



CREATIVE
CULTURE
American Stage
presents *Twelfth
Night*.
See pages 10,11



LIMITED
LISTENING
The issue of cen-
sorship effects the
music world.
See page 16

VOL. 21 NO. 5

LAKWOOD HIGH SCHOOL

JUNE 1, 1990

Gettin' Rad

It's Summertime



Freshman,
Kris Bowen rips
the water on his
Kawasaki Jet Ski near
his home on St. Pete
Beach. See photo essay on
Page 18.

SEXUAL ABUSE

The tragedy of sexual violation against a minor is unfortunately not uncommon. This type of abuse can affect any child, adolescent, or teenager at any time. The results: painful memories.

Story, Page 2.



THE SOUND OF SILENCE...

Sexual abuse: a hidden epidemic

by Alison Clark

— Editor in Chief —

The anecdotes in this story are all true. The names have been changed to protect those involved.

Dr. Sigmund Freud believed that all people experience sexual attraction to children at some point in their lives. Eventually, through social conditioning, most of the population is freed from this perverse attraction. The rest who remain dependent on it, often act out their sexual attractions and vex infants, toddlers, adolescents, and young teenagers with nightmares that may live with them the rest of their lives.

This is only one theory out of countless numbers. And even though theory after theory and study after study have been examined, no one can solve the mystery of sexual abuse toward children or teenagers. In 1983 roughly 46 % of the children in the U.S. had at one point been sexually victimized. In 1988-89 over 138,000 reports of child abuse or neglect was reported to HRS (Health and Rehabilitative Services). Out of this number, 38% were for physical, mental, or sexual abuse.

Because the issue of sexual abuse is delicate and unexplainable, no relative definition can be given to it. Society as a whole is unable to say what sexual abuse is and what it is not. Some believe that "flashing" or exposing oneself is a form of sexual molestation. Others feel that small children fondling one another is a perverse or polymorphous attraction. It then elevates to incestuous involuntary touching and then to date rape, and so on. Because there is no universal understanding of sexual abuse, it is a difficult issue to tackle.

Beginning at age 6, Christi* was sexually abused by 4 teen-age boys that lived on her street. Now age 16, she lives with the memory. "They all did it at separate times," said Christi, "but they were all obvious to each others crime." Christi was abused everyday for a year. After school one of the boys would come over to her house. He would then take her into a closet and play "Hide and Seek." Christi would be fondled by a boy 11 years older than her, in the nude, in the dark. "It was never violent, but I didn't know what was going on. I was sort of in a daze. I was just a baby," said Christi. Some

nights one of the brothers would tuck her in bed. "He would go under the covers and touch me there. He would kiss me and tell me how beautiful I was. How could he think I was pretty, I was 6." The abuse stopped eventually, although her step-father physically and mentally abused her regularly. When Christi entered the eighth grade she was better sexually educated. She then realized what happened to her was wrong and not morally correct. Telling her mother was painful, but she felt she had no choice. Instead of comfort, her mother punished her and accused her of lying. She was forced to apologize to her family for causing grief. "I will never forget any of that," Christi concluded.

Christi is one of many young women who have been violated in this manner. At the time of abuse, her guardians included her mother and step-father. Having a step-father more than doubles a girls vulnerability to sexual abuse. According to David Finkelhor's book CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE, out of all females with step-fathers, half are sexually abused, but not necessarily by the step-father. Although, a step-father is five times more likely to sexually abuse a daughter than a natural father would.

Sexual victimization to a girl is a more common occurrence than abuse to a young boy. Cases of boys as victims are often kept quiet. Many times their masculinity causes them to deny their abuse. Also, a fear of homosexuality, if they are molested by a male, is a strong factor of denial. A more obvious reason to reject the reality of victimization is that the little boys are simply ashamed.

"I think I was going down to the basement to get a toy. That's when I heard them laughing," said 18 year old Mark* who was abused at age 5. Mark was at his babysitters house. He was there the entire day, everyday, from 4 a.m. to 10 p.m. "I would wake up there. I never saw my parents." The babysitter who took care of Mark had 3 daughters, and she babysat 2 or 3 other kids. "When I got to the bottom of the stairs I saw the older sister who was 14 wrapped in a bright yellow blanket sitting on a chair. One of the boys the lady babysat was standing next to her. When I got closer to where they were, the boy said, 'I dare you.'"

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CENTURION



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Summer Jobs: Students gain money and experience



by Lori Klumpp

Staff Writer

After a whole school year filled with tiring work, summertime is finally here; two and a half months to have fun. The possibilities are endless but the probabilities are limited. The lack of free time is no longer a problem, but for most teenagers money is. Today's materialistic society forces teenagers to feel pressured to have a fashionable wardrobe and to sport the newest cars.

Increasingly, summer jobs are becoming a necessity for teenagers. High school students generally work to earn spending money for clothes or entertainment. Summer jobs give students an opportunity to gain knowledge in a field of interest, to examine possible career choices, and to establish a responsible paid-work record. "I work to pay for a car, insurance, and to earn extra spending money," said Alicia Yeoman, a sophomore at Lakewood.

Teenagers who are faced with the responsibility of finding a job soon learn to overcome the fear of rejection. Applying to a job is a task that can eventually lead to a future career. The fear can be easily overcome by knowing what is expected.

Most employers examine appearance, qualifications, and previous experiences when hiring a person. It is advised that an applicant be well-groomed and well-mannered. It is also important to know specific abilities and skills that will be required for the job. A social security card and names of references will be needed. During the interview, it is important to go alone and to dress conservatively. Finally, return to the place rather than call, to insure them that the position is still wanted.

Experts advise volunteer work for a first job. "It is helpful for an older student to have experience in volunteer work or child-care on the resume," said Irene Miller, Occupational

Tips for job-seeking

For the Application

- ◆ Follow directions
- ◆ Be neat- type or print
- ◆ Have references available

For the Interview

- ◆ Dress neatly
- ◆ Go unaccompanied
- ◆ Be punctual
- ◆ Be persistent- return to show your interest

Specialist at Lakewood. It can involve as little as two hours a week, but can eventually lead to paid employment. Volunteer work offers the opportunity to get to know people in a field who can offer advice and help.

There are also programs available for students of lower income families. These programs pay between \$3.80 and \$5.00 an hour. "Most people are using the programs as incentive for minority kids to get their GPA up," said Miller.

In some areas, especially around Lakewood, transportation proves to be difficult. "I really need a job," said Nicole Knight, sophomore, "But transportation is a problem since all the available jobs are so far from my house."

"Today there are more stores, but not the diversity," said Miller, "There are some stores and restaurants but no manufacturing jobs. It's hard for our older students; they must travel."

Most teenagers describe their first experience applying for a job as simple and easy. Some employers such as supermarket and fast-food restaurant managers are accustomed to hiring teenagers and make the applications simple and the requirements limited. "To work at McDonald's, you must be registered to work, and at least fifteen or sixteen years old. Being in a DCT work program is also a plus," said Genevieve Booze, manager of the McDonald's in St. Petersburg.

"All I had to do was fill in the application. I also provided references, but I don't think they (the employers) called," said Steve Webel, a junior who works at Kash-n-Karry.

Most people agree that there is a significant difference between teenagers who work and those who don't. "They (employed teenagers) are definitely a great deal more responsible than those who don't work," said Booze, "They are more mature and more involved in other people and activities. Usually we have past employees come by and tell us how they are progressing in college or in life."

"Even though it's difficult for students to work late and keep up with their homework, it helps them budget their time and money," said Miller.

Whether the purpose of a job is to earn spending money or to gain experience for the future, the results will always be worthwhile.

Irene Miller, the Occupational Specialist, is available in the guidance department to answer any questions and to offer further information.



by Emily Troiano

Staff Writer

Hair reveals drug usage

A small handful of one's hair can betray a past history of drug use through the development of a new drug test. When employers begin using this test, they will be able to check employees for drug use months or even years previous to the job.

Blockbuster Entertainment Corporation has begun testing potential employees' hair for traces of drugs. The testing began about two and a half months ago. "By the end of June, all Blockbuster stores nationwide will be using the test," said Mark Smith, the head of the Human Resources Department at the Blockbuster Corporate Headquarters.

The test is performed by Psychomedics, a company in Santa Monica, California. Psychomedics calls the procedure RIAH, Radioimmunoassay of Hair. It is possible, by using this test, to determine the approximate time and amount of the drug that was ingested or smoked.

Hair strands are tested for drug traces that are permanently embedded in the hair fiber. As blood circulates, it passes by hair roots and, if drugs are present in the blood, they become caught in the hair core in proportional amounts to their consumption.

Hair grows at a rate of about one-half inch a month. The half-inch contains information of drug use in the past month. Six inches of hair contains information of drug use for the past twelve months. "It is

possible to test back years," said Debora Pano, a representative of Psychomedics.

The test works by sending fifty to sixty strands of hair into the laboratory. Hair is liquified and then tested for drug molecules. "The accuracy is one hundred percent," said Pano.

Pano claims that perscription drugs do not usually interfere or cause false positives. The substances and medications that cause them in urinalysis to not collect in hair in large enough amounts in to cause false positives. "We test exclusively for illegal substances," said Pano. The test chemical is made to link up with the present illegal drug; if there is no molecular link up, there is no illegal drug.

"We feel it an obligation to our work force. We want to have a drug free environment. The first step is not to hire people who have substance abuse problems."

-Mark Smith

Critics of the RIAH testing fear that because, unlike urinalysis, which is supervised by a doctor or official monitor, hair cutting can be performed by anyone, increasing chances of confusion of hair samples. Psychomedics believes they avoid that problem through a method they call the chain-of-custody.

The person being tested must show his drivers license as identification and he initials the sample. He is asked for his medical history and any medication he is taking. "There is no chance of a mix-up," said Pano.

Critics also protest that the test is an invasion of privacy. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) opposes drug testing in the workplace. Its position against urine tests also applies to hair tests.

Psychomedics can test for cocaine, heroin, morphine, PCP, and marijuana. The cost of a standard ninety-day test for four or five drugs ranges from \$28 to \$65 a sample, depending on the monthly volume companies send and on the number of drugs screened.

Psychomedics is employed by many entities including Barnett Bank, Michigan National Bank, and the government. Prisons are testing drug use in convicts.

Blockbuster is testing potential employees only. Blockbuster instructed Psychomedics to test only the first one-and-a-half inches of hair (equivalent to three months). "We feel it an obligation to our work force. We want to have a drug free environment. The first step is not to hire people who have substance abuse problems," said Smith.

The Blockbuster Video at 5250 34th Street is not presently testing potential employees. It is a franchise and it is not required by the corporation to do so.

Hair drug testing holds much potential for the future. It will allow employers and others to learn the private lives of their employees.

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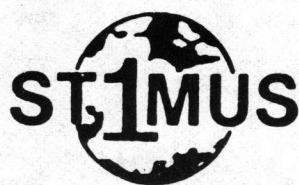
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Thank you for all of your help, criticisms, and compliments this year. It has made us what we are, and what we hope to continue to be.

The staff of the Centurion

VEGGIN' OUT

Vegetarianism comes of age among the 90's generation



by Kristen Killenberg

Staff Writer

Recently, Americans have been doing many things to get healthy and stay that way. Americans are exercising by bicycle, by walking, or at health clubs. Americans are also making changes in the kitchen. People have been trying healthier foods and liking them. They have turned towards vegetables, fruits, and have been staying away from fatty meats. This kind of behavior is called vegetarianism.

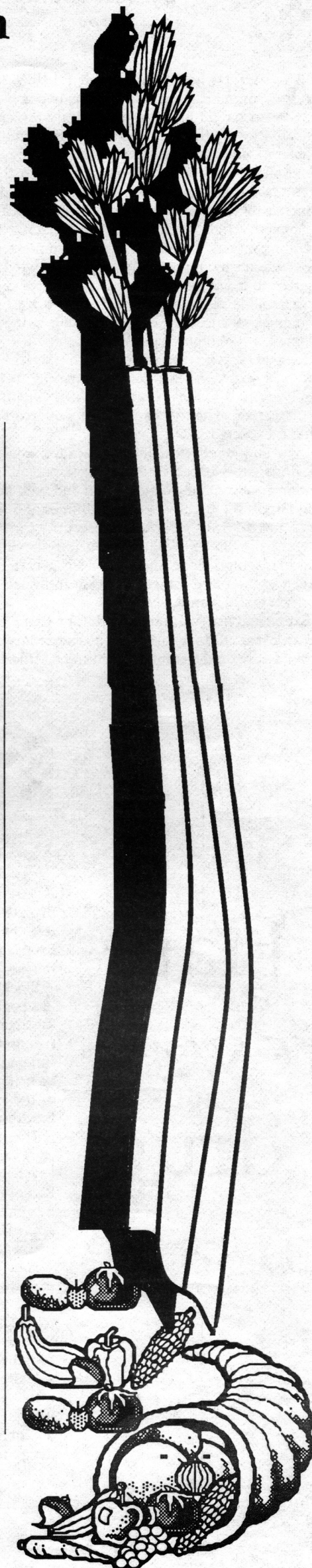
veg-e-tar-i-an-ism n.- belief in and practice of eating foods only from the vegetable kingdom, therefore abstaining from meat and other animal related foods.

Vegetarianism has even infalulltrated our own school. Even though a majority of these vegetarians are loyal, they admit difficulty at first. People are often surrounded by meals that contain meat. Usually these meals don't appear very appetizing without meats, like pizza for instance. "It is hard to give up pizza with pepperoni and hamburgers. But at times, it can be easy. I just eat lots of noodles, salads, and even pizza, but only with cheese," said Sophomore, JoAnn Frioli.

A large number of people feel that being a vegetarian is very healthy. Others just don't like eating meat, and have never liked it. "Ever since I was little, I never really liked meat," said Sophomore, Alicia Yeoman. Being a vegetarian is healthy only if it is exercised correctly. There are eight essential amino acids that are needed for protein; meat is a part of the essential amino acids. "People think they're getting complete protein, but they're usually lacking these important foods. For instance, meats, egg, and fish. Vegetables and grains do not have all of them, you have to combine all foods to get this protein," said nutritionist, Betty West, from West Chiropractic Clinic. "It is true that if they combine the right foods correctly it can be a very healthy diet," said West. "Less problems occur, like heart or kidney disease, high blood pressure, or clogged arteries."

Vegetarianism has also been looked on by other people with sarcasm and hostility. "What about the poor little vegetables you're murdering." People often say sarcastically. "My friends thought I was crazy. At lunch they'd complain and say, 'Just eat it, there's nothing wrong with it!'," said Frioli.

Many people feel that with all the adding of chemicals, hormones, etc. to meat that it is not worth eating at all. "They do so many things to it(meat), that it's not right to change the animals' diet just to serve us," said Frioli. Alicia Yeoman said, "I feel by being a vegetarian, I know what I'm eating, and it's more healthy for me."



Not Enough BATHROOMS

Lakewood violates
health code with
inaccessible bathrooms



by Cindi Letter

Staff Writer

Girls primping, boys congregating, and the combined stench of hairspray and bleach attack the senses. Slippery floors, overflowing toilets, and cardboard remains of toilet paper rolls. This is a typical bathroom scene at Lakewood High School.

Lakewood violates the health code in regard to the number of bathrooms available. Although the school has the correct number of bathrooms to the proportion of students, all of these restrooms are not easily accessible by the students.

The overcrowded conditions pose a problem for students in the sense of time, privacy, and health. After all, it is unhealthy and often difficult to refrain from using the restroom sometime during the seven hour school day.

The conditions of Lakewood's bathrooms seem to not meet student standards. "There are not that many (bathrooms) at all. There's only a few we can use and the ones we can don't have toilet paper or paper towels," said Senior Gil Long. According to Long, both the upstairs and downstairs B-wing bathrooms are locked for the boys. Unsanitary conditions at Lakewood are usually the result of every day occurrences, rather than long-term build up. "What we look for is signs that the restrooms have not been cleaned on a regular basis," said Alvin Cobb (Environmental Health Department). Considering the definition of sanitary by the Health Department,

Lakewood is fairly good.

There are certain standards the school must meet with their restroom facilities.

1299 students attend Lakewood High School. 607 are male, 692 female. The Health Code states that 1:55 water closets (female) and 1:90 (male), 1:50 urinals (male), and 1:90 sinks (female) 1:110 (male). These are ratios from students to facilities. Lakewood has enough facilities according to these ratios; however, many bathrooms are locked causing a violation of the code. Part of the Health Code also states that the bathrooms must be strategically located throughout the school plant with faculty supervision and easy student access. A centralized group toilet room is to be avoided. This happens to be the case in B-wing. In these respects Lakewood does not comply.

C-wing has no student bathrooms at all, and A-wing is off limits because of construction. This leaves upstairs and downstairs B-wing, the hallway, the gym locker rooms, auditorium and the bandroom. The auditorium bathrooms are kept locked and the bandroom is on the far end of the school. As a matter of fact, during lunch, there is only one restroom available with two stalls, the hallway.

The reason for the inaccessible bathrooms is due to student irresponsibility and necessary construction according to school employees and some students.

"A toilet paper holder is installed on Wednesday and ripped off of the wall by Thursday. This is an example of the abuse on the bathrooms by students," said Head Plant Operator Mike Jordan. Some students agree that the students are abusive. "Not all of the disgust is the fault of the janitors, or of the school, for that matter. Rather, it is the fault of complaining students," said Junior Jennifer Sweat.

"I realize that the school is temporarily in violation due to the construction in A-wing, but the problem will be corrected when the CAT program is in use," said Barbara Broughton (Principal).

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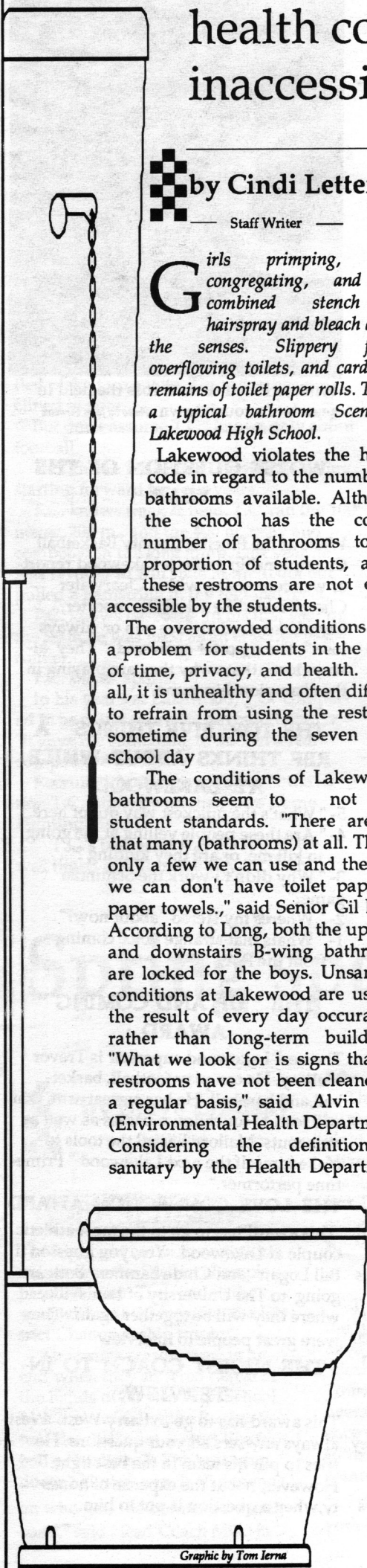
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Graphic by Tom Ierna



by Josue Vizcay

Staff Writer

No other part of society brings more people together than sports; people who come from all different walks of life. And, many Awards do not recognize the people who are on the outer edges. They always award the same things, MVP, Comeback player, and oh yeah, Coach of the Year.

However, there's more to sports than that. There are people who carve a certain aspect of their personality into the games they play.

We have given out awards to things fans talk about. The people we're talking about are the people who get excited about the big games. People who get to the games a half hour early to enjoy the atmosphere. So here's the First Annual Spartan Sports Awards.

MOST LIKELY TO MAKE N.F.L

Ed Dixon is 6'4 250 lbs. But, this award has to go William Floyd. Floyd is big and bad, enough said.

MOST LIKELY TO VERBALLY ENHANCE HIS HIGH SCHOOL CAREER

Ben Saunders is the winner. He was a statistician for the football team last year. But, some girls in Clearwater think he was the running back.

ALL RAMBO TEAM

BILL LOGAN: Logan earned a spot on the team by trying to gouge a guys eyes during the Gibbs game. Crushing blocks also did their part.

ED DIXON: Dixon has the body of Don Moraco and the look of "bad news" Brown. Most of the people that mess with him end up on their back.

CLAUDIA SPIEDEL: When opposing volleyball players think of Spiedel, they think of intimidation. Her spikes were powerful and made a point.

DAVE PENTZ: A guy who swings like him has to be on this team. He does not get cheated, and swing for the cheap seats.

LAWRENCE COLES: One of the greatest hits of all times was when Coles rocked Jay Austin. It was one of those perfect shots. One that one only sees in R-Rated movies.

BEST PLACE TO WATCH A GAME:

Clearwater High basketball is the best to watch a game. First of all its clean and the fans are really into the game. They stand and cheer the whole game. They even throw paper, and yell all those cute little things. Even their principal stands and yells a few words.

THE WORST PLACE TO WATCