete Kwanzaa: Celebrating Our Cultural Harvest." This book is filled with inspirational poetry, quotations, folktales, proverbs and profiles of famous African Americans who live by the principles of Kwanzaa. It also contains practical guides for gift-giving and recipes for a Kwanzaa feast. Riley is an elementary school principal and lives in Detroit. 668-7652

15 Friday

Publication Celebration: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. RUTH BEHAR celebrates the publication of two new collections of essays: "Bridges to Cuba/Puentes a Cuba," which she edited; and "Women Writing Culture," which she co-edited with Deborah A. Gordon. In "Bridges," the contributors' voices offer much needed testimony to the continuing efforts of Cubans and Cuban Americans to look beyond animosities and failings to renewal and reconciliation. In "Women Writing," feminist scholars offer a wide range of visions of identity and difference through various genres. 662-7407

16 Saturday

Poetry Reading: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. JOHN REED reads from his fourth collection of poems, "Great Lakes Poems." Laurence Goldstein says of Reed, he "has a superb talent for fashioning language compelling enough to transport us into worlds both natural and preternatural far removed from the commonplace." Reed, Prof. of English at Wayne State University, will be on hand afterwards to sign books and share refreshments. 662-7407

18 Monday

Writers Series: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Ypsilanti's LAURA SEVILLA reads poems, stories, and an excerpt from a new play-in-progress entitled "Home Cooked." Poet and fiction writer EMILY WISMER returns to the Guild House after a prolonged absence from the Ann Arbor area. And IAN DEMSKY, a 17-year-old Ann Arbor poet, reads "vomit-up-your-guts-and-put-them-under-glass" poetry. Ken Cormier, 481-9101

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BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Seuss & Mr. Geisel: A Biography

By Judith & Neil Morgan
Random House, 1995
239 pages, \$25 hardcover

Reviewed by Eric Jackson
AGENDA Associate Editor

The Morgans were friends and neighbors of Theodor Seuss Geisel for some 28 years. Theirs is an "authorized" biography. After a lifetime of telling outrageous tall tales to journalists curious about his life, the 87-year-old children's author (*The Cat in the Hat*, *Yertle the Turtle*, *Green Eggs and Ham*, etc.) told his story to the authors in the months before he died in 1991.

This sympathetic biography, however, is no fawning paen. The Morgans are veteran journalists, she a Latin America correspondent and travel writer, he a war reporter and editor with the *San Diego Tribune*. The Morgans interviewed friends, colleagues, classmates and relatives from throughout Geisel's life, and dug deep into many an archive to turn out a well-researched and thorough masterpiece. *Dr. Seuss & Mr. Geisel* may rightfully end up as a university text, either for classes on research and writing or for studies on the creative mind.

Such a work could only succeed by delving into the man's phobias, vices and defeats. Only by understanding the dark side is it possible to know the brilliance. But throughout his life

Geisel, a shy man who prized his privacy and was terrified of public speaking, had avoided discussing these aspects with reporters. For example, a "60 Minutes" segment about him never happened because Morley Safer wanted to discuss the suicide of Geisel's first wife (Helen Parker Geisel, an accomplished children's author in her own right), which took place in the context of marital troubles. The Morgans, who were among the first to rush to Ted Geisel's side in that time of tragedy, might have ignored the complicated affair that scandalized much of San Diego society. Or, more in keeping with today's usual voyeuristic style, they might have rendered a lurid blow-by-blow account. Instead the Morgans took the middle path, quoting from the suicide note preserved in the medical examiner's file and laying out the essential facts as they affected the subject's life and work.

This book is the tale of a German-American brewer's son from Springfield, Massachusetts, who saw the family business destroyed by prohibition and his father forced to make a mid-life career change to the zoo-keeper's trade. It recounts an excellent but unremarkable education at the Springfield public schools, Dartmouth and Oxford, where the real career preparation was found in the doodles in the margins of his class notes and his work on Dartmouth's *Jack-O-Lantern* humor magazine. It tells of a career that started off with a lot of rejections, but hit pay dirt early with a series of bug spray ads for Standard Oil of New Jersey.

The son of Republicans, Geisel

was a moderate Democrat. Ultimately his fame made him the guest of seven U.S. presidents. One of these, Ronald Reagan, he had decades before rejected as a potential narrator for one of his World War II military instruction films.

Richard Nixon, logging executives, religious fundamentalists and authoritarians of every stripe disliked Dr. Seuss. The kids in his book disobeyed their parents and the strange creatures tended to behave badly. Seussian characters tended to defy classification by gender, ethnicity or religion—a boon for those charged with teaching kids how to read (unlike the WASPish Dick and Jane), but a threat to those whose "back to basics" educational philosophies mask reactionary agendas. *The Lorax* was the classic environmentalist plea, and *The Butter Battle Book* the definitive put-down of arms races. A lot of people on the right were offended, and some of them lobbied to remove his books from elementary schools. But Dr. Seuss, who mustered out of Frank Capra's Hollywood army unit as Lieutenant Colonel Theodor S. Geisel, said "I'm not antimilitary—I'm just anticrazy."

An outspoken wet during Prohibition, Geisel drew anti-drug posters for the U.S. Navy in his old age. In the end, the man was felled by a lifelong tobacco addiction. The cancer was beaten, but the effects of the surgery and treatment did him in several years later.

Maybe the most useful part of this biography is the description of Geisel's creative process. And, though it may be heretical

to say so, maybe the addiction that made him chain-smoke as he worked things over and over to the point of perfection was an indispensable element of his creativity.

The Morgans delved deep into the detail of the Seussian eye for color, quirky drawing style and amazing sense of rhyme and meter. These were the technical skills that set the man apart, the foundation on which he built his empire of nonsensical wisdom. The authors also noted the difficulty that this towering master of his craft had in editing the works of others. Writing and editing are indeed kindred skills, but just as great baseball players seldom make great managers, brilliant writers usually have problems passing their spark to colleagues of lesser talents.

Though the Morgans carefully recounted the business side of the Dr. Seuss phenomenon, they could have taken a broader view of it. Once the man became famous just about anything that he did sold well, and because of this he was able to negotiate almost complete artistic freedom and get all the promotional support he needed. But this is the exception in the publishing business, and commercial norms suppress many a worthy children's book and break many an artist's spirit. Though the authors mention Geisel's luck, they don't acknowledge how the corporate penchant for producing more of what sold in the past and ignoring good work by unknowns surely prevents others from attaining deserved greatness. If this is a fault in the book, it's a minor one.

MYSTERY

Monkey Wrench

By Liza Cody
Mysterious Press, 1995
246 pages, \$18.95 hardcover

Reviewed by Jamie Agnew
Owner of Aunt Agatha's

Mysteries, like all good fiction, have always been about character. Even the fiendish puzzles designed by Edgar Allan Poe to test the first great detective, C. August Dupin, were designed to show how Dupin's mind worked with an ideal blend of intuition and deduction. Sherlock Holmes, surely the most famous character in English literature, successfully resisted his creator Conan Doyle's attempt to kill him off and today adventures on in pastiche after pastiche while his less well known progenitor writes no more.

So it is with great joy that I announce the appearance of another great mystery character—in the blue corner the London Lassassin, Eva Wylie. Yes, Eva's a professional wrestler, but her creator Liza Cody resists the easy derivative way out and shows the improbable glory of it all: "That's what I want—doing what I'm good at where everyone can see me do it. How many of you suck-

This month, more than four years after Ted Geisel's death, children of all ages will gather before video screens to enjoy *How the Grinch Stole Christmas!*, and many children will find gift-wrapped Dr. Seuss books under

ers can say the same? Eh? Tell me that. How many of you can stand in that cage of light and yell at hundreds of faces—'Shut up yer face, you rumbums, I'm up here in the light and you're down there in the dark!' Go on. How many? That's what I call job satisfaction."

Like Huck Finn, Eva's voice crackles with a creative use of the vernacular combined with an unquenchable fierceness of spirit. In a genre where female characters are getting tougher and tougher, with self-confessed "amoral savages" like Smilla of "Smilla's Sense of Snow" and Mallory of "Mallory's Oracle," making V.I. Warshawski and Kinsey Millhone look like sociable wimps, Eva has the worst attitude of all. While paranoid superwomen like Cornwell's Kay Scarpetta are becoming irritating and unreal, the very unreliability of Eva's narrative lets us see through her while still maintaining an affection through the bluster.

Cody's second Eva Wylie book "Monkey Wrench" continues the flow of the first, "Bucket Nut." More like chapters in the character's life than traditional murder puzzles, they both end up in a bang-up denouement that resounds but gives no real resolution. Although in real life I'm not sure if I would welcome the return of an extremely large, extremely ugly, extremely angry woman, in fiction I can't wait for Eva Wylie to come barreling my way again.

If there is justice in the literary world, a lot of adults who learned to read from *The Cat in the Hat*—and others who are interested in the creative process—will get *Dr. Seuss & Mr. Geisel* to brighten the winter gloom.

Celebrate Kwanzaa!



