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FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

CHEE WAK-WAH

FREE

July 1984, Number 175, P.O. Box 504, Venice, California, 90294, (213) 823-5092

Pavilion: Use it or Lose It

Pavilion Stirs Town Council

Fables and Foibles

by Janet Solomon

"WHO SAID DEMOCRACY WOULD BE EASY?"

John Haag at the first Venice Town Council meeting

"Revitalize the Venice Pavilion" was the battle-cry that awoke the Venice Town Council from 3 years of slumber. There was much stretching and no yawning as the crowd of more than 120 arrived at Beyond Baroque on June 21st. Charles Feick, who properly called the meeting, intended to fill the room to overflowing and he accomplished just that as many stood or sat on the floor to see what this meeting was really all about! There was an air of anticipation and expectation as the arrivals searched the crowd looking for old, familiar faces. They were there along with many new ones, too.

Ah, we rubbed our hands and prepared for the business at hand. Curiosity was quickly satisfied as Charles Feick was introduced as the sponsor of the meeting. He promised an exciting evening and delivered no less. Charles had done his homework well. There was a large photo display of the Pavilion by Wendy Lewis and a stunning watercolor by Ray Packard, all done especially for the meeting. Charles enlisted the technical expertise of acoustical engineer Marshall Long who educated the group to the sound problem in the Pavilion Theater, and architect Buddy Mears who pointed out some practical architectural changes that could be implemented to enhance the structure. Feick also invited Kathy Martin and David Grannis from Pat Russell's office and Delores Averill and Don Russell from Recs and Parks.

The real fun started when the questions and comments from the audience began. Moe Stavnezer who chaired the meeting handled the ebb and flow of the audience and had his hands full with the many requests to speak. The majority of those attending showed genuine concern and supported the revitalization of the Venice Pavilion.

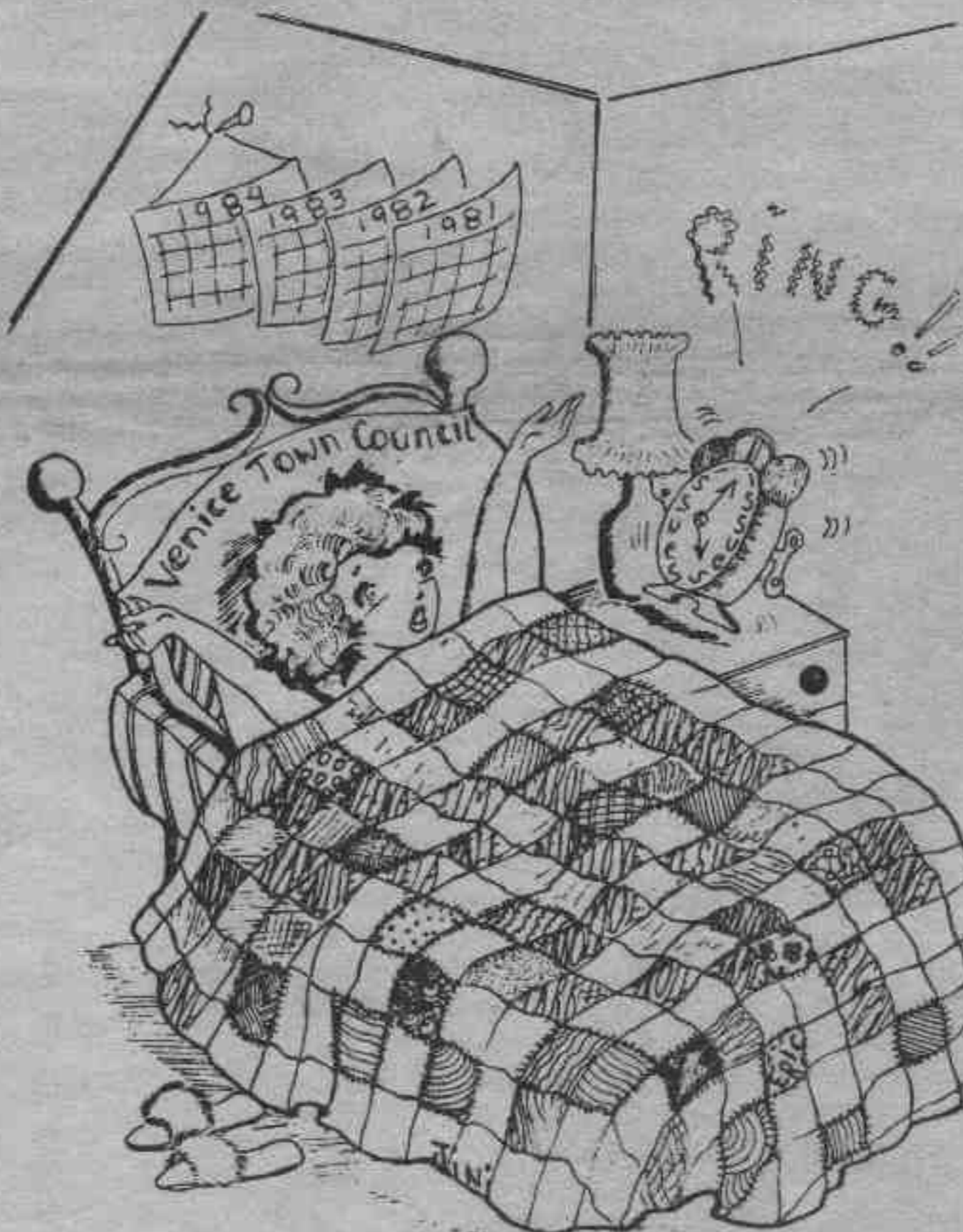
Although the focus of the meeting was the Pavilion, the revival of the Venice Town Council shared equal billing. Public interest was sparked as many peripheral issues, topics for subsequent Town Council Meetings surfaced in the course of discussion. Concerns for the homeless was certainly one of the most sensitive of those issues. Not surprisingly, crime and fear for safety was a strong cry. The artistic element in the community were extremely vocal in their desires for utilization of the theater. The question was posed to the city regarding appropriations of the oil monies for beach improvement in Venice.

These and other issues are to be addressed in future Venice Town Council Meetings. A coordinating committee was formed to handle the logistics regarding the next meeting. They are responsible for securing a meeting place and notifying the community.

The attendance at the meeting represented a large cross-section of the Venice community who showed energy and enthusiastic support in their desire to address the many issues confronting Venice today. ○

There she (if we must personalize a structure) sits alright, though I think squats would be more accurate in 5 1/2 acres of some of the most valuable beach-front property this side of Miami. It's owned by the City/County of Los Angeles, i.e., us and through a series of mishaps, bad planning, gerrymandering boondoggles, pork barrels and other politically bad harmic catastrophes, the focus of this

5 1/2 acre gold mine is useless. The interior of the pavilion is useless and has been for at least 9/10's of its 23 years of existence.



Graphic by Jini

Venice Town Council

City of Venice

V.T.C. July 12 Meeting

The Venice Town Council will meet on July 12th, 1984 at Beyond Baroque from 7:30 to 9:30 on 681 Venice Boulevard. All are encouraged to attend.

Agenda

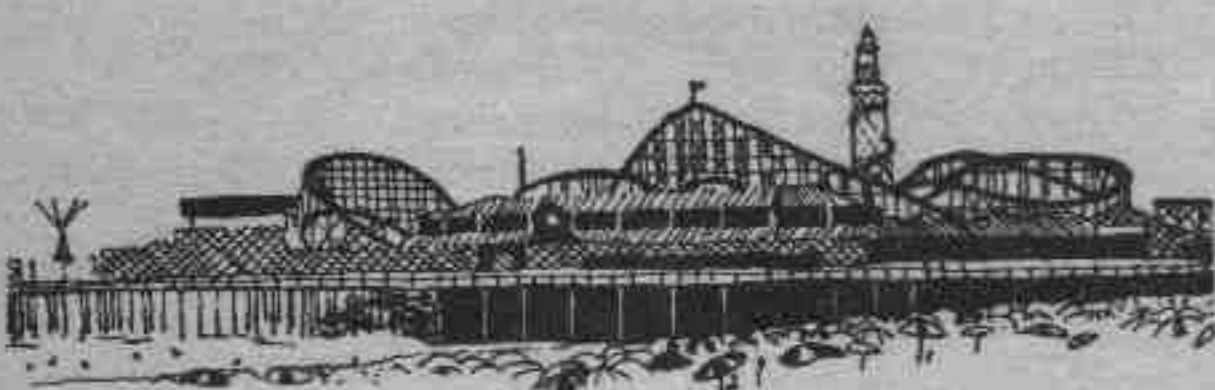
1. Introduction to Council
 - A. Report from Coordinating Committee
 - B. Report from Pavilion Committee
2. Structuring of new council
3. Open Discussion

In 1961, Councilman Rundberg had a dream. He saw a way to "upgrade" Venice and do some favor for some friends and make a little money on the side. An open-air theatre called "Theatre-by-the-Sea" was constructed. It was advertised, I remember, as going to bring people to the area. It was run by a private organization. Among its offerings were the "Seven Year Itch" which starred an ex-Playboy bunny. I didn't see that one, but I did sit through most of "Othello". The title role was played by that King of Hammond Organ-like tones that resonated through his head, William Marshall. It was cold at night. The wooden backless benches were hard and planes zoomed over, drowning out the heavily-miked actors. Even at that time in Venice, there were actors, artists, playwrights, audience, etc. that were cordially invited not to take part or contribute to the theatre. One of the puff pieces in the INDEPENDENT JOURNAL comes to mind--fine theatre and "Security guards to escort patrons to their cars". Theatre-by-the-Sea never got off the ground artistically or financially. Councilman Rundberg was found to have received \$10,000 from the lessees and owners of Theatre-by-the-Sea. Rundberg left for sunnier climes (Mexico, I believe) and was indicted in Absentia. Timberlake became caretaker-Councilman of the 6th District. The 6th District was captured by Marvin Braude, a fairly Liberal conservationist. At one time, he was asked to put a roof on the Pavilion. Somehow, the City did just that, but neglected to take care of the acoustics. The 6th District was rearranged to insure the Democratic stronghold on the West side. Pat Russell was elected Councilperson and has been since the early 70's. Attempts were made by various Venetian groups to make the Pavilion part of the community. Now, I am only talking

about the Pavilion. The other parts of the 5 1/2 acres, including the downstairs Bocce Ball and meeting rooms, the weight-lifting pen and paddle tennis courts and children's play area were well used by Senior citizens, organizations, youth groups and church groups who gave out free Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to the homeless and/or poor. But I shall confine my personal recollections to the Great Flying Saucer, Blown Up Delores Drive in style architecture, the definitive, deco drecko City Council architectural candidate Draconian style architecture, the Pavilion--it/her/himself.

During the early 70's, several theatre

Cont. on page 10



LETTERS

Dear Sirs and Mrs.,

I have a non-profit orgn: Bob Starr and his All-Star Band will donate free records and albums: "Space Girl," "Gasaholic," "The Impossible," "Pricefighter," and more. Call... Bob Starr 389-3471, will donate free records - albums to all NPR radio-TV stations.

Thank you,

Robert Starrete

Prisoner

Dear Editor,

Hello again! Hope this letter finds you all well & in the best of spirits. I'm still doin' time here in N.S.P. but my day of freedom is drawing ever nearer. I've written to y'all a few times in the past, thanking you for sending me "The Beachhead", & asking for an ad to be ran. I guess you haven't had the space to do so yet, or something. But anyway, I was wondering if I could pay you folks to run an ad for me with my picture included. I'd like to find some pen-pals, & I dream of running into "Mrs. Right" by way of an ad, so if you can rent me the space in your paper, I'll pay for it just like any other advertiser. Would you please let me know how much your rates are per issue, and including the foto I'll send to you? I only have one & it's a color print, 3x4 I think. If you can & will run an ad with foto for me, please tell me right away & I'll have a D.O. with the ad & foto sent to you as soon as I hear from you. Okay?

Thank you for your Time.
Sincerely Yours,
James Ross

Dear Mr. Ross,

The policy of the collective is that we don't run personals. We do, however, print articles written by sources outside the collective, if they grab our interest. The Beachhead is sent (free) to prisoners across the country, and we enjoy hearing from you. It is the recommendation of the collective that you write an article, perhaps dealing with prison life. Who knows? Maybe "Mrs. Right" will read what you've written, & want to meet you.

May the time fly on your path to freedom.

The Collective

P.S. There is no editor. Whenever possible, we don't change articles or letters in any way, save typesetting. All things submitted are "voted in" by the collective before being published.

Public Notice of

RENUNCIATION and DISSOCIATION

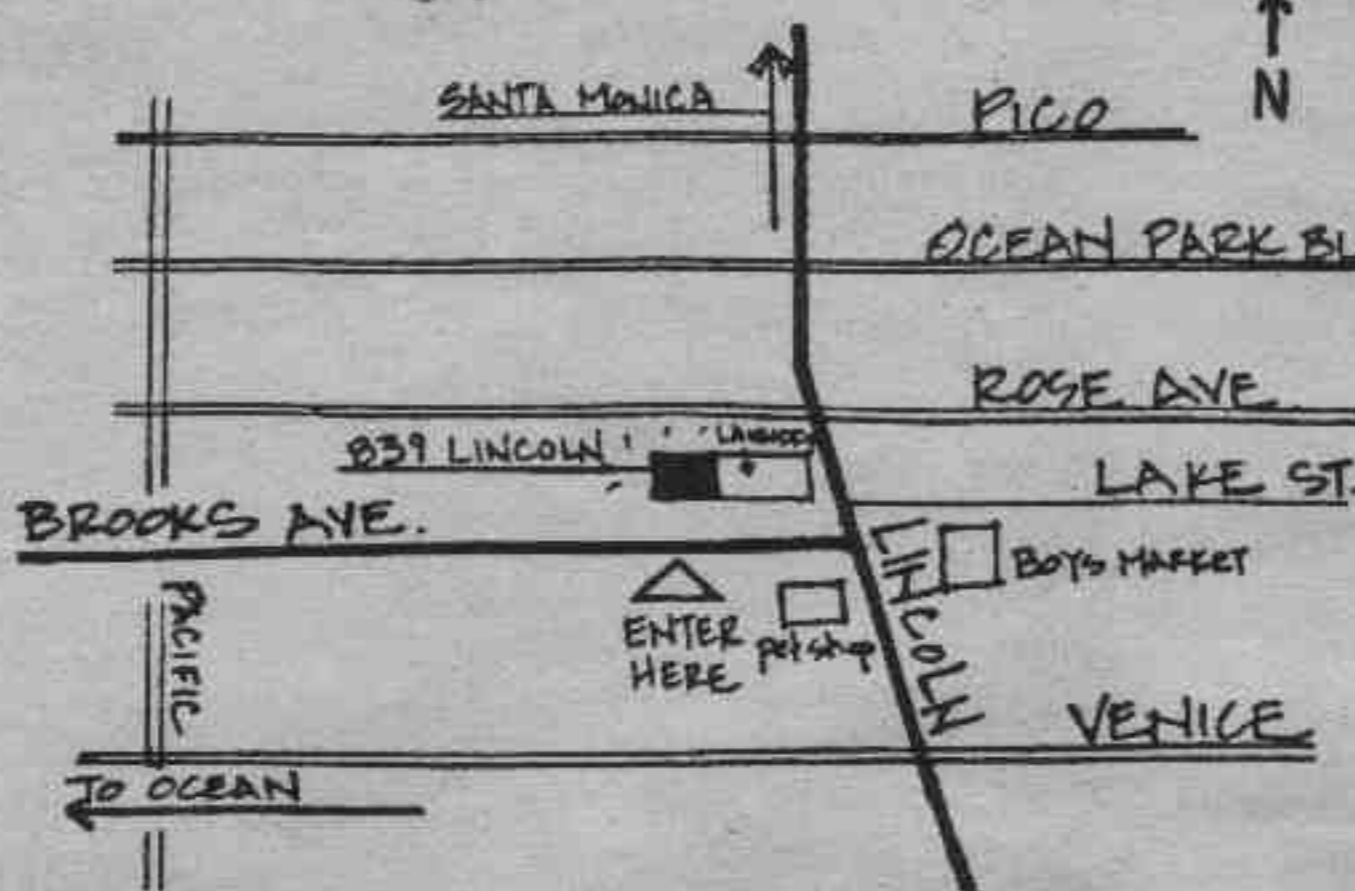
this is to advise that :
JOHN KERTIS aka John F. CURTIS
is hereby and henceforth no
longer related in any manner
of affairs with Robt. Alexander,
personally, and the Temple of
Man Specifically. R. I. P. ...

Now in our fifth year, the Venice-Ocean Park Food Co-op combines the best of all worlds: The high quality of a natural food store, the convenience and low prices of a supermarket, and the friendly atmosphere of a neighborhood grocery.

The Co-op serves its' members and the community. We don't try to sell you anything-we buy for you. By stocking the items that our members want, we've created a unique place to shop. Everything from organic fruits and vegetables, to money-saving generics, to the highest quality natural foods, to low cost household goods, to one of the largest selections of bulk goods (including Nicaraguan and other coffees in the area), is available under one roof.

Membership is open to all. It's easy to join (and no work is required)! It can be a very rewarding experience: good for your health, good for your pocket book, and good for your spirit.

We invite you to join and look forward to seeing you!!!



RECON's summer issue includes: Black Communities against War, 45% More U.S. Troops in Africa, Pentagon Nerve Gas Request, and much more. Subscribe for \$10.00/year (four issues) to RECON, P.O. Box 14602, Philadelphia, PA 19134.

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Q. WHICH CAT LIVES IN A HOUSE ALSO INHABITED BY SMALL CHILDREN?

A. ALL OF THEM. CATS A & B ARE ON VALIUM.

-Dave Archer

Marguerite M. Buckley
Buckley & Webb
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FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

STAFF: Patrick McCartney, Bob Ri kin, Amelia Amerika, Charles Feick, Janet Solomon, Jini White, Kathy Henderson, Carol Fondiller, David Wolfberg, Kabir Carter, Sandy Blix-ton, Annie Nickerson, Moe Stavnezer and Memphis Slim, Shay DuRon. Thanks Arnie!

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. We welcome and take responsibility for publishing contributions exactly as the contributors submit them, although the opinions expressed by the contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Collective staff. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry, graphics or other material of interest to the Venice community. We ask that writing be limited to 1200-1500 words. The volunteer staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor of the Beachhead. The Collective is an open group and welcomes interested Venice people's participation. Printing is financed by ad donations. To submit material, include your name & phone no. Anonymous material will not be published, but your name will be withheld on request. If return of material is desired, a stamped, self-addressed envelope is required. No payment is made for material used.

CP Writes Beachhead

Dear Friends,

We want to secure ballot status for our candidates, Gus Hall for President and Angela Davis for Vice-President. In California, this requires the collection of 200,000 signatures from registered voters from June 11 to August 10.

Reagan cannot be defeated by a milder form of Reaganism. The Democratic candidate, left as the only opposition to Reagan, will inevitably move to the right in an attempt to cut into Reagan's conservative base of support. This is a short-sighted, no-win policy.

Jesse Jackson's campaign has sharpened the struggle against Reaganism in the Democratic primaries and has proven that a campaign on the issues of real concern to the people produces new millions of voters determined to oust Reagan from office.

The Communist campaign through the November elections will likewise help to guarantee a real debate about real issues. The advanced positions taken by our party help open the door, show the direction and create the atmosphere in which others can advance part of the way, be more daring, more progressive and more outspoken. Without a force that projects more advanced ideas, all others remain status quo.

The Communist Party refuses to accept the prospect of four more years of Reaganism because the world literally may not survive it. The most effective contribution we can make to Reagan's defeat is to field Gus Hall for President, Angela Davis for Vice-President.

The Communist campaign will take head-on Reagan's Big Lie Anti-Communist, Anti-Soviet, "Evil Empire" crusade. We will expose Reagan's policy of nuclear superiority and first strike. We call for the removal of the Cruise and Pershing missiles from Europe. Our program calls for non-intervention in Latin America, Africa, Asia, and the Middle East.

We recognize that millions in our country remain unemployed, and plants are permanently closed in basic industries like steel, auto, and rubber. We place the blame for this situation on the profit-hungry greed of the corporations.

Our campaign focuses attention on the union-busting offensive by corporate monopolies and the Reagan Administration. Our program calls for a 6-hour day with no cut in pay and a massive federal program to rebuild our cities. This is the only solution for our sick and dying industries.

We call for the establishment of verifiable affirmative action programs; the criminalization of all racist and anti-semitic practices, and the outlawing of the Klan and the Nazi Party; the creation of jobs and establishment of job training programs; the elimination of the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill and the INS raids on undocumented workers. And we join in Reverend Jackson's demand for an end to run-off and second primaries.

We realize that not all of you will agree with all of our analysis, but we hope you agree that our views deserve to be heard.

We will be collecting signatures from June 11th - August 10th throughout the state of California. We ask that you sign our petition and encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to do the same. We ask that you circulate a petition in your organization.

Evalina Alarcon, Chairperson for the Hall/Davis Campaign Committee. Call 733-3415

Tall Stories from Zanja Between "The Rock" and a Hard Place

by MOE STAVNEZER

Comedian Jimmy Durante used to say, "What a revoltin' development this is." That's about what the Zanja Neighborhood Residents' Association is saying about a huge development scheme being promoted by the Prudential Insurance Co. But the revolting development has a bit of an unusual twist to it--the proposed high-rise, high-density Marina Place Office Complex is on a thin strip of land within Culver City but is virtually surrounded by southeastern Venice.

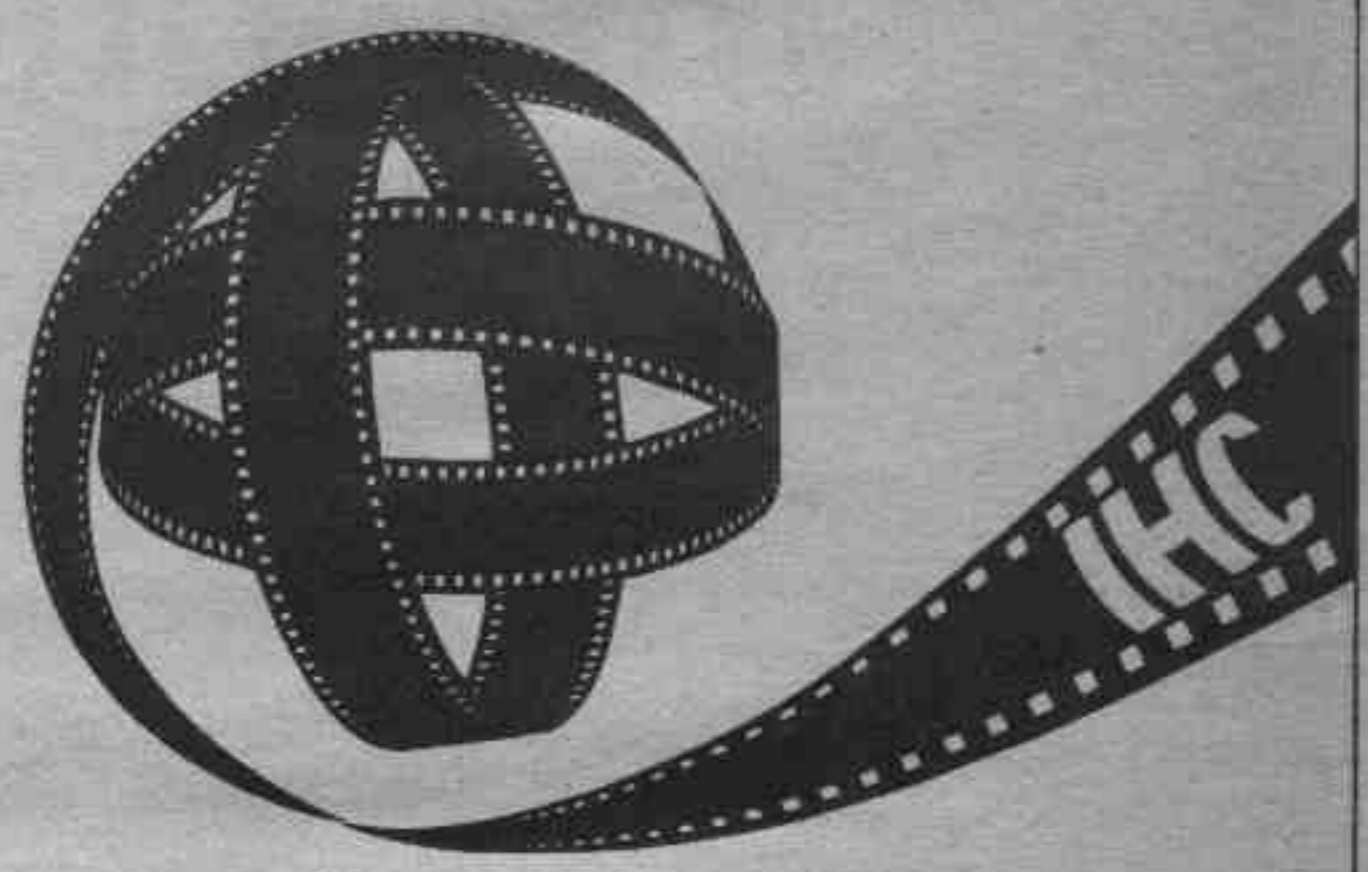
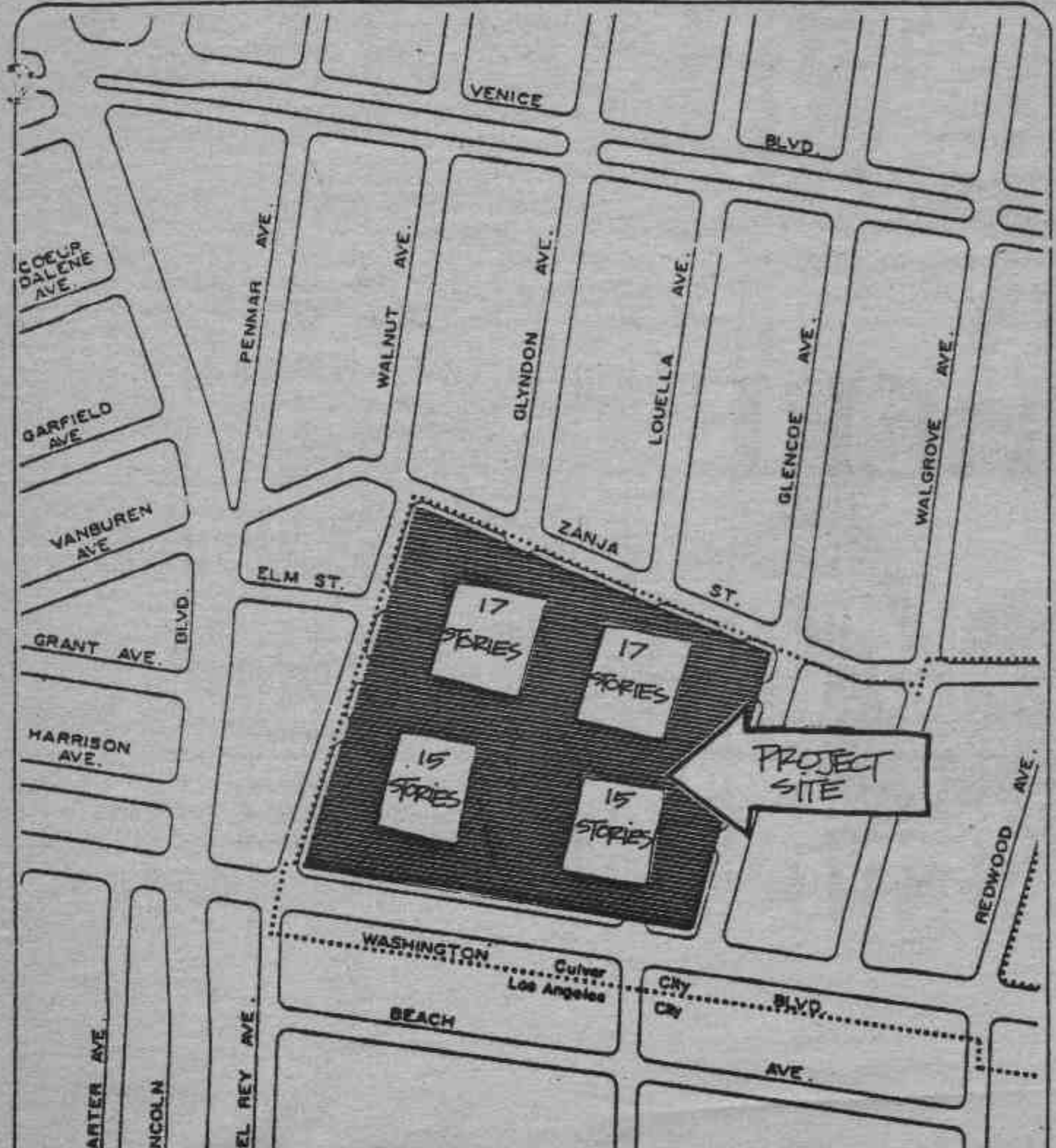
Pull out your handy-dandy L.A. City map and you'll discover a thin finger of land along Washington Bl. (east of Lincoln) that is part of Culver City. The block directly east of the Lair restaurant is the former site of Hughes Helicopter and now houses what appear to be a number of commercial enterprises and a rather enormous parking lot. That lot is 18.3 acres in size. On it Prudential wants to build two 17 story, two 15 story and one 12 story office buildings plus a 4 story parking structure totalling 1.5 million square feet! These buildings will quite literally tower over everything in the area where 3 stories is currently a "big" building. They will also generate traffic and parking problems that will make the current mess in this area seem small potatoes indeed. (It is estimated that the project will generate 15,000 to 20,000 DAILY vehicle trips within 1 block of one of the 5 busiest intersections in all of L.A.).

The political situation for the Zanja Residents looks a bit grim since they are not residents of Culver City and have little or no political leverage with that city's elected or appointed officials. Further complicating the situation is a small war going on between Culver City and L.A. over L.A.'s approval/support for 2 huge developments bordering C.C. (one of which is the Marina/Ballona plan only recently approved by the Coastal Commission). Culver City officials & residents feel they were frozen out of the planning process by L.A. Perhaps a revengeful eye is being cast toward Venice in the Prudential proposal?

Whatever the political reason, the reasons that more affect the way people live are being given short shrift by the powers that be.

A rather middle class single family neighborhood will be overcome by high-rise office buildings. Those 5 "towers" intrude on virtually every aspect of neighborhood life, from shadows to extra cars looking for parking, and will give back very little. The Zanja Neighborhood people have suggested a number of more acceptable and appropriate alternatives to the Prudential schemes. These are mainly examples of mixed use (residential/commercial office/retail) found in a number of projects in Santa Monica. This type of development would include some office space, retail stores and housing both market and subsidized. It would be much smaller in scope as well as height. It would be far less intrusive and show more respect for the community which would bear the brunt of the development's impact.

At this point there has been no real action taken by Culver City except to give a conceptual approval which paves the way for the preparation of an EIR (Environmental Impact Report). The fact that current zoning would allow a far less intense development than is being proposed will be a major argument by neighbors and a major subject in the EIR. Finally, the contention that the development will bring lots of tax revenue into Culver City is far from being a proven fact. If you're interested in becoming involved in this issue call Martha or Gene at 306-8255.



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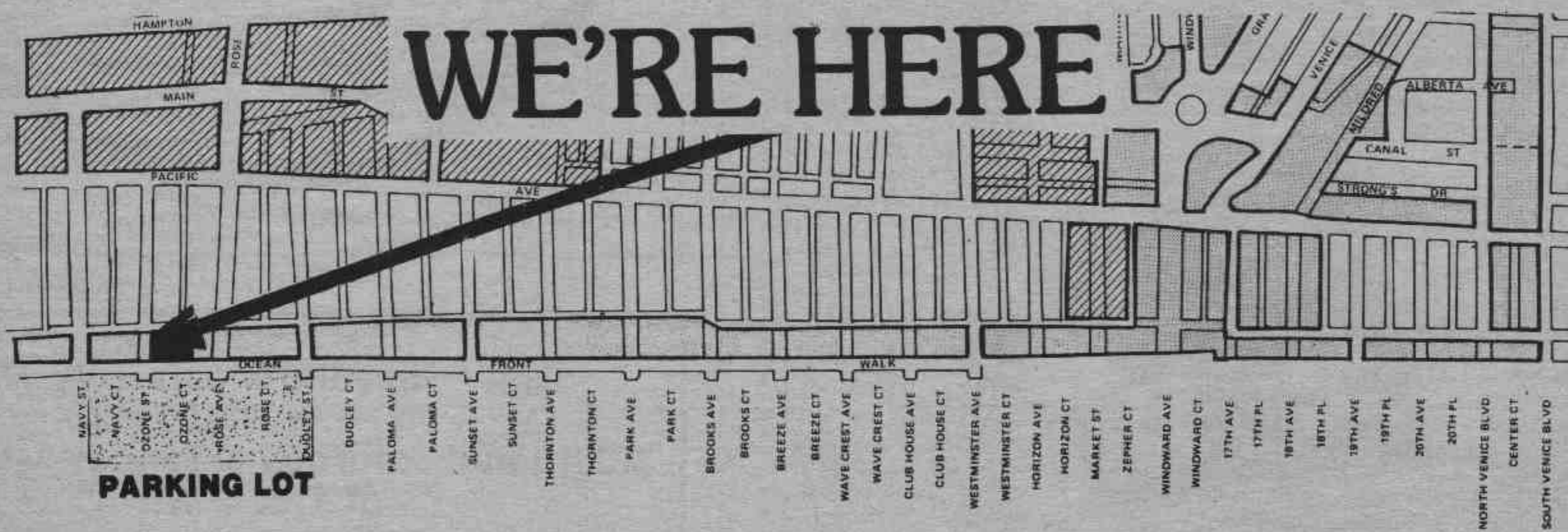
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LANCE DISKAN Q&A KEN KESEY

Remember Vietnam? Do you know who John F. Kennedy was? Is Deep Throat more than just the title of a film? Do you have an army-surplus gas mask stashed in a carton in your attic left over from the People's Park riots? Does the phrase 'score a tab' mean something other than drinking diet soda?

If you answer yes, take a Get Out of Jail Free card - you're a survivor of the 1960's. And get ready, because the '60's are back in fashion. "The Big Chill" has been drawing steady audiences to movie theaters around the country; the Claremont Colleges conducted a four-day "Guided Tour of the 60's"; and *People* magazine will devote an entire issue to that momentous decade.

Recently I had the fortune to spend some time with one of the main catalysts of what has come to be known as 'the counter-culture': author Ken Kesey. In addition to writing his influential novel *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Kesey was a founder of the legendary Merry Pranksters - an itinerant-socio-political-psychic-gonzo-group-phenomenon that made powerful contributions to altered states of consciousness. We spoke in late afternoon sunlight as the breezes blew across Venice beach.

Can you begin with some background about your own life in Venice?

I was here about eight years ago, but just for a visit. I lived here in the early sixties: '60 - '61. There was a community; really something. You could get really cheap places to live, and there were a number of different co-ops. Once a lot of people got together and bought one of the (ocean-front) hotels. You didn't really need anything except a mattress and a blanket - and bongos. One of these old hotels I stayed in was run by a Ukrainian woman who cooked everything in garlic. You could have eaten the wallpaper. You could have dipped a curtain in hot water and made soup.

We had a little place for awhile right on one of the canals. Gee it was neat! It was as far from L.A. as you could be. You couldn't believe you were in a big populated area; there were ducks in the canals and big weedy parking lots.

When I was down here Bob Kauffman was here. He's Mr. Beatnik. He's a black Jew with Spanish ancestry - a Moor. His most famous book of poems is called *Golden Sardines* written about the Chessman execution. He's the best of the poets from that time. Kenneth Patchen was also down here then. There was the whole Gas House scene, and just down the way you could hear the best jazz in the world.

When North Beach (San Francisco) got to be like a tourist trap people moved out and came down here to Venice. I remember a guy called Patty O'Sullivan. He was the Beatnik Pirate: a terrible poet and a terrible womanizer. He would corral you and drunkenly reel off his poetry and then hit you up for money.

The first 'cross-tops' I ever bought I got down here. Those old Bennies, they were the best damn speed in the world. We once bought a whole fruit jar for two hundred dollars - but Cassidy ate them all within a very short time, ate them right down.

Who do you consider some of today's world leaders?

The Pope is the best leader in the world right now. He is hard-working, he's working in everybody's language; he touches people all over the world. That time when he went in and sat in the cell with the guy who shot him - powerful stuff! And honest. He's not doing this just for effect. You look at this guy and you think: this is a real leader.

Jane Fonda is a leader. Just look at how many people she's influenced - not just with 'Right Mind' but also with 'Right Body.'

Dick Gregory is a leader. A very powerful and spiritual person.

And I think that leaders will be more oriented towards their communities, and will be known only in their communities. I was up in Bolinas a couple of weeks ago and got to talking with the people up there about what they've done (to control development) - like what people have done in Venice. These people know that perhaps they could run for a Senate seat and maybe get it - but they would be relinquishing power. The real leaders keep themselves 'underground.'



Diskan photo

What is the function of community in the 1980's?

(Where I live in Oregon) there's no longer a Grange; there's no real community church anymore; we don't have a City Hall; there's no meeting place. But my kids are involved in high school sports, and you really become aware of the value of the high school. Watching a football or basketball game or going to wrestling matches you really get to know your neighbors, and that way you're able to talk about whether someone's going to put in a road where you don't want it or (planning) a new development in the community.

The services that are being provided by 'customary workers' - the teachers, the nurses at the hospital, the firemen, the police - these are services that have been largely unappreciated. Unless they're Starsky and Hutch nobody's really interested. But these services are community services and really ought to be recognized and rewarded much more than they are.

You've spoken of 'the Dangerous Disappointed' - Who are they?

The Dangerous Disappointed are the people who really cared and invested and then were burned by a spiritual group or something in their nation or someone in their family or by God. A lot of them just have straight-on arguments with God: like fat people who say 'Why can't I eat cream puffs and not get fat?' So a lot of people's arguments are with God, and when they're arguing with God you don't want to get between them and who they're arguing with, because He's going to whap them.

Is the United States an international terrorist?

This is something that we don't want to happen. I mean if we're bragging about it, where we're openly doing it then all is lost. It's amazing that they're just gone ahead and then said: 'Yeh, we're doing this. So what?' It shows a real slipping of consciousness, bragging about (what has been done).

Do you have any thoughts on the differences between the word and the image?

In the Beginning was the Word. And as (biologist) Lewis Thomas says, 'The Word is a living entity that travels on our DNA.'

When I was in China I saw these characters written on a tortoise shell in a museum. There were 22 characters: T's and S's and U's and V's and N's. They were the original alphabet before the Chinese began to hook them together into their Chinese characters. Everything speaks the same language, and it's all based on those 22 symbols that are the major arcanum of the tarot; the alphabet. The real thing that gives us reason is based on The Word.

In a hundred years the images that we have (recorded) will not play back on anything the people have then. All of these images that are magnetically stored can be sucked off just by walking past any store with an electro-magnet. They're all decaying anyway.

What will last are little dots that are chisled in stone or scratched onto paper. Thousands of years from now people will be able to find them and sort it out just like the Rosetta Stone, and they'll be in contact with people from another time. The Word carries the image, not the other way around.

What are some of your causes for optimism?

When I first started travelling around talking to kids and at colleges there was a different look in their faces than there is now. People have been influenced by the plant world. Think about it. When I (first) went around to colleges I don't think I knew of any men who had plants in their rooms. Now, every man I know deals with plants, raises plants. This kind of nurturing is different than what it was like when I was in college. There is a gentleness.

When Willie Nelson sings at his concerts you feel him court those redneck minds; and then his acid consciousness reaches right inside that redneck mind and adjusts a little thing that's out of whack and fixes it. He takes the violence out of it. Same thing with Taj Mahal. He's not putting himself forward, he's putting a message forward. He's steadily hammering, hammering on this message; going in and reaching for this little spirit-gear that's inside of people and adjusting it - trueing it up.

There are a lot of artists that are working this way, working really hard. The Grateful Dead work really hard at this. And if anything means anything, if something is better than something else, art has to be it. Art has to be one of the prominent movers of people, and there are a lot of artists working very hard at adjusting this American spirit. And they're having effect; it's just not an obvious effect.

Do you have any parting words on power or magic?

Power doesn't corrupt, power purifies. Force corrupts. People use force when they don't have power; they use force to make people believe that they do have power. Power never has to rape; force rapes. Whenever you use force you relinquish magic, you give up on it. You say (to yourself) 'I can't charm her into it, I'm going to have to rustle her down right here in the ditch.' Then you have given up your power, you become a user of force and you become used by force - whether you're a nation or a human being. The more people use force the less magic they have. ■

Coming Soon: an interview with another voice of the '60's: social-satirist Paul Krassner, publisher of the notoriously outrageous periodical *The Realist*.

6 Olympics Stagger

The Longest Run

At Noon, May 28, 1984 a 53 day relay, "The Longest Run," left the Onodaga Nation, south of Syracuse, crossing 14 states. Dennis Banks, National Run Coordinator and American Indian Movement (AIM) co-founder and 200 Native runners symbolically ran with the lead-off runner, the first mile of The Longest Run.

"This is a spiritual run," says Dennis Banks. "We carry with us the medicine of our people and greetings to our relations in the west, that we are still carrying out our duties given to us by the creator. We will remember our old ways and ask our young to grasp the meaning of these duties and carry on after us. We will ask our younger generations to live a good life, to respect the elders, to observe the beaver, the eagle, the fish, and to learn from them some responsibility. We will ask our young to follow this path which we follow to eat natural foods and abandon the foods which are unnatural to our bodies, and to build a strong, healthy body. This is our purpose. And in our purpose, we will remember JIM THORPE."

Banks adds that, "Individuals and active running teams have committed themselves to help carry the medicine thru 14 states. The runners shall be aware that this mission and journey will not fail."

Since, according to Banks, "the National Run Headquarters has not, will not, and does not intend to apply for any grants," he suggests that each local running team attempt to raise funds through bake sales, dinners, lunches, or by sponsoring a local 10-K run.

The National Cross Country Team runners as of this date are: two Lakotas, three Cherokees, two Southern Utes, two Chippewas, three Mohawks, two Onondagas and two Oneidas. The Run will end July 19 in Los Angeles, and begin the Jim Thorpe Memorial Pow-Wow and Native Games (July 19-22) at Whittier Narrows Park.

Any nation that desires to place a runner on the national team should contact the Longest Run Headquarters immediately. Runners under 18 years of age must have parental permission and all runners must be in good physical shape.

Anyone wishing to sponsor one or two of the national runners should contact The Longest Run Headquarters or the Dennis Banks Support Committee immediately at:

The Great Jim Thorpe Longest Run, Onodaga Nation, R.R.1, Box 272-K, via Nedrow, New York 13120, or The Dennis Banks Support Committee at (315) 476-6103. Committed sponsors include: Syracuse University and Cornell University. ■



The Legend

Lives On

Jim

Thorpe:

All-American

"Sir, you are the greatest athlete in the world." These were the words of King Gustav V of Sweden as he grasped the hand of the gold-medal winner of the pentathlon and the decathlon at the 1912 Olympic Games in Stockholm. It was the proudest day of Jim Thorpe's life. "Thanks King," he said. Within six months, however, Thorpe was stripped of his Olympic medals and his records were stricken from the Olympic books.

Born May 28, 1888 near Bellemont, Oklahoma, named Wa-tho-huch (meaning "Bright Path") by his Pottawatomie/Kickapoo mother, his Irish trapper father gave him the name James Francis.

Jim became interested in athletics at an early age. He played "prairie baseball" (much like sand-lot ball) and other games with his brothers and neighboring children.

He attended the Sac and Fox Agency School near Tecumseh, Oklahoma (where young Jim was forced to learn the ways of Europeans and to forget his native culture). At the Haskell Junior Indian College in Lawrence, Kansas, he began playing football. In 1904, the Carlisle Indian School sought him out for his athletic ability.

Thorpe made the varsity football team in 1907, after establishing himself as a track star at Carlisle. He played his first varsity game against Syracuse. The Carlisle Indians defeated the Orangemen 14 to 6. Prior to this game, Syracuse had outscored its opponents 42 to 17.

In 1908, Thorpe won his first gold medal at the Penn Relays.

After the spring semester of 1909, he played minor league baseball for the East Carolina League at Rocky Mount and Fayetteville. For that he was reimbursed for his expenses (\$60 a month).

In 1911 Thorpe returned to Carlisle, where he was named to the First Team All-American in football the next two years. He was captain of the basketball team and also played lacrosse, tennis, handball, baseball, and hockey.

The V Olympiad in Stockholm in 1912 came to be known as the "Olympics of Jim Thorpe." He won his gold in the pentathlon by placing first in the running broad jump, 200-meter dash, discus, and 1500-meter race. He placed third in the javelin throw. Thorpe won gold medals in the decathlon, placing first in four of the ten events, breaking records all along the way.

On January 18 of the following year, it was disclosed that Thorpe had played semi-professional baseball -- and had been "paid" for it. This was in direct conflict with the rules of the Amateur Athletic Union. Jim had no idea he had done anything wrong. The AAU revoked



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So, if you're tired of seeing the Olympics and its athletes being used to promote national interests and feel like stepping up to a higher interest to be shared by people around the world, pick up the pace and join us at Griffith Park on July 22.

For more information, contact:
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his amateur status, while the International Olympic Committee took back the Thorpe Medals and removed his name and achievements from the Olympic records.

Jim signed a contract that February with the New York Giants baseball club. He went on to play for Cincinnati, Boston, Toledo, Portland, and Akron, where he played his last official game at age forty.

Thorpe's love for the game of football was his greatest, and in 1915 he was offered a position with the Canton Bulldogs professional football team, where he played until 1920. Jim was an "attraction" as well as a player and his name continued to be exploited over the years.

After Canton, he played for Cleveland, Toledo, Rock Island, New York, St. Petersburg, Portsmouth, Hammond, and Chicago. He retired from football in 1929.

Many requests were made to the AAU to have Jim Thorpe's amateur status for the earlier years reinstated. They were all denied. He couldn't afford a ticket to the 1932 Olympics in Los Angeles, so the Vice President of the United States, Charles Curtis, himself an American Indian, had Thorpe share his box-seat with him. Jim received a standing ovation from the capacity crowd.

In 1937 Thorpe returned to Oklahoma. He became active in issues involving his native people. He urged Sac and Fox to vote to abolish the Bureau of Indian Affairs and to repeal legislation granting the federal government control over Indian property.

In his later years, Thorpe toured the country as a lecturer. He was instrumental in establishing the National Junior Olympics. In 1949 he was hired by Warner Brothers as a technical advisor to the movie "Jim Thorpe - All-American." He received no royalties from the movie. He had sold the motion picture rights to his life story almost 25 years earlier for a movie that was never made. He was named to several All-Time All-American teams; named "greatest football player" and "greatest athlete of the half-century;" elected to the Helms Hall College and Professional Football Hall of Fame; and inducted into the National College Football Hall of Fame.

Jim Thorpe suffered a heart attack in 1943, his first. On March 28, 1953, he suffered a massive heart attack and died, without ever knowing the fate of his Olympic medals.

The AAU restored Thorpe's amateur status in October, 1973, which led to his medals being returned and his name reinstated in the Olympic record books on January 18, 1983 -- 70 years later, to the day, on which they were taken from him. □

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10 METERS = 32.8 FEET DISTANCE in miles

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FEBRUARY 19, 1984

The Last Olympics

by memphis slim

This is the last Olympics. That's what George Raveling, asst. U.S. Olympic basketball coach and coach of Iowa State's basketball team, is telling young men who've qualified for the U.S. Olympic team. He's probably right.

The modern Olympics have always been political. They were revived about a century ago so the crowned heads of Europe could war on the playing field instead of the battlefield. Maybe the Olympics delayed World War I but they didn't prevent it.

Now that the world has seen two major boycotts of the Olympics back to back, the death knell of the modern Olympics has been sounded.

The Soviet bloc and the Cubans are boycotting. Two African countries who've already accepted the invitation to attend, may boycott because of Zola Budd the former South African world class runner, now running as a British citizen.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) Charter demands sanctions against nations who accept the invitation to attend and then boycott as in the case of the African nations. The IOC Charter also demands sanctions against nations that hold athletic games at or about the same time as the officially sanctioned Olympics. The Soviets are planning games in Eastern Europe between the months of July and September.

Iran will boycott (they were the 1st to announce!) because they don't believe in the rest of the world. Other countries will boycott for various reasons but a record number of over 130 countries will participate. China will send their first team ever, primarily consisting of their high jump world champion.

The South Korean judo team will be here the Taiwan baseball team, the Italian soccer and boxing teams, the Jamaican track team and the Japanese volleyball team will all be here.

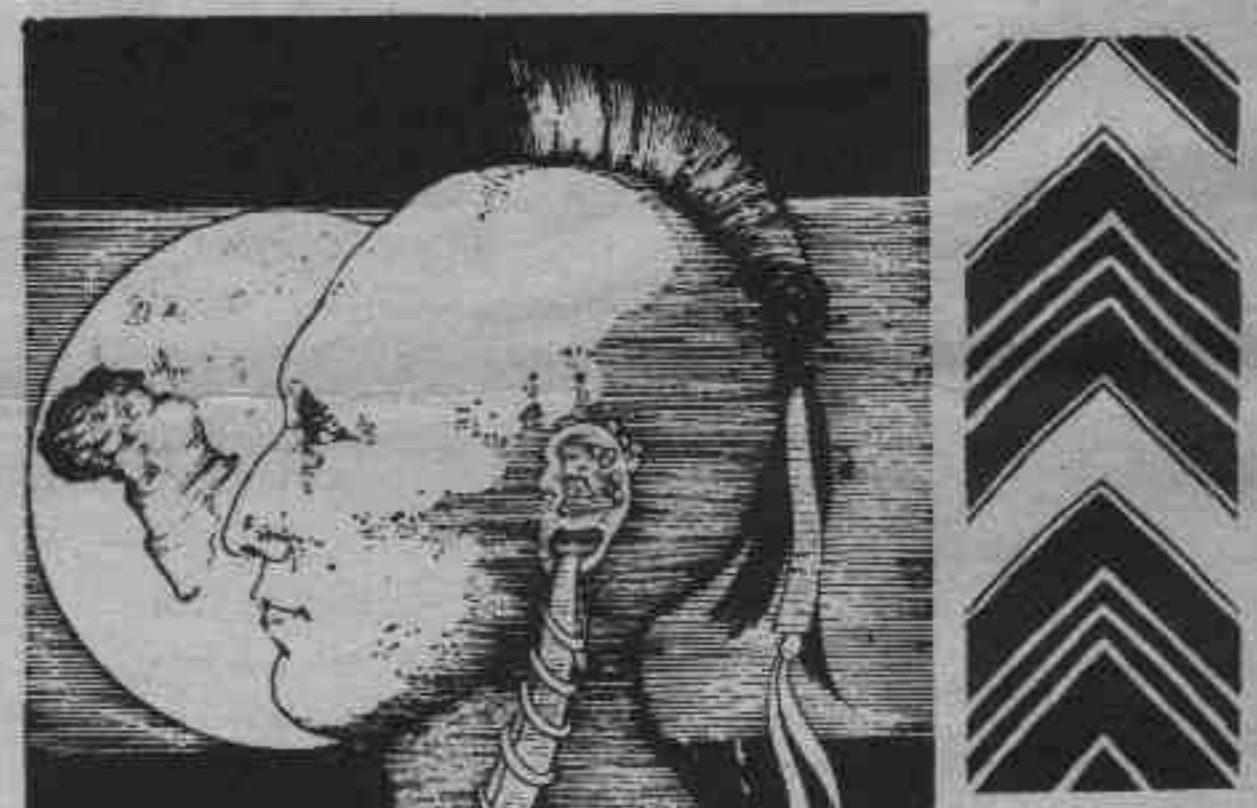
But... Venice's own, Evelyn Ashford, will not be able to compete against the only woman who can run with her for about 300 feet, an East German. The Russian weights lifters will not be here; the East German athletic culture will not be here; and worst of all, my Fidel has forbidden the Cuban boxers and baseball team from coming to humiliate the Yanquis.

The Soviet Union wasn't invited to an Olympics until 1952, 45 years after its founding, so they don't have that long-term an interest in its survival. And in 4 years the next Olympics will be in Seoul, South Korea. If you think the Socialist Bloc didn't like LA, wait until you hear what they have to say about the dictatorship in South Korea.

Now the FBI is saying that an Armenian terrorist attack on Turkish athletes is quite possible in LA this summer. And one can never rule out the possible actions of Iranian or Libyan terrorists. All these problems will be in addition to staging the largest and most expensive Olympics in history.

So when the Olympics are over, people will remember the boycott, any negative aspects and hopefully they'll remember all the incredible human feats that will be accomplished this summer.

But will there be another Olympiad? I don't know, George Raveling may be right.



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Recalled Cadillac

by MOE STAVNEZER

Hey, do you remember the story of the "little Nash Rambler"?

Well it seems like this little Rambler was givin' this Cadillac more than a race for its money. When the "Little Nash Rambler" (beep,beep) was beginning to run out of steam, its driver gressed out the Caddy's ear by askin how to shift into second gear.

Well scouts, do you remember the tail of intrigue, revealed in lastmonth's Beachhead? The one that told about the strange exemptions from various permit requirements being granted to Werner Scharff by City & Coastal Commission staff people? Basically, Werner had convinced various bureaucrats that his complete renovation of the Cadillac did not require a permit because it already was a hotel. Well, ya coulda fooled the people who lived there! Not to mention their attorney, Janna Zimmer. She sued and the force of that suit culminated in a complete turnaround by the City. At an appeal to the Board of Zoning Appeals Zimmers arguments, buttressed with statements from tenants and others, the Board voted to revoke its exemption from the permit process.

Mind you, this doesn't mean that the City opposes the conversion of the Cadillac and the eviction of its elderly tenants, it only means that the City now feels that the issue rates a public hearing.

So, the Little Nash Rambler may be changing gears, but the race is still in question.

If you stretch your memory to Beachheads a few months ago, you'll recall that the Cadillac is intimately involved with Scharff's proposal for a senior housing/parking complex on Paloma Ave. The City Planning Commission approved this development, scaled down to a 24 unit senior bldg. reserving all extra parking for the residential area nearby, and it will soon be reviewed at the City Council level. (Mr. Scharff wanted lots of parking for the Cadillac in the Paloma parking area).

Sometimes souped-up Ramblers do win! A few more people with soup would sure help. The Beachhead will try to keep you up to date on this episode of "As the Scharff Bites." ▶

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THE ELECTRIC CAFE



by MOE STAVNEZER

How does the idea of going to a local "cafe" and having a little tete-a-tete with some folks sitting in their favorite place on the other side of L.A. grab you? How 'bout if you could see those people and, maybe, draw a picture with them even though you're 15-20 miles distant from them? Maybe a friendly game of tic-tac-toe? Well hang on folks, the Electric Cafe is coming to Venice!

Actually its coming to L.A. at 5 locations, one of which is Gunter's on West Washington Bl. Electric Cafe, the brain-child of Sherrie Rabinowitz and Kit Galloway, will connect 4 eateries in various L.A. communities as well as the L.A. Museum of Contemporary Art using computers, video cameras, electronic writing tablets and speaker phones. The idea is to communicate, to connect with other people in other places using the kind of technology usually only available to "the powers that be" whether corporate or military or.... (fill in the blank). Commissioned by the Museum of Contemporary Art for the 1994 Olympic Arts Festival, Electric Cafe will be open from July 18 thru Sept. 6th mainly between the hours of 2pm to 8 or 9pm.

In addition to Gunter's, Electric Cafe is Ana Maria's Restaurant in East L.A., The Gumbo House in South L.A. and The Eighth St. Restaurant in Koreatown.

"Electric Cafe will be a network for creative conversation-- a forum for shared ideas and exchanges of art, cultural concerns," Kit and Sherrie feel. "It is a vehicle for expressing and sharing diverse cultural influences and images that make up Los Angeles," they continue. With lots of animation, they talk about the velocity with which information is exchanged at upper levels of society and feel that the Electric Cafe concept is a way for more ordinary people to be able to make use of technology to keep up with things that concern them--from art to politics to a friendly concersation to a meeting across town without ever leaving one's neighborhood.

But what will happen when Electric Cafe pulls up stakes and leaves town? Will people feel ripped-off? Will they try to raise funds to keep it going? Will anyone care at all? And will some people be reminded of George Orwell's 1984 and view Electric Cafe as a testing ground for spying with TV? Kit and Sherrie fully expect all of these, and many more, questions to arise at Electric Cafe. "That," they say, "is the whole point."

Gunter Hiller makes the most outrageously wonderful cheesecake in the western world. "Gunter's" fits right in with the Electric Cafe concept, blending as it does food and conversation as an

essential item on its menu. Gunter's current involvement is with the Planetary Initiative (a worldwide effort promoting peace and peacefulness). "If electronic devices can help build a better world, I'm all for it," he says. "But," he cautions, "it can be a gimmick, it depends on how its used, its simply a tool." Gunter's parents died in a concentration camp and he feels that, though Hitler is dead, the mechanisms he created are still in place. He sees his restaurant as a statement about improving the world we live in and welcomes his role in Electric Cafe as a way to bring people of different ethnic, social and economic backgrounds together. (Gunter's is located at 1009 W. Washington Blvd. in Venice).

Electric Cafe will be free for people who want to use it, whether to hold computerized conversations about virtually any subject, or to hold meetings or forums between and among the participating cafes. Each location will have a "bulletin board" so that patrons can see what's been going on at all the cafes.

Electronic Cafe (Excuse us, folks, we've been calling you Electric all this time.) is a complex of equipment. Each cafe will have a set-up that includes: a computer; a slow-scan, still image video system; a digital writing tablet; and a hard copy printer. There will be a main computer at the Museum of Contemporary Art. Communication is via telephone lines. The system allows many ways to communicate. For instance, using the electronic tablet, you can write a note or draw a picture that will appear on the video screen where you are and also at the cafe you're in contact with. The person(s) at the other end can add to your message or help create the drawing.

Zoe Wells '84

Zoe Wells '84

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FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

VENICE SUMMER FESTIVAL

by Acting Mayor Emeritus

The first apparently Venice Summer Festival was consummated on Father's Day 1984 by the West Washington Blvd. Merchants Association. A beautiful atmosphere of entertainment arts and crafts was greatly appreciated by the literally thousands of people who participated. Pat Russell was in attendance as the gracious sponsor and cooperative supporter of the event. According to reports, all agencies of the city were completely satisfied concerning any of many possible concerns and were supremely pleased with the results. The buses were not too happy but managed to cope. Mathis appeared on center stage at the Front Porch Gallery but did not sing. Oingo Boingo and Tonty Bull were either out of town or around somewhere in-uncogkneetoos. The Bishop was his usual unmitigated self. Most other celebrities were invited but did not attend.

From a community standpoint the festival showed that such an event is of meaning and benefit in bringing all types of artists and musicians and people of all kinds together to engage in a community event in peaceful harmony and tranquility for social and cultural interchange. It also became evident that without the support of community artists and musicians the festival could not have occurred. As the writer is only aware of internal events in the Merchants Assn. and the participants on center stage in front of the Front Porch Gallery, those whose efforts were of a positive nature in these areas are otherwise stated without disrespect to many other community persons who helped in bringing the event to its fruition. On center stage all performers were at a continuing high level of excellence and entertainment, all in true Venice spirit.

Many and various people have received full credit in writing for their official roles in the large effort needed to accomplish the festival. The gratitude of the Venice Community is expressed and will not be repeated. However, one individual has not been acknowledged in his role until now. The role was that of primal reality and belief in the community and the spirit of the people, and knowledge that it is important to bring people together in creative joyful expression. The festival could not, would not, and did not happen without the faith, courage and commitment of a great artist, Jesse Ward, Jr. ●



PAVILLION: Cont. from Page 1

groups tried to use the theatre. I remember being in a play that was supposed to last 1½ hours. But, because of the acoustics, we had to speak very slowly, to combat the echoes, and the play lasted 2½ hours longer than most of the audience.

I must tell you that when I read this article at the BEACHHEAD Collective, much discussion and controversy ensued. Some of the Beachheaders leaped in with valuable and fascinating informational tid-bits. I welcome their amplifications on certain points, and look forward to seeing their articles (and yours, too, please!) in the Free Venice BEACHHEAD. However, as I told the Collective, these memories and recollections are my recollections trashed from the muddled files of my mind, with my very own biases and lapses of memory, and if they and you don't like, well tough tacos. Don't grab me on the Ocean Front Walk or at Chipperwich's and beat yer chops. Refute, recollect, correct in writing! Anyway, due to cut-backs in staff and maintenance, the Pavilion fell into a sad state of neglect.

Charles Feick, 3-year resident of Venice, was interested in getting the Pavilion renovated and re-starting the Venice Town Council. So on Summer Solstice, June 21st, about 100 people showed up to find out what could be done.

Now, the City had put out a call for Requests for Proposals from interested parties. I remember seeing the plans of a local entrepreneur about 2 years ago that involved tearing up the lawn area in front of the Pavilion and putting in underground parking and then replacing the lawn. Of course, there were to be boutiques, booktiques, quicketiques, sushitiques, artiques, but no tackytiques or videotiques in the Pavilion and outside picnic area. And nothing, I'm sure, for under \$15. The Venice Beach Assn., an organization of ocean-front businesses,

wanted to tear the Pavilion down. This proposal was again brought up by Rose Qualey of the Venice Chamber of Commerce. But seriously, folks, what happens to the Pavilion affects the surrounding area which is paid for by all the Los Angeles County and City residents. So how the Pavilion is used and by whom, could well affect public access to the 5½ acres that include the Pavilion.

Charles Feick researched and got together a Venice Pavilion Revitalization Committee. A local architect and an acoustics engineer both said that to renovate the Pavilion so that it could be used would cost at least \$50,000. Osah Harmon who had performed in the Pavilion in a fundraiser for Los Angeles Artists for Survival, an anti-nuclear group, said that it could be renovated for much less, "about \$10,000".

A Rock group impresario wanted to do a fundraiser for Mr. Feick, using Rock groups and amplified music. This was met with a resounding lack of enthusiasm. The universal query of "Why is Venice always

the lowest of priorities" was given the universal answer by City and Councilman representatives. Venice is not lowest on the list. So there. Stories of muggings, shootings, stabbings, urination, dope dealing were told. My mind wandered. The businesspeople want the chance to lease or rent the Pavilion for some profit-making venture. They don't want to pay a lot of money, or suffer too much control from the City and County, and they didn't want to have to provide much in return for free public access. The residents were apprehensive about parking, more noise, more people, etc.

Actors wanted acting. Mary Lou Johnson asked about using revenues from the movies that were shot in Venice that disrupted the existence of residents and visitors. She also asked about Quimby funds that come from "large developers that rip off the public by taking away public lands and recompense the public by putting in a certain percentage of the cost and/or profit of the developments into the Quimby funds. She also wanted a "Venice Historical Museum".

Pearl White wanted to re-install the day-care center, Senior Citizens activities and other community-oriented services that had been cut since Prop. 13 and Reagan's metaphobic budget cuts.

A local minister wanted to open the kitchen and feed the poor. Someone else proposed that some of the Pavilion and surroundings be used to house the homeless.



A nearby resident complained that the Pavilion was not lit, and stated that the Pavilion was one of the greatest magnets of crime and he came from New York City. There was talk of drugs. Where? Where? Where? My mind whined. John Stein wanted to know what the City would do if they decided not to improve it. "Just padlock it? What is actually being thought of?"

Ed Pearl pointed out that in order to use the Pavilion, the community had to be involved and for the community to be involved, it had to have some control over what it was to be used for and the City has never asked the community for input.

Lee Babbitt declared the Pavilion and surrounding area "one of the great resources of the City", and liked the "Joyous confrontations in Venice of all kinds of people". About two years ago, he had submitted a proposal that included aerobics, the Heart Assn., a sport center and skating exhibition center. I visualized the Venice Beach Assn. rising Phoenix-like to protest as they had in the past when a skate dancing area was provided, screaming "Gangs! Gangs! Gangs! Drugs! Drugs! Drugs! They don't spend money! Money! Money!"



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Lee Babbitt continued saying that a lack of funds prevented him from going ahead with his proposal. Mr. Feick stated that the Pavilion Committee is seeking community support. He definitely had gotten people together who wanted to improve the Pavilion, not tear it down. Several committees were formed who are to tour the Pavilion area.

Subsequently, there was another meeting, but I have the feeling that I'm running over my word limit. Suffice it to say that there are people who are interested in the Pavilion as a community resource. What is also interesting is that there seems to be interest in reviving the Venice Town Council.

And when it comes to Venice, the Town Council and the Pavilion and the City, County, private interests, and people's secret agendas, the games played at future meetings promise to be more interesting than the Olympics. ■

--Carol Fondiller

Community Events

Women

Religion

CHURCH IN OCEAN PARK, 235 Hill St., S.M., 399-1631, Sundays at 10am (except as noted)

July 1: "The Nation Community" Remembering our dreams with Jim Conn

July 8: New Age Rabbi Ted Falcon

July 15: "Power and the State of Being" with Jim Conn

July 22: "Aging and Community" with Janet Witkin

July 29: "Power and Corporate Hubris"-the shaping of culture with Jim Conn

Sat. July 14: Rachel Rosenthal leads a Performance Workshop (limited to 40 people so make reservations).



Sun. July 22: ROSALIE SORRELS at 8pm. Call for reservations.

Fri. July 20: Benefit for Church building fund--celebrate Jim Conn's 40th B-Day at the Boathouse on the SM Pier, 10 bucks.

FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH, 2936 W. 8th St., L.A. 389-1356, Sundays at 11am

July 1: "Ode to Paul Robeson" by the Frances Williams Corner Theater.

July 8: "From Santa Monica Mountains to Inner City: Making L.A. Liveable" Sue Nelson

July 15: "Men's Ethics, Women's Ethics: Is There a Difference?" by Suzzane Spencer

July 22: "I Mean.....You Know" by George and Kathleen Enell.

July 29: "On the Road to Freedom" a documentary film by the film Institute of El Salvador.

Children

VENICE BRANCH LIBRARY, 610 California, Venice, 821-1769 (Lucille Cappas)

Mon. July 16: "Traveling Telescope Show" by Brian Bouvier of the Griffith Park Conservatory, 6:00pm, free.

Wednesdays, thru Aug 29th, Children's films, 1:30pm, free.

Fridays, thru Aug 24th, children are invited to participate in table games, 1:30 free.

ADVANCED YOUTH LEADERSHIP TRAINING, for young people 13-21, Mayor's Conference Rm, City Hall, 200 N. Spring St LA, 485-3821. Presents 2 programs this summer. Each person who attends all 5 sessions will receive a Certificate of Accomplishment. Free. Evenings

Tue. July 10:

- Assertiveness Training
- Orientation/City Government

Tue July 17:

- Public Speaking
- Political Process/Community Organization

Tue. July 24:

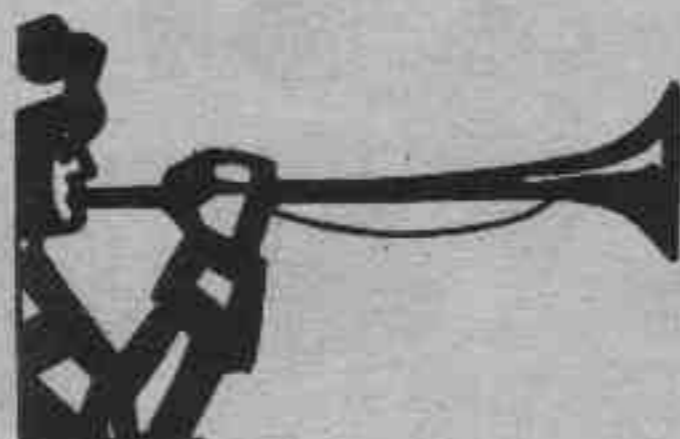
- Youth Rights
- Juvenile Justice: The Streets

Tue Aug 14:

- Report Writing
- Juvenile Justice: The Courts

Tue Aug 21:

- Community Development Tour
- Communication Techniques



Poetry

BEYOND BAROQUE LITERARY/ARTS CENTER, at 681 N. Venice Bl, Venice, 822-3006, 8pms

Sun. July 1: Open Reading Series continues, Everyone welcome, free.

Fri. July 6: Poet Jack Hirschman, rapper Hollywatts, d.j. Ron Miller present a mixed, "political" evening, \$3

Fri. July 13: A nine poet line-up of artists and writers will perform 9 innings on the theme of baseball, \$3

NO FURTHER READINGS UNTIL SEPT. 1, 1984



JACK HIRSCHMAN
July 6, with Hollywatts

S.P.A.R.C., Old Venice Jail, 685 N Venice Bl, Venice, 822-9560.

Tue, July 10, "Travels of the Polyphrenic Man, by poet Andrew Hayes, 8pm, \$2

Politics

Cheesecake and Politics, Gunter's Coffee House Salon serves great cheesecake etc. Gunter's Salon, on Sunday nights, is a place for social, artistic and political discussions. 1009 W. Washington Blvd, Venice, 399-9503.

Environment

SIERRA CLUB, AIRPORT/MARINA, Community Room, Chase Park, Marina del Rey 822-7102

Mon. July 9: General meeting open to the public. Presentation on sailing trips, free, 7:30pm

SHIATSU MASSAGE SCHOOL, 2309 Main St, SM, 396-4877

Sun, July 1: Shiatsu demonstration, 10-1, donation

Social

SINGLETARIANS, 1721 Arizona, SM, Unitarian Community Church, 394-4318, 8pms on Sundays, don. \$3/program

July 1: "How to Cope with Criticism Effectively" by Alisa Blatt

July 8: "Sexuality & the Current Problems" by Claire Greene.

July 15: "Beyond Insight, EST, & Phil Donahue" by Carol Briseno

July 22: "Social Networking" by Anne Panofsky.

July 29: "Mother(s): Recognizing & Resolving Her Influence" by Wendy Foster

Divorce	Attorneys at Law
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Juvenile Law	12027 Venice Blvd Los Angeles, Ca. 90006
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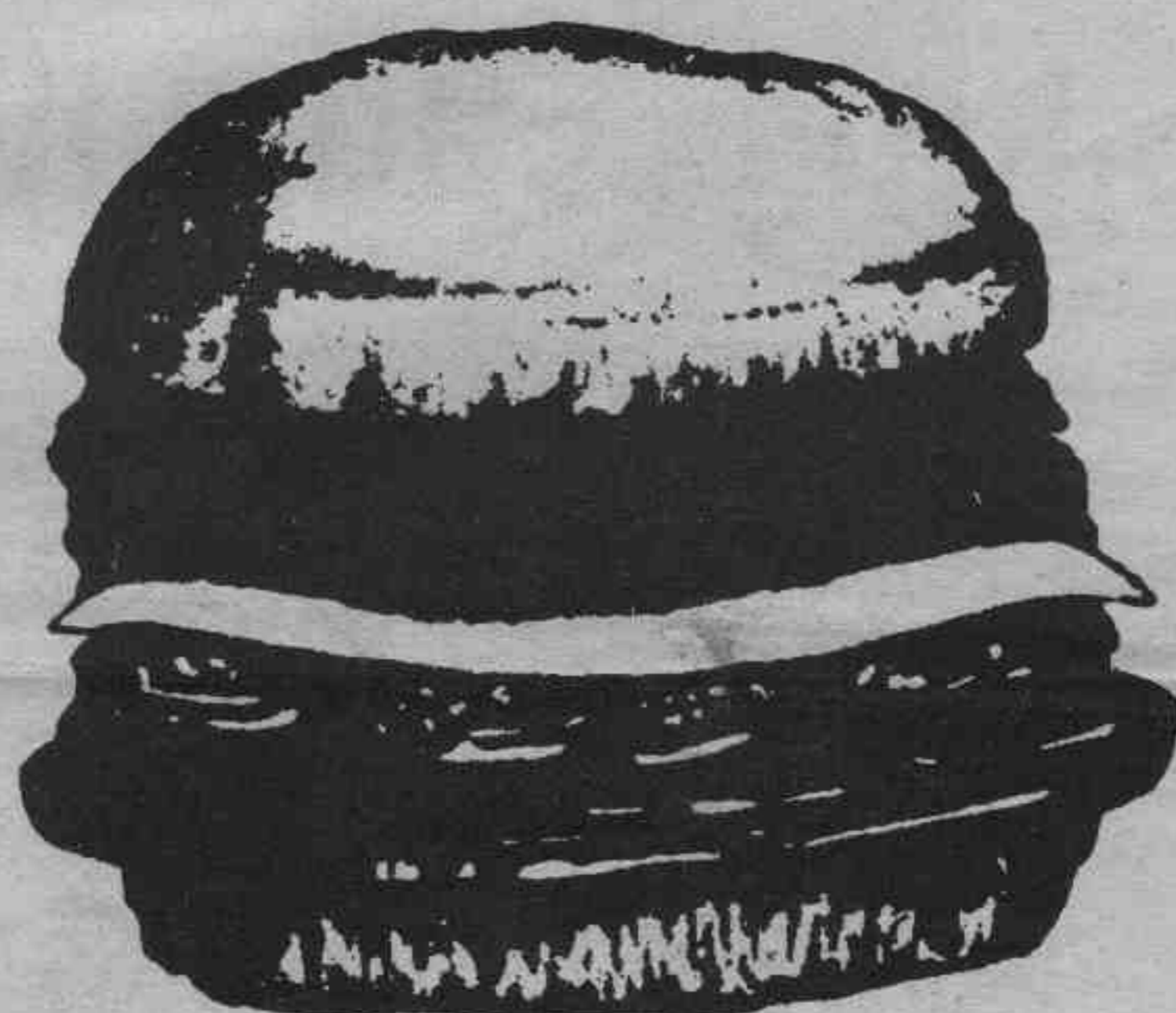
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