In her new book, *The Complete Kwanzaa: Celebrating Our Cultural Harvest*, Detroit author Dorothy Winbush Riley offers a comprehensive guide to the cultural foundations of Kwanzaa, the African-American holiday celebrated from December 26 to January 1. Ms. Riley will be at Borders to explain the history and origins of Kwanzaa and describe the Kwanzaa feasting and gift-giving traditions.

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We, your friends and neighbors and businesses in Washtenaw County, urge you to join us in helping striking workers by donating money to a relief fund, boycotting the scab paper and its advertisers, and buying the strikers' weekly Detroit Sunday Journal.

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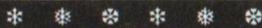
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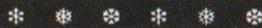
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By Arwulf Arwulf

If you think there are elements in your community which make it unique, and if in fact you feel at times that without those elements you would probably move away to somewhere cheaper and much quieter, then support those special elements. Lest they disappear altogether. We haven't much to say about it most of the time; the bagel franchise which replaces the beautiful old sandwich shop is always going to happen. There will be many other nights like this, but there will never be another *Drake's*.

Enterprising folk have every right to buy up every inch of the world and pimp anybody that comes along for the sake of a profit. That's the way it is around here. Pimps and pushovers. If we are to exist in a capitalist cartoon, then let's play the fucking game. Right? What little impact we are able to make with our regular investments of small sums of money, this much power we do have. It's an application of very real power. We should be aware of what our money is doing as it fritters away in the hot bake of this famously expensive college metropolis.

Example: If your regular coffee shop treats its workers like shit and they all quit in protest, why then you can channel the inflated cost of your liquid amphetamine beverage habit into a worthier cafe, or at least one which is managed a bit less obnoxiously. Money talks, swears, threatens. Money is a weapon. Use it wisely, and with caution.

Anybody who's operating an independently-owned business in Ann Arbor is sticking their neck out and paddling upstream against enormous odds. The people who maintain bookshops in particular are to be treated with respect and consideration. Without them our town would be entirely indistinguishable from Southfield. Among the few precious remaining factors which keep people like you and me from moving away and staying away are the books and the people who sell them. (If you're not so bookish, please pardon my presumption.)

I'm referring specifically to the book stores which are peculiar to Ann Arbor. Since word got out that this is among the most intensively literary communities in North America, big companies have erected immense stores, glutted with merchandise, and usually equipped with a cappuccino counter. Books are stacked to the ceilings, and people mill around in a daze, blinking at the wealth. These places are undeniably neat and fun but they can and do obscure the real local bookstores which must be supported if they are to survive.

Used books are the best deal in town. (The only exception I can think of are the discounted long-playing vinyl classical records at PJ's; these may be the best deal in the world). Anyway, here are the shops which deal almost exclusively in used books:

- **Books In General:** 332 S. State (upstairs)
- **David's Books:** 622 E. Liberty (upstairs)
- **Dawn Treader:** 514 E. Liberty
- **Kaleidoscope:** 217 S. State
- **West Side:** 113 W. Liberty
- **Wooden Spoon:** 200 N. Fourth Ave
- **Aunt Agatha's:** 213 S. Fourth Ave

Each of these shops has its own personality, and each represents a stash of texts worth visiting. I've listed them this way so that you can see at a glance how rich downtown Ann Arbor

is in used printed texts. While virtually inaccessible to wheelchairs, **Books In General** and **David's** are each worth the climb to the second floor. Incredible selection in both shops. **Dawn Treader**, too, is about a mile deep. Set aside at least an hour for each location when you visit the bookshops of Ann Arbor.

Kaleidoscope has endless piles of antiques mixed in with the books. It's like being inside the brain of the owner, and at the same time one feels awed as by a museum. **West Side Book Shop** is a sacred temple for the bibliophile. It reminds me of bookshops I visited in Boston some thirty years ago. Friendly and cozy. **Wooden Spoon** contains something like a book seller's cooperative, which is cool. **Aunt Agatha's**, of course, is specifically devoted to mystery, suspense and a bit of horror and the supernatural. All of these places are businesses but they're also very precious archives, run by really wonderful people. Treat them with love and respect.

Afterwords, at 219 S. Main, and **Bargain Books**, 1621 S. State, deal pretty much exclusively in remaindered and discontinued titles. **Afterwords** should get some kind of award for bringing so many fine books into our hands for so little. All bookworms eventually crawl through these aisles, and few go away empty-handed.

Common Language, at 215 S. Fourth Ave, is considered by many to be one of the best book stores of its kind in the country. Specifically devoted to Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual and Feminist literature, **Common Language** is also a gathering place for activists who care about what gets accomplished rather than what the trends are. This is the most progressive book shop in town, hands down. It's about ethics and real life. Even the children's book section is refreshingly realistic.

Crazy Wisdom, at 206 N. Fourth Ave, focuses on spirituality and healing. Lots of candles and beautiful sculpture, too. This is a good counterpoint to **Common Language**; visit both places consecutively to remind yourself that progressive politics and alternative spirituality grow out of the same blood roots.

I've saved **Shaman Drum**, at 313 S. State, for the finish. This is the dream of a fellow who's dared to stock a store with specialized titles; the considerable textbook sales which take place upstairs make it possible for **Shaman Drum** to carry some profoundly unusual scholarship on the main floor. The American Indian section is in itself a triumphant dedication to meaningful subject matter. The extensive Poetry stash has always blown me away. Who else would take the time and space for Marsden Hartley and Lew Welch? Rent ain't cheap in this stretch of downtown; **Shaman Drum** is a daring vote of confidence in your integrity as a buying public.

Support this and all of our most unique bookshops. Try and curb the impulse to invest in the franchises. They don't need you. Corporatism smells like fascism. It's based on the same hierarchic principles. The littler bookshops I've described must have the continued support of Ann Arbor's readers. Otherwise, extinction. I put it bluntly so it gets across and maybe sticks with you awhile. Your money is power. Use it accordingly. Knowledge, too, is power. Invest in books. And buy them from local people who deserve your money.

LOCAL MUSIC

The View from Nowhere

By Alan Goldsmith

Christmas in Ann Arbor. It's the time of year when multinational corporations who own record labels want you to (god, I hate this phrase...) "Give the Gift of Music" and shell out your heard-earned cash for, mostly, whatever is on the Billboard charts. Where does this money go? Don't get me started...to lawyers, to banks, to lawyers, to music publishing outfits and on occasion, a few pennies make it to the artist who actually recorded the CD.

The View From Nowhere says stop the madness of money leaving the local music community by buying CDs, tapes and records recorded and produced by local musicians. It's sooooo simple. The money stays here, bands are encouraged and the local scene continues to thrive. And this holiday season, there's tons of good stuff out there to boot.

Number one on your list should be "Arrival Time" by **Crossed Wire** (Real Deluxe Records). When I caught a solo set by band leader Chris Moore at **P.J.'s Used Records** a few weeks back, I was blown away by Moore's gritty, powerful pop voice, but the gig was nothing compared to Moore's originals here. This CD of 11 tunes includes at least nine hit singles. With **Crossed Wire** and probably amplified by Moore's solo performances, the songs are what comes first. The title tune sounds like REM fronted by David Bowie via Detroit. "Close" is a rockin' track that sounds like a 1990s grunge Bob Dylan. "From a Window" is country rock that brings back the ghost of Gram Parsons. "True Survivor" recalls early Leonard Cohen.

But, as good as this sounds on paper, the kick is how great the **BAND** sounds and how they match the quality of the songwriting. An amazing rhythm section, lots of punch, angelic guitar licks and a quest for making the perfect radio record with balls makes "Arrival Time" one of the best local releases of 1995 and a perfect gift choice for anyone who loves cool pop and roll.

"Twelve Steps Below Walnut" (Skillet Records) from **whirlingRoad** is more of the same. Their amazing track "Alright" (which got a bunch of local commercial radio airplay) is here along with nine other tunes with a little harder edge than **Crossed Wire**. The band doesn't have much to say (more songs of broken hearts, lost love, et. al. la la la) but they say it with so much power and conviction. "Not Yet Gone" is an Ann Arbor Big Audio Dynamite dance thing. "Small" is poppy grunge with a sense of humor. "Baby" is another pop radio hit that recalls the Romantics' "That's What I Like About You" and would make a cool beer commercial.

With this CD **whirlingRoad** gives you ballads and heavy guitars, and tracks that mesh discord with tracks that belong on the radio. The song writing isn't on the same level overall as **Crossed Wire**, but the pair of CDs are coming from the same musical place.

Seranti's three-tune self-titled CD is something that blends folk, Celtic, and rock into a hypnotic sort of thing that sounds like nothing I've ever heard before. Really loose, it's almost mideastern sounding musically with English-major-poetry-heavy/deep lyrics and an aura of new ageism surrounding it. It's riff-centered, trippy, arty and sounds like there's a bit of David Byrne at work on occasion too. After a

couple of listens it really grows on you like a...I don't know...Hypnotic is the only word that comes close to pinning this down.

Cosmicity is a boy, Mark Nicholas, and his synthesizer. On his eleven-tune collection, "The Moment," (TBL Music) you get eerie, floating, mostly danceable synthpop that's dark and moody. The title tune is a New Order-influenced masterpiece of a ballad but there's lots more going on with this U-M Music School grad. While **Cosmicity** sounds more New York, more European than Midwestern, you can still tell the Ann Arbor roots in its smartness, its angst and its complexity. And it sounds cool as hell on headphones too.

If you've been paying any attention at all, one of the best little duos around over the past few years have been **The King Brothers**, whose talent and hipness as a band have been world-class. While recording minor pop masterpieces in their home studio west of Ann Arbor, they piled up an impressive output of musical genius. Now guitarist/singer/songwriter/studio wizard elder King brother Billy has his own solo release out, "Part Of The World" (Holler Sounds) and it's hard to believe it's real.

Again, more "pop" music (which can mean almost whatever you want it to mean...) in the singer/songwriter vein, it's true. But Billy King is not an artist about whom you can use such a word and get away with it. The overall feel of "Part Of The World" is like the Lindsay Buckingham on a good day, but the catchy originals shine on with a light that reveals roots planted in the same ground as Alex Chilton, early era Beatles, Buddy Holly and...pause for dramatic effect...Brian Wilson.

Lots of musicians claim these sacred roots but King is the only one (at least locally) who has a shot at playing in the same ball park. His voice still needs a little work (but is charming in its still progressing, climbing way) but when you listen to the dozens of classic hooks, the nice guitar parts and the overall uplifting sounds here it's guaranteed to make you smile at the passion and at how GOOD everything sounds, in a 1960s AM radio sort of way. A must-buy for anyone on your X-Mas list who still believes in magic (à la the Lovin' Spoonful's "do-you-believe-in" kind).

Merry Christmas to all and etc. etc. ...The View From Nowhere is taking suggestions for the annual January top-ten list of local recordings. Send your ideas/votes to: TVFN, AGENDA, 220 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104 or e-mail to ALANNARBOR@COM.

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NEW RELEASES

Xmas picks

By William Shea

Compilation: *Blame It On Christmas-Volume I* Schoolkids' Records

Schoolkids' Records has a nifty Christmas CD out. Entitled "Blame It On Christmas-Volume I" this compilation pulls together 17 of the weirdest Christmas tunes that you've ever heard. "The Silent Night's Spangled Banner" by P.S. #14 Marching Band, "Schepp The Hall With Loaves Of Hallah" by the Three Weissmen, "The Second Noel" by The New Havana Rhythm Kings are three of the weirdest. Although this seasonal spoof may not appeal to everyone, if you like the irreverent you'll find it here.

Gary Nestor and David Kohl scoured the record shelves and archives to find these dandies. And some of them ain't half bad. The "Poor Man's Frank Sinatra, Jr.," Bob Francis, has a dynamite voice and does a swinging version of "Away In the Manger." The Border Patrol does a rockin' harpsichord/big band version of "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" called "Real Merry Gents Don't Rest." Sounding a bit like Lawrence Welk, it's still a toe-tapper filled with the proper spirit.

The production of this CD is surprisingly good. Given that many of these tunes were first recorded in the early 1960s and before, the "STERE-O-RAMA" sound is clean and precise. Particularly noteworthy is the echoey surf guitar on "The Lil' Endless Summer Boy." This CD is a good Holiday wave to catch.

James' Dapogny's Chicago Jazz Band Hot Club Stomp: *Small Band Swing Discovery* Records

U-M Music professor James Dapogny and his Chicago Jazz Band have released another exceptional recording. This time moving beyond the music of Ellington and Jelly Roll Morton of his first two recordings, Dapogny focuses on music for the small combos of the 1930s and 40s. This infectious, musically strong recording would make a swell holiday gift.

Small combo swing music, referred to as Hot Jazz, took the arrangements of the Big Bands and stripped them down to fit a smaller ensemble, often a sextet but in Dapogny's case an octet. This left the musicians a bit more exposed but also gave them more room to demonstrate their chops. And through-

out this recording there are some extraordinary chops. Not to diminish the entire ensemble, but the musicianship of Kim Cusak, clarinet; Jon-Erik Kelloso, trumpet; and Bob Smith trombone is first-rate.

The jump/stomp feel of Hot Jazz is no better heard than on Benny Carter's "Pardon Me Pretty Baby." The rhythm is subtle but never ending, pulling more than pushing. Couple this tune with Fats Waller "Caught" and Andy Razaf and Chu Berry's "Christopher Columbus" and you'll get a free-wheeling troika of jump swing-music. This music clearly shows why your grandparents were dancing fools. This CD is highly recommended.

Compilation: *Today's Best Country Gospel Arrival* Records/K-Tel

As you might remember K-Tel Records made their name through the 1970s as a compilation label. At one time or another practically every number-one song or disco hit was on one of K-Tel's ubiquitous recordings. Today they have pruned their branches a bit. Now virtually every Christian music hit recorded in the past decade is on their compilations. This can be bad and good. Bad in that all too often the lyrics of Christian music pushes the music right out the door.

But compilations can give us excellent examples of a particular genre of music. "Today's Best Country Gospel" does a good job at emphasizing good country music over lyrical sentimentality. Compiler Hazel Smith has found ten contemporary gospel songs. They are performed by country music veterans such as Vince Gill, Willie Nelson, Rickie Van Shelton, John Anderson, Diamond Rio, Shenandoah and others. The result is a sound production as slick as Nashville can get.

In contrast to contemporary Christian music, songs like Diamond Rio's "Mama Don't Forget to Pray for Me," "Dreaming Of A Little Cabin" sung by Willie Nelson, and Shenandoah's "Wednesday Night Prayer Meetin'" give us a clear picture of the role country gospel music plays in much of American culture. Like John Anderson's song "I'm an Old Chunk of Coal (But I'm Gonna Be A Diamond Some Day)," we see country gospel music not as pitting one holier-than-thou view against another but as reconciling the trials of everyday life. It's as if for these artists every honky-tonkin' Saturday night is followed by a repentant Sunday morning. Instead of having all the answers, like many contemporary Christian artists seem to, these artists know that there are only questions. Like Marty Stuart laments, "If I give my soul to Jesus will she take me back again?" The answer can only be "maybe."

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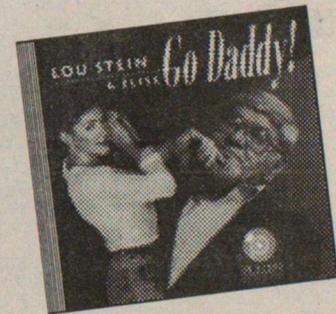


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SCREEN SCENE

By John Carlos Cantú

CASINO

[1995. Directed by Martin Scorsese. Cast: Robert De Niro, Joe Pesci, Sharon Stone. Universal Pictures. 170 mins.]



The case of Martin Scorsese is getting more interesting as we rapidly move through the 1990s. One of our best filmmakers—and certainly one of the most passionate—Scorsese's uncanny take on the underbelly of the American dream has been equaled only by Josef Von Sternberg and John Huston.

At his best—*Mean Streets*, *Taxi Driver*, *Raging Bull*, and *Goodfellas*—Scorsese is an intuitive master whose fluid blending of acting, narrative, and *Mise-en-scène* has few equals. Unlike, for instance, Brian De Palma, he's forcefully conveyed the message he wishes. And even though his audience might feel a little whipsawed for the effort, there's never been any question but that a master is working at all times.

Contradictorily, however, Scorsese's also always threatening to overreach himself. *Cape Fear*, *The Age of Innocence*, and *New York, New York* are three flawed dissimilar projects where his weakness as a storyteller were on display for all to see. Too sincere to be disingenuous, Scorsese has always been gutsy in his choice of material.

This makes *Casino* a peculiar film—even by Scorsese's quirky standard. Because even at his worst, Scorsese has never cannibalized his previous work. Yet *Casino* finds him pulling bits and pieces of his prior films (including, startlingly enough, *The King of Comedy*) to get him through a stuffed production that's as passionless as it's furiously intense.

Robert De Niro plays bookie Sam (Ace) Rothstein who's plucked from obscurity by the Mafia to run a Las Vegas casino. Since Ace is not really much more than a number-cruncher, the Dons also import his childhood friend, Nicky Santoro (Joe Pesci), to provide him with some much needed muscle. For the next three hours Ace and Nicky get pushed by circumstance after circumstance until they're at each other's throats.

The main cause for their discord is Ace's wife, Ginger (Sharon Stone), who's as unlucky in her choice of men as she's successful as a streetwise

hustler. Ginger ultimately uses both men against each other until they all degenerate from the excess of their life-style.

Scorsese (and co-screenplaywriter, Nicholas Pileggi) want to play this story up like Greek tragedy, but what they've crafted is a three-star

Goodfellas "West." *Casino*'s sprawling minutia is so fascinating to them; they've seemingly forgotten there's a movie going on. Ace's collapse is so operatic in its scale and grandeur, there's little life in him (or any of the other characters). Like the remote anthropomorphic Gods of the past, these mobster's problems don't connect with the concerns of the mundane goodfellas down on the food chain.

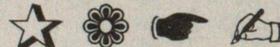
Which is a shame because De Niro gives a flawless (if also soulless) performance as the star-crossed Rothstein. Likewise, Pesci is suitably out of control as the rabid Santoro. And Stone is an instant favorite for an Academy Award nomination as the weak-willed Ginger. She ultimately dominates the film by default because its episodic script gives her the widest range of plausible emotions.

It would be simple enough to assert that Scorsese has merely overreached himself once again. But this is not exactly the case. The greater danger is that for the first time in his career he's reflexively going through the motions. Although, admittedly, he still dazzles his viewer's imagination with his ability to mount a visual barrage steady enough, and inventive enough, to delight the eye and mind.

Ultimately, *Casino* is an oddly superior blend of tired story and fabulous filmmaking. The film would be the highlight of nearly any other current director's oeuvre (fill in De Palma, Tarantino, or whomever you want among others). But then, that's the burden of being the best.

THREE COLORS: RED

[1994. Directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski. Cast: Irène Jacob, Jean-Louis Trintignant. Miramax/Miramax Home Entertainment. French with English Subtitles. 98 mins.]



If, as Aristotle once said, friends are two people who inhabit the same soul, then *Red* is a four-cornered mismatch. And like an uneasy rectangle, *Red*'s soulful extra half in this movie is ultimately a bit much of a maddening crowd.

Krzysztof Kieslowski's last installment of three films based loosely on the French tricolors wrestles mightily with the idea of fraternity. But "wrestles" is only an approximate word because the film's ambiguous conclusion reveals some serious hesitation on Kieslowski's part to endorse friendship as a simplistic panacea for interpersonal strife.

Perhaps Kieslowski finds himself trapped by social convention. Or perhaps his view of the intrinsic nature of the sexes won't allow him to follow through with the arch of his narrative. In a trilogy marked by remarkably indeterminate conclusions, *Red* is the most enigmatic story of this series.

Fashion model Valentine Dussaut's (Irène Jacob) personal life is a mess. Her self-absorbed filmmaker boyfriend, Michel, is working in London; where he calls her at all hours trying to check on her whereabouts. One night Valentine accidentally runs over a dog who is owned by a misanthropic retired Judge Joseph Kern (Jean-Louis Trintignant). The two immediately repel each other; yet they also viscerally sense there's an unspoken bond that unites them in their loneliness.

At the same time, law student Auguste Bruner (Jean-Pierre Lorré) is consumed by jealousy when

his girlfriend, Karin (Frédérique Feder), begins a liaison with another man. After Valentine and Kern acknowledge the fact that the 40 years between them are too great a gulf to unite them, a series of coincidences will eventually link her with Auguste.

What's most interesting about this film is Kieslowski's ambivalence about Valentine's and Kern's future. For not only do he and co-script writer, Krzysztof Piesiewicz, not bring these two mismatched personalities together (and thus give up the all-too-easily achieved melodramatic setup); but he also doesn't allow either much rest apart. They are fated to be sundered and life will force them further apart, but their friendship (if this is indeed what they share) merely moves them towards an uncertain midgame.

Ever the existential artist—indeed, quite possibly the finest psychological filmmaker of the 1990s—Kieslowski pivots his film expertly upon the reefs of personal anguish. For Valentine and Kern are not only far enough apart in age to be interpersonally disoriented, but they're close enough in emotional sympathy to feel the inevitable attraction that kindred spirits sense when they're together.

Kern's pained (yet hesitatingly hopeful) bearing as he anxiously watches a televised news broadcast of a collapsed channel ferry upon which Valentine (and Auguste) is trapped, sweeps a gamut of emotions on his face. For it was his wish to speak with Valentine one last time before she reconciled with Michel that maneuvered her on that fateful voyage. Now he may have indirectly contributed to his newfound friend's untimely death.

Looking through Trintignant's hesitatingly idealist eyes for this brief moment, Kieslowski tells us heaven and hell are not mystic realms of another dimension. Both are, rather, tenuous aspects of the mind's indecisiveness straining against the sensuousness of flesh and the goodwill of conscience.

RATING KEY

- ★ Acting
- ✿ Cinematography
- ☞ Direction
- ✂ Editing
- 👉 Narrative
- 🎧 Sound
- ⊠ Special Effects

When a symbol appears following a title, it implies that the corresponding category is a strength of the movie.

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arts agenda

New Photography Gallery

by Orin Buck

In the last issue I wrote about the end of Rebecca Berman Pelletier Gallery as a fine art gallery—this time I have related good news about a new gallery of photographic art. William Pelletier has reopened the William Pelletier Gallery at 213 S. Main, after having closed it nearly eight years ago.

His friendship with Hattula Moholy-Nagy, who lives in Ann Arbor, and his fine printing skills led him to be commissioned to make new Laszlo Moholy-Nagy prints when Hattula inherited the negatives of her famous Bauhaus father. The first outlet for these prints was the Rebecca Berman Pelletier Gallery, as noted last issue. More prints make up the new gallery's first show (which will be up until next spring). Further selections from the collection will be available at the new gallery.

There have been no art galleries specializing in photography here since Pelletier's gallery closed. Before, there was the Blixt Gallery, which was open from 1975 to 1984. However, it seems to me that the revived gallery has a good chance of making it even in Ann Arbor's tight art market. The Moholy-Nagy collection is an important asset that is drawing interest from around the world. In addition, Pelletier plans to use his extensive art photography contacts to get prints and shows from other big names. Some local names that will be seen are Howard Bond, David Capps, and Jim Galbraith. Pelletier is looking at the

possibilities of establishing a steering committee, getting shows from local teaching institutions, and getting grants as ways of strengthening the gallery. (He is looking for an interested person experienced in writing grants.) In fact Al and Jill Blixt, the owners of the former Blixt Gallery, are helping out. They agree that the prints have a lot of potential. Al Blixt notes that a dealer in New York has been selling vintage Moholy-Nagy prints for \$70,000 to \$80,000 each.

Besides these assets, Pelletier is excited about the growing interest in artistic photography, and feels that now is the perfect time to bring back his gallery. Charles Hagen reports in ARTnews Feb. 1995 that photography is growing faster than ever. Photos at all price levels are doing better than ever at the major auction houses like Sotheby's. More museums are establishing or expanding photography holdings.

Interest is growing especially in younger people. According to Hagen, New York's Pace/MacGill Gallery head Peter MacGill says "I see a lot of younger people—in their 20s and 30s—collecting, too." The younger buyer who doesn't appreciate uptight semireligious decorum will feel right at home in the new gallery—Pelletier has a reputation for good parties that goes back to the '70s, renewed by the Nov. 10 Moholy-Nagy reception with dancing and carousing late into the night.

Why is interest growing just

now? There are a few explanations. Al Blixt says "Photography is nonthreatening to ordinary people." Some appreciate the beauty of the print as a handmade object, while others easily relate to specific photographs as metaphors for human experience. It is a relatively egalitarian medium.

Amateur photography has been shrinking as home video has grown. Jill Blixt suggests that now more of the audience has greater personal distance from photography—they are not mentally competing with photographers, feeling "I could do that."

I think that post-modern sensibility is more comfortable with enjoying all sorts of photography as art, so that the lower prices relative to other media become a big attraction. Another angle is that reproductions of good photography are everywhere in the mass media, now more than ever. Owning an original establishes a personal connection that transcends the sea of cheap reproductions in magazines and elsewhere. Other forms of fine art are less ubiquitous, less demanding of our attention.

Also, the blending of photography with traditional and other new media continues. In fact, Pelletier is interested in incorporating video and computer graphics into his gallery. This expansion of possibilities in the photography arena is another natural source of growth, and another force breaking down boundaries between photography and traditional fine arts media. All told, now is definitely a good time to revive the William Pelletier Gallery.

Change in hours: Instead of the hours reported in the Nov. Ann Arbor Observer, William Pelletier Gallery will be open only by appointment. Call 761-5305.

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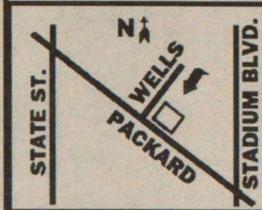
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DECEMBER, 1995 Visual Arts Calendar

STILL SHOWING

"Painting with Fire: Pewabic Vessels in the Margaret Watson Parker Collection" U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. Selected from pieces that Detroit's Pewabic Pottery founder Mary Chase Stratton deemed of highest quality. Thru Jan. 7. 764-0395

"Angelis Jackowski: Monumental Tropical Flowers in Watercolor" T'Marra Gallery-Artsearch, 111 N. First St. Exhibit thru Dec. 20. 764-0395

"Stitched, Layered, Pieced: Michigan Artists and the Quilt" U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State St. Sixteen artists working with quilts as fine art, thru Dec. 10. 764-0395

"3 Detroit Artists" Galerie Jacques, 616 Wesley. Puppet show by Greenia. Maurice Greenia, Jr., Jim Puntingam & Karl Schneider exhibit thru Jan. 6. 665-9889

"Dwellings: Urban Dancer" Michigan Guild of Artist & Artisans Gallery, 118 N. 4th Ave. Sue Holdaway-Heys exhibit thru Dec. 4. 662-3382

"Unpainted to the Last: Moby-Dick and American Art, 1930-1990" U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. Exhibit includes Jackson Pollock, Frank Stella & many others. Exhibit thru Dec. 24. 764-0395

The Interpretation Project U-M Museum of Art, 525 S. State. Visitors invited to record on computer for later publication their impressions of three paintings. Thru Feb. 11. 764-0395

Laszlo Moholy-Nagy William Pelletier Gallery, 213 S. Main. New prints from original negatives showing thru Mar. '96. 761-5305

"Out of the Trenches..." Common Language Bookstore, 215 S. 4th Ave. Susan Webb b&w photography thru Dec. 31. 663-0036

FRIDAY 1

"A Day Without Art" Artists Reception 5-8 pm, Alexa Lee Gallery, 201 Nickels Arcade. Commemorating our losses from AIDS, display of works by Christopher Campbell, Jennifer Reeves, Tyree Guyton, Sharon Que, Cynthia Nartonis & Laurie Halbritter will be covered with black drapes. 663-8800

"Passages" Opening 5-8 pm, Alexa Lee Gallery, 201 Nickels Arcade. New works by Boston painter/printmaker Cynthia Nartonis thru Jan. 6. 663-8800

Detroit Gallery Crawl 4-10 pm, departing from the Michigan Gallery, 2661 Michigan Ave. 313-961-7867

A.E.I.O.U. (AIDS Education Is On Us) N. Campus Commons Atrium. This group sponsors an exhibit of works by Nicole DeChamps' 2D Design class thru Dec. 7. 764-7544

Chelsea Painters N. Campus Commons Gallery. Member work exhibited thru Dec. 17. 764-7544

SATURDAY 2

Art Day 12-5 pm. Visit galleries, artists' studios & special events throughout the Ann Arbor area. Pick up maps at any downtown gallery or the Public Library. Ann Arbor Convention & Visitors Bureau 995-7281

"Hidden From View: The Photographs of M. Claudet" Opening 5-8 pm, 210-212 S. 1st St. (look for sign). C.S. Grieg installation thru Dec. 15. 995-4519

SUNDAY 3

"Love and Hate" Opening 3-6 pm, Clare Spitzer Works of Art, 2007 Pauline Ct. 1995 Group show includes Tokumi Ayzen, Alice Crawford, Lynn Evans, Jesse Jacob & Kirsten Ingrid Rogoff. Exhibit thru Jan 30. 662-8914

Art Day 12-5 pm. See Sat. Dec. 2

MONDAY 4

Ann Blackwell Michigan Union Art Lounge. Exhibit thru Dec. 14. 764-7544

SATURDAY 9

Holiday Art Fair 10 am-5 pm, Oakland Community College, Orchard Lake Rd. at I-696, Farmington Hills. 130 artists, proceeds benefit Michigan Guild of Artists & Artisans. Adults \$4. 662-3382

13th Annual Holiday Gift Bazaar 12-5 pm, 1st Unitarian Church, 4605 Cass, Detroit. This "lefty-political-holiday-marketplace," now produced by the Detroit Women's Coffeehouse, offers over 30 peace, human rights, solidarity organizations and women artists selling gift items and original works from around the world. 810-398-4297 x2

"Art Goes Historical, or Museum Visitor Encounter The Morning of a New Day" 8 pm, Angell Hall Aud. B. 1995 Sloan Memorial Lecture by William Truettner, Senior Curator of Painting & Sculpture at the National Museum of American Art, relates to the UMMA Interpretation Project (see above, Still Showing). 764-0395

SUNDAY 10

Holiday Art Fair 11 am-5 pm, See Sat. Dec. 9.

MONDAY 11

2nd Best Ever College of Engineering Staff & Faculty Art Exhibit N. Campus Commons Atrium. Exhibit thru Dec. 17. 764-7544

Opportunities IN ALL MEDIA

Models & Artists Brunch Sat. Dec. 16, 10 am-1 pm, Michigan Gallery, 2661 Michigan Ave., Detroit. 15 models at the same time. Everyone draws, everyone brings a dish. 313-961-7867

1996 Visual Arts Conference Jan. 11-12, Clarion Hotel, 2900 Jackson Rd. Featured speaker Constance Hallinan Lagan. 8 workshops presented concurrently: The Power of Publicity, Making Money in Mail Order, The Essentials of High Self-Esteem For the Craft Professional, Successful Craft Selling, Pricing and Costs (Pts. I & II), Money Matters, & a Mock Jury. Registration & fee info: Marilyn Gouin, The Michigan Guild, 118 N. 4th Ave., Ann Arbor MI 48104-1402. 662-3382

1996 Greektown Art Fair Deadline Feb. 1. 150 artists & artisans to be selected for May 17-19, 1996 Greektown, Detroit event. 662-3382

Young Potters Can Win Cash Awards Application Deadline Jan. 5. Michigan potters aged 20-30 (as of May 1, 1996), students or residents of Mich., can win up to \$500 & entry into national competition. For info & entry form: Mid-Michigan Chapter of the National Society of Arts & Letters, Doni Lystra, 875 Scio Church Rd., A2 MI 48103. 663-5915

33rd E. Lansing Art Festival Application Deadline Feb. 12. Mid-Michigan's first major outdoor art show of the year, May 18-19. Open to all media. \$15 jury fee. Bonney Mayers, Festival Coordinator, East Lansing Art Festival, 410 Abbott Rd., E. Lansing MI 48823. 517-337-1731 x211

U-M Museum of Art on World Wide Web at <http://www.umich.edu/~umma/>. Watch for future expansion with video & sound. 764-0395

Entity An emerging computer artist coalition based in Ann Arbor. Email: entity-list@umich.edu. Web page: <http://www.umich.edu/~ego/entity>

Submissions wanted for Generator New literary & art magazine based in Ypsilanti. Submit stories, articles, poetry, photos, drawings & cartoons. Include SASE & phone #. Materials returned on request. Generator, P.O. Box 363, Ypsilanti MI 48197

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To publicize January Calendar events, send formatted listings by December 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., A2, MI 48104.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public. All locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

1 Friday

Introductory Zen Meditation Course: Zen Buddhist Temple Call for time, 1214 Packard. Thru 2 Sat, \$140/\$120 studs. 761-6520

Winter Clothing Give Away: A2 Parks & Rec. 9-11 am, Bryant Comm. Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Coats, sweaters & other apparel for adults & children. Donations welcome. 994-2722

"The Environmental Connection: Rising Rates of Breast Cancer, Reproductive Disorders & Children's Disease": Ecology Center 4-7 pm, A2 Public Library, 4th floor. Public hearing with testimony by scientists & community activists. 663-2400

"The World Bank, the IMF & Their Effect on Nicaragua": Peace InSight 6:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Talk & slide show by local activist Phyllis Ponvert. 769-7422

World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil & March: HIV/AIDS Resource Center 6:30 pm, Anderson Rm., Mich. Union. Speakers, ceremony on the steps of the union & march thru A2. 572-9355

SEMJA Christmas Party: Bird of Paradise 6:30-8:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. With Ron Brooks Trio, Vincent York, Paul Klinger & others, \$10/\$8 SEMJA mems. 662-8310

Christmas Caroling Through Downtown A2: A2 Parks & Rec. 7:15 pm, Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Led by the Salvation Army Band. 994-2284

"Male/Female Relationships": Practical Psychic Institute 7:30-9:30 pm, Mission Health Ctr Aud., \$10. Julia, 761-6999

Meeting: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm, Rain-

bow Rm (AA); Upstairs Lounge (Alanon). St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 665-6939

"Into the Woods": UAC/Musket 8 pm, Power Center. Fairy tale adventure. 747-4108

"Playing Bare": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Drama pays homage to Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot," \$12/\$9 studs & srs (Thursdays are pay-what-you-can). 663-0696

"The Gifts of The Magi": Stage Presence Ltd. 8 pm, Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Full-length musical to benefit Hope Clinic, \$12.50 adults/\$9.50 studs/\$7.50 children. 995-1797

"Jeffrey": A2 Civic Theatre 8 pm, 2275 Platt Rd. Comedy about a young, gay man in NYC who, in light of the AIDS crisis, decides to give up sex, \$9/\$8 srs & studs. 971-AACT

"Amahl & The Night Visitors": EMU Office of Campus Life 8 pm, EMU Pease Aud., Ypsi. Holiday show/dance performance tells the story of a handicapped boy's life-changing encounter with three visitors, \$9-\$15/half-price for EMU studs/\$2 srs & children under 12. 487-1221

"Annie Warbucks": Crowell Opera House 8 pm, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. Musical that picks up where "Annie" left off, \$15/\$13 studs & srs/\$8 children under 12. 517-264-SHOW

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8-9:30 pm, Kimball High School, Royal Oak. Kelly, 663-0036

John Hammond: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Guitarist, \$13.75. 761-1800

Bert Challis: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Jay Leno writer/comic, \$10. 996-9080

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

Friday Dance Jam: People Dancing 10:30 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Eclectic, recorded dance music (bring your own tapes). Smoke-and-alcohol-free, children welcome, wheelchair accessible, \$2. 663-6845 (10 am-8 pm)

DECEMBER

LITERARY EVENTS

Book & Poetry Readings, Publication Parties, Writers Groups, etc. are now listed in the LITERARY EVENTS Calendar (pages 8-9).

VISUAL ARTS

Art Exhibitions, Workshops, Artist Opportunities, etc., are now listed in the VISUAL ARTS Calendar (page 15).



NATALIE MERCHANT, formerly of 10,000 Maniacs, plays Hill Auditorium (see 10 Sunday)

2 Saturday

"The Environmental Connection: Rising Rates of Breast Cancer, Reproductive Disorders & Children's Disease": Ecology Center 8 am-6 pm, Morris Lawrence Bldg., Washtenaw Comm.

College. Talks and workshops on topics such as: children & the urban environment; pesticides; politics of breast cancer; and coalition-building, \$25/\$15 low-income & studs. 663-2400

"State of Poverty" Welfare Simulation: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 10 am-noon, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Experiential learning program. Pre-register, 663-1870

"Mich. Pioneers & the Erie Canal": Gray Panthers 10 am-noon, A2 Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Talk by historian David Park Williams. 769-7530

Potluck: Gays & Lesbians Older & Wiser 11 am-1 pm, Turner Clinic, 1010 Wall. 936-5962

"Annie Warbucks": Crowell Opera House 3 & 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Handel's "Messiah": Univ. Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Features A2 Symphony Orchestra, \$8-\$16. 764-2538

Joel Mabus: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Songs about midwestern life, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

The Bridge Ensemble: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Seattle's hottest young classical group, \$8-\$12/\$5 studs. 769-2999

"Playing Bare": Performance Network 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

"The Gifts of The Magi": Stage Presence Ltd. 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

"Jeffrey": A2 Civic Theatre 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Fall Benefit Bash: WCBN-FM 8:30 pm, Rick's American Cafe, 611 Church. With Windy + Carl, The Lapdogs, & Slot, \$5. 332-4844

Bert Challis: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

Evening of Music: Green Room 10 pm, 206 W. Mich. Ave., Ypsi. With Seranati, Be Bim Bop & Ken Cormier. 482-8830

3 Sunday

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 9 am, call for location. A2's queer running/walking group. Don, 434-4494

Country Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec. noon-5 pm, Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard Rd. Caroling, music, authentic food, & crafts, \$2/\$8 family. 994-2928

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. The Banquet of Musick—renaissance music for the holiday season. 668-6652

Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Concerns: Great Lakes Chapter of Lutherans Concerned 2 pm, Emmanuel Lutheran Church, 34567 Seven Mile Rd., Livonia. John, 668-7622

Handel's "Messiah": Univ. Musical Society 2 pm (see 2 Sat)

"The World Bank, the IMF & Their Effect on Nicaragua": Peace InSight 2:05 pm (see 1 Fri)

Alternative Holiday Fair: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 3-7 pm, 1st Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron (enter on Washington). Handmade goods from SERRV, Oxfam, Self-Help Crafts & more. 663-1870

"Annie Warbucks": Crowell Opera House 3 & 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Lesson & Practice: Drumwomyn—An Orchestra of Drums 5 pm, call for location. Sandra, 994-0047

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

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan Comm. Church 6 pm, 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. With concert by Marsha Stevens. 677-1418

Folk Music Hootenanny: Griff's Jams 7 pm, 106 S. Main St., 3rd floor. Fun, folk singers, string musicians. Sid 930-2680

II-V-I Orchestra: The Heidelberg 7-9:30 pm, 215 N. Main. Dance to big band music, \$3. 663-7758

"Playing Bare": Performance Network 7 pm (see 1 Fri)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm, downstairs (back entrance), 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 721-2081

Carrie Newcomer: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Songs that reflect a midwestern softspoken charm, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8-10 pm, 1429 Hill. Instruction and dancing. All levels welcome, \$2.50. 769-0500

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm, 208 S. First St. Guest musicians join house band, The Terraplanes, \$2. 971-2469

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Musicians invited. 662-8310

4 Monday

Family, Friends & Caregivers Support Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center Call for time & location. 572-9355

Israel Information Day: Hillel Call for appointment, 1429 Hill. Learn about variety of programs in Israel. 769-0500

Coffee & Chat: State Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith 7-9 am, Charlie's Country Squire, 2600 Washtenaw, Ypsi. Discussion about state issues. 800-344-ALMA

Women's Support Group: LGBPO 5 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. Open to all women. 763-4186

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: A2 Center for Indep. Living 7-9 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury Group 9 pm, Lord of Light Lutheran Church, 801 S. Forest. 763-4186

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 14-piece band, \$3. 662-8310

5 Tuesday

Living with HIV Support Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center Call for time & location. 572-9355

"The Diversity Show": Talk To Us Call for time & location. Performance by interactive campus theater troupe. 769-0500

"Awaken Your Light Body!" 10-11:30 am & 7-8:30 pm, call for location. Accelerated meditative process led by spiritual channel Sandra Shears. 994-0047

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm, call for location. Mark, 662-2222

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm, Gallup Park. A2's queer running/walking group, for people of all ages & abilities. Don, 434-4494

"Really Rosie": Univ. Musical Society 7 pm, Mich. Theater. The Night Kitchen Theater Co. presents this family musical—story by Maurice Sendak with music by Carole King, \$15 adults/\$5 children. 764-2538

Liturgists' Round Table: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 7-9 pm, 507 Pearl St., Ypsi. Plans for the Yule ritual. 485-8632

General Meeting: Rainbow Oasis Center 7 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Plan the chem-free New Year's dance. 663-0036

"Women To China": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. With five local activists who attended the NGO Conference on Women in Sept. 769-7422

Labor Film & Video Series: Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm, 103 W. Mich. Ave., Ypsi. 483-3548

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 7:30 pm, Botsford Pool, Livonia. 663-0036

Video Planning Meeting: Peace InSight 8 pm, Espresso Royale Caffe, 214 S. Main. Help to create, videotape and edit shows on peace & justice topics, to be broadcast on A2 Community Television Network. Beginners welcome. 761-7749

Cris Williamson & Tret Fure: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$13.75. 761-1800

Eye of the Spiral: The Seeker 8-10 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. (behind the co-op). Student group of Wiccan/Pagan people for ritual, study & fun. 332-9510

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

Open Mic Night: Blind Pig 9:30 pm (doors), 208 S. First. Musicians & performers must sign-up in advance, beginning at 3 pm Mon. 996-8555

Meeting: Dyke Shindig 10 pm, call for location. 763-4186

6 Wednesday

Living with HIV Support Group: HARC (see 5 Tue)

"This is for the Birds": A2 Parks & Rec. 1-2:30 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Children ages 4-5 will observe winter birds and what they eat. Runs 3 Weds, \$20. Pre-register, 662-7802

"Buhrrr Blast": A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena. Special activities for children, \$2.50 adults/\$2 youths & srs. 971-3228

Gay Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm. Radio Q followed by Closets R 4 Clothes. News and more for the Les/Bi/Gay communities. 763-3500

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 3 Sun)

Meeting: Coalition Against the Contract "On" America 7 pm, Mich. Union. Campus/community activist group. 913-0006

"Really Rosie": Univ. Musical Society 7 pm (see 5 Tue)

Bowling: Rainbow League 7:30 pm, Ypsi-Arbor Lanes, 2985 Washtenaw, Ypsi. Gay, lesbian, bisexual bowling league! All abilities are welcome. 763-4186.

"Eating the Planet: Food Choice & Our Future": VINE 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. With Alka Chandna, Prof. of the Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, \$1 (free to mems). 426-8525

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. (behind the co-op house). Shamanic healing and trance work. 665-3522

Jewish Feminist Group Rap Session: Hillel 7:30 pm, 1429 Hill. 769-0500

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TARIKA will be playing roots music from Madagascar at The Ark (see 12 Tuesday)

Meeting: East Quad Coming Out Group 7:30-8:30 pm, call for location. For students who live in any U-M residence hall. 763-4186.

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Comm. 8 pm, Mich. Union. 663-0173

Cris Williamson & Tret Fure: The Ark 8 pm (see 5 Tue)

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

Meeting: East Quad Social Group 9-11 pm, ForLGBstudents, call for location. 763-4186

7 Thursday

Positive Women's Support Group: HIV/AIDS Resource Center Call for time & location. 572-9355

"Close-Ups: Love, Sex & Relationships": Residence Hall Repertory Theatre Call for time & place. Music, poetry, dance, improvisation & theatre. 769-0500

Meeting: BGALLA (Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Library Association) 5:15 pm, LGBPO Lounge, 3116 Mich. Union. Plan activities. 763-4186.

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 930-0601

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Informational Meeting on Travel Seminar to Nicaragua: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 7 pm, call for location. Dessert potluck for those interested in the Jan. 20-28 trip. 663-1870

Men's Support Group: LGBPO 7 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. Open to all men. 763-4186

Pre-Ritual Panic Meeting: Shining Lakes Grove Druidic Group 7 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Learn the chants for the Yule ritual. 665-8428

"Fire Your Boss": Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm, 103 W. Mich. Ave., Ypsi. Informal roundtable discussion. 483-3548

Flaming Pre-Chanukah Party: Jewish Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay Collective 8 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Entire community welcome to attend. 769-0500

"Antigone": Young Actors Guild 8 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. Time-honored tragedy, \$7adults/\$5 children. 663-0696

Judy Collins: U-M Office of Major Events 8 pm, Hill Aud. Cystal soprano, \$22.50 & \$27.50/\$15 studs. 763-TKTS

Liz Story with Joel DiBartolo: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Pianist & bassist in a special holiday show, \$13.75. 761-1800

"The Gifts of The Magi": Stage Presence Ltd. 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Barry Neal: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Preaches the ironies of love & marriage, \$10. 996-9080

II-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm, 1585 Franklin, Detroit. Big band jazz, \$2. 313-259-1374

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

Live Call-In: Peace InSight 9:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Topic TBA. 769-7422

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 10 pm, Mich. Union. Queer Unity Project (QUP) is a campus group working to overcome discrimination against lesbian, gay, and bi-

sexual people through fun, educational, and visible activities. All people, students and non-students, of all sexual orientations are welcome. 763-4186

8 Friday

Winter Clothing Give Away: A2 Parks & Rec. 9-11 am (see 1 Fri)

"Women To China": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 5 Tue)

Bardic Night: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 7-11 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. (behind the co-op house). Free-form drumming, singing & dancing. 665-8428

Business & Planning Meet: Older Lesbians Organizing (OLO) 7:30-9:30 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Newcomers welcome. Nancy, 769-4750

"The World Turned Upside Down": Esoteric Lecture Series 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 761-1137

Meeting: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

Jorma Kaukonen: The Ark & Prism Productions 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Former guitarist for Jefferson Airplane, \$14.75. 761-1800

The Nylons: Prism Productions 8 pm, Mich. World-renowned a cappella quartet (fee). 99-MUSIC

"Alice in Wonder": EMU Theatre for the Young 8 pm, EMU Quirk Theatre, Ypsi. Play combining "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass," \$10/\$5 children ages 5-12. 487-1221

"Antigone": Young Actors Guild 8 pm (see 7 Thu)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 8-9:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

"The Gifts of The Magi": Stage Presence Ltd. 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Steve Somers Band: City Limits 8:30 pm, Clarion Hotel, 2900 Jackson Rd. Seven-piece funk and R&B band (fee). 665-4444

Barry Neal: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

Harvey Thompson & Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Detroit vocalist & hot combo, \$5. 662-8310

9 Saturday

Today's Brass Quintet: Kerrytown Concert House 11 am, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Holiday concert with classical standards and jazz, \$9-\$12/\$5 under 12. 769-2999

Gil Shaham, Guest Appearance: Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Israeli violinist Gil Shaham will be at Borders for an in-store appearance and autographing. 668-6652

German Family Christmas: A2 Parks & Rec. 1-4 pm (see 2 Sat)

"Antigone": Young Actors Guild 2 pm (see 7 Thu)

"Alice in Wonder": EMU Theatre for the Young 2:30 pm, \$8/\$5 children ages 5-12 (see 8 Fri)

Basic Witchcraft: Magical Educational Council of A2 6 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. 665-3522

Mr. B, Guest Appearance: Borders 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. In-store performance by A2's favorite blues pianist. 668-6652

"Raise the Roof": Performance Network 8 pm, Mich. Theater. Annual variety show-

case of A2 talent—fundraiser for the Network (features Bolcom & Morris, Sensible Footwear & others), \$20 gen./\$30 preferred. 663-0696

Gil Shaham, violin & Orli Shaham, piano: Univ. Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud, \$14-\$36. 764-2538

Victorian Holiday Ball: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy 8-11 pm, Pittsfield Grange Hall, A2-Saline Rd. Waltzes, polkas, set dances & more—vintage attire optional, \$5. 429-0014

Matt Watroba: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Finely-tuned guitarist with a sweet tenor voice, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

"Alice in Wonder": EMU Theatre for the Young 8 pm (see 8 Fri)

"The Gifts of The Magi": Stage Presence Ltd. 8 pm (see 1 Fri)

Barry Neal: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

Steve Somers Band: City Limits 8:30 pm (see 8 Fri)

Harvey Thompson & Friends: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 8 Fri)

10 Sunday

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 9 am (see 3 Sun)

"Make Your Own Backyard Ice Rink" Clinic: A2 Parks & Rec. 10:30 am 415 W. Washington. Staff will discuss techniques & distribute literature. 994-2768

Second Sunday Stroll—"Wonderful Winter Decorations": A2 Parks & Rec. 1-2:30 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Create and decorate a grapevine wreath. Pre-register, \$3/\$10 family. 662-7802

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Mark Hynes Trio—local jazz combo. 668-6652

Wizards!: Kerrytown Concert House 2 pm, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Double reed consort, \$8-\$12/\$5 studs. 769-2999

"Women To China": Peace InSight 2:05 pm (see 5 Tue)

"Alice in Wonder": EMU Theatre for the Young 2:30 pm, \$8/\$5 children ages 5-12 (see 8 Fri)

Benefit Concert for Steve Nardella: Schoolkids' Records 6 pm-midnight, Rick's American Cafe, 611 Church. Benefit to pay local musician's surgery expenses, with Steve Nardella Band, George Bedard & the Kingpins, Madcat & Kane, Lazy Lester & more, \$10. 761-9430

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 3 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 3 Sun)

Meeting: Amnesty International Community Group 7-8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

"Antigone": Young Actors Guild 7 pm (see 7 Thu)

II-V-I Orchestra: The Heidelberg 7-9:30 pm (see 3 Sun)

Natalie Merchant: U-M Office of Major Events 7:30 pm, Hill Aud. Melancholy folk singer, formerly of 10,000 Maniacs, \$25. 763-TKTS

Alison Krauss: U-M Office of Major Events 7:30 pm, Mich. Theater. Virtuoso bluegrass fiddler, \$18.50-\$27.50. 763-TKTS

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 3 Sun)

Cooper & Nelson: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Traditional Celtic, English & American music, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8-10 pm (see 3 Sun)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 3 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session 9 pm (see 3 Sun)

11 Monday

Family, Friends & Caregivers Support Group: HARC (see 4 Mon)

"Holiday Gingerbread House": A2 Parks & Rec. Call for time, Bryant Comm. Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. An evening of decorating fanciful houses with frosting and candies, \$18 (scholarships available). 994-2722

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THURSDAY & SATURDAY

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Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa		
TO BE ANNOUNCED	GAY NIGHT	DISCO/RETRO PARTY <small>VILLAGE PEOPLE 'GREASE' DONNA SUMMER 'CAR WASH' 'STAYIN' ALIVE' SHEILA E. TORCABANA GLORIA GAYNOR 'TAKA '91 LITBALLGONS' BANANARAMA CENI LAUPER AND MORE!</small>	EURObeat	△	DJ Roger presents 70's & 80's		
	△		EURObeat				
	△		EURObeat				
	DJ CHRIS		△	EURObeat	EURObeat	GAY NIGHT	Dance Classics
	50¢ WELL DRINKS 9-10PM		△	EURObeat	EURObeat	△	
						DJ ROGER	
					TECHNO HOUSE EUROPOP	DRINK SPECIALS BEFORE 11 PM	

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Coffee & Chat: State Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith 7-9 am, Sweetwaters Cafe, 111 Washington. Informal discussion about state issues. 800-344-ALMA

Women's Support Group: LGBPO 5 pm (see 4 Mon)

Live Call-In: Peace InSight 5:05 pm (see 7 Thu)

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group 7 pm (see 4 Mon)

Flute & Piano Recital: Kerrytown Concert House 8 pm, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Philip Dikeman, flute, and Anton Nell, piano, \$10 reserved/\$7 gen./\$5 studs. 769-2999

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury Group 9 pm (see 4 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see 4 Mon)

12 Tuesday

Living with HIV Support Group: HARC (see 5 Tue)

"Awaken Your Light Body!" 10-11:30 am & 7-8:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm (see 5 Tue)

"Basic Bookkeeping 'What Would Work Best For Your Company?'": A2 Community Development Corporation 6:30-8:30 pm, 2008 Hogback Rd., Ste. 2A. Workshop for those with, or thinking about starting, a small business, \$30. 677-1400

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Meeting: Labor Party Advocates 7 pm, Wooden Spoon Books, 200 N. 4th Ave. (313)480-7923

Warriors' Guild Meeting: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 7 pm, 507 Pearl St., Ypsi. 485-8632

Prayer Services of Hope in the Face of AIDS: Tree of Life Metropolitan Comm. Church 7 pm, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 485-3922

"Foreign Aid—Embezzlement or Investment?": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Panel discussion on the role of U.S. foreign aid. 769-7422

Update on Israeli-Palestine Negotiations: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 7:30 pm, Wesley Lounge, First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State. Talk by Prof. Salim Tamari, member of the Israeli/Palestinian Working Group on Refugees. 663-1870

Meeting: Amnesty International Group 61 7:30 pm, Mich. Union. 668-0660

Labor Film & Video Series: Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 7:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Tarika: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Malagassy roots quartet, \$12.50. 761-1800

Eye of the Spiral: The Seeker 8-10 pm (see 5 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet 9 pm (see 5 Tue)

Open Mic Night: Blind Pig 9:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Meeting: Dyke Shindig 10 pm (see 5 Tue)

13 Wednesday

Living with HIV Support Group: HARC (see 5 Tue)

"Buhrrr Blast": A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 6 Wed)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 3 Sun)

Gay Radio Hour: WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm (see 6 Wed)

Meeting: Coalition Against the Contract "On" America 7 pm (see 6 Wed)

Meeting: East Quad Coming Out Group 7:30-8:30 pm (see 6 Wed)

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm (see 6 Wed)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Comm. 8 pm (see 6 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio w/Rick Roe 9 pm (see 6 Wed)

Meeting: East Quad Social Group 9-11 pm (see 6 Wed)

14 Thursday

Positive Women's Support Group: HARC (see 7 Thu)

"Waste Reduction & Energy Efficiency Workshop": Mich. Dept. of Environmental Quality 7 am-4:15 pm, Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Rd., Livonia. Sessions on clean air/clean water, innovative technologies & more, \$50. 800-662-9278

December Fest: A2 Parks & Rec. 4-5:30 pm, Bryant Comm. Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Elementary-aged children invited for games, holiday music & goodies. RSVP, 994-2722

Meeting: BGALLA (Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Library Association) 5:15 pm (see 7 Thu)

Support Group for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Adoptees or Birth Parents: Catholic Social Services 5:30 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave., \$10. Marianne Bach, 662-4534

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Business Meeting: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 7-9 pm, call for location. 665-8428

Men's Support Group: LGBPO 7 pm (see 7 Thu)

"Fire Your Boss": Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

"The Government Inspector": Young Actors Guild 8 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. 19th-century comedy of mistaken identity and small town corruption, \$7adults/\$5 children. 663-0696

Artists' "Jam" Group: The Gathering 8-10:30 pm, Griff's Jams, 106 E. Liberty. Fun, personal, & professional growth for artists, musicians and creative sorts. 665-7620

Margaret Smith: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Dead-pan, poker-face delivery & wry, grouchy demeanor, \$12. 996-9080

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ 9 pm (see 7 Thu)

Il-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm (see 7 Thu)

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 10 pm (see 7 Thu)

15 Friday

Winter Clothing Give Away: A2 Parks & Rec. 9-11 am (see 1 Fri)

Bowling for People who are Blind/Visually Impaired: A2 Center for Independent Living 3:30-6 pm, Colonial Lanes, 1950 S. Industrial. A social dinner follows, \$1.35/game, .75/shoe rental. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

"Foreign Aid—Embezzlement or Investment?": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 12 Tue)

"Moonlight Serenade": A2 Parks & Rec. 6:30-9 pm, Huron Hills Cross Country Ski Center, 3465 Huron River Dr. Ski under the stars on lighted paths \$2.50 (ski rental \$6 adults/\$3.75 youths & srs). 971-6840

Women's Ritual 7:30 pm, 1402 Hill, \$5. 665-5550

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. The area's premier bluegrass band, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

"The Government Inspector": Young Actors Guild 8 pm (see 14 Thu)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics 8-9:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

Margaret Smith: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 14 Thu)

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

16 Saturday

Open House: Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project 11 am-1 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Meet the board of directors and learn about this organization. 995-9867

Womyn's Weekend Intensive: Changing Woman 11 am-6 pm, call for location. With Shekkinah Mountainwater, thru 17 Sun, \$125-\$175 (sliding scale). 761-9148

Yule Ritual: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 2-5 pm, call for location. Celebrate the winter solstice with singing, poetry & more. 665-8428

"Skate with Santa": A2 Parks & Rec. 2:30-4:30 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Arena. Santa will be loaded down with holiday treats, \$4 adults/\$3.25 youths & srs. 971-3228

Sing Along with Santa & Sam Wong: A2 Symphony Orchestra 4-6 pm, Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Holiday songs & refreshments, \$10 adults/\$5 children 12 & under/\$25 family of six or less. 994-4801

Musical Benefit with Marae Price & Friends: Shining Lakes Grove Druids 7:30 pm, Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill. Ancient Celtic & modern songs for the Yule season, \$7 adv/\$8 door. 665-8428

Josh White Holiday Program: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$11/\$10 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

"The Government Inspector": Young Actors Guild 8 pm (see 14 Thu)

Margaret Smith: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 14 Thu)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 15 Fri)

17 Sunday

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 9 am (see 3 Sun)

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. The Ethnic Connection—Klezmer music to celebrate Hanukah. 668-6652

"Santa on Ice": A2 Parks & Rec. 1-3 pm, Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. Holiday music & treats, \$4 adults/\$3.25 youths & srs. 761-7240

Bluegrass & Old-Time Country Music Jam Session 1:30-5 pm, Ypsilanti Freighthouse caboose, Depot Town, N. River & Cross Streets. Acoustic music only, \$2. Sidney, 930-2680

Meeting: Parents-FLAG/Ann Arbor 2 pm, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. 741-0659

"Foreign Aid—Embezzlement or Investment?": Peace InSight 2:05 pm (see 12 Tue)

Birthday Jam: Drumwomyn—An Orchestra of Drums 5 pm, call for location. Sandra, 994-0047

Holiday Festival of Song: A2 Symphony Orchestra 6-8 pm, Mich. Theater. Also features A2 Cantata Singers & a soloist from the Boychoir, \$15-\$25/discounts for studs & srs. 994-4801

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 3 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 3 Sun)

"The Government Inspector": Young Actors Guild 7 pm (see 14 Thu)

Il-V-I Orchestra: The Heidelberg 7-9:30 pm (see 3 Sun)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 3 Sun)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 3 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session 9 pm (see 3 Sun)

18 Monday

Family, Friends & Caregivers Support Group: HARC (see 4 Mon)

Coffee & Chat: State Sen. Alma Wheeler Smith 7-9 am, Gina's Cafe, 1120 S. Main St., Chelsea. Informal discussion about state issues. 800-344-ALMA

Lesbian Book Group: Common Language 7-9 pm, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Kim, 662-7980

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group 7 pm (see 4 Mon)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury Group 9 pm (see 4 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra 9 pm (see 4 Mon)

19 Tuesday

Living with HIV Support Group: HARC (see 5 Tue)

"Awaken Your Light Body!" 10-11:30 am & 7-8:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm (see 5 Tue)

General Meeting & Potluck: Sierra Club 6:30 pm, U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. Bring your own utensils, beverage & a dish to pass. Meeting features annual members' slide show. 665-7345

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

"Cuba 'Si' Bloqueo 'No'": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Footage from a recent demonstration in Chicago against the U.S. blockade of Cuba. 769-7422

Labor Film & Video Series: Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics Swim Team 7:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Eye of the Spiral: The Seeker 8-10 pm (see 5 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet 9 pm (see 5 Tue)

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Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Comm. 8 pm (see 6 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio w/Rick Roe 9 pm (see 6 Wed)

21 Thursday

Positive Women's Support Group: HARC (see 7 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 6:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

Winter Solstice Seasonal Celebration: Project Paradigm 7-9 pm, Friends Meeting House, 1420 Hill St. Storytelling, music, art & movement for the whole family, \$5/\$20 family. 697-1579

"Fire Your Boss": Industrial Workers of the World 7:30 pm (see 7 Thu)

Tim Cavanaugh: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Whimsical comic from Chicago, \$10. 996-9080

Il-V-I Orchestra: Soup Kitchen Saloon 9 pm (see 7 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ 9 pm (see 7 Thu)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 3 Sun)

22 Friday

"Cuba 'Si' Bloqueo 'No'": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 19 Tue)

"Winter Solstice Family Concert & Hike": A2 Parks & Rec. 7-8:30 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Songs around the campfire with Sandor Stomovits of Gemini, \$4/\$12 family. Pre-register, 662-7802

Solstice Party: Magical Educational Council of A2 7:30 pm, ICC Ed. Center, 1522 Hill St. (behind the co-op house). 761-1137

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

"A Winter Solstice Legend": Changing Woman 8 pm, call for location. Musical myth to honor children & the rebirth of light, with Shekkinah Mountainwater, \$10. 761-9148

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics 8-9:30 pm (see 1 Fri)

Tim Cavanaugh: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 21 Thu)

Steve Somers Band: City Limits 8:30 pm (see 8 Fri)

23 Saturday

Tim Cavanaugh: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 21 Thu)

Steve Somers Band: City Limits 8:30 pm (see 8 Fri)

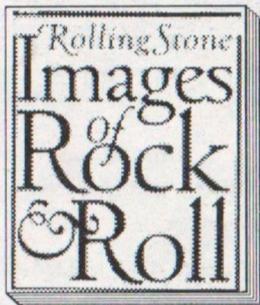
24 Sunday

Frontrunners, Walkers: LGBPO 9 am

TOWER

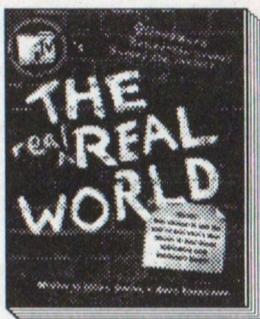
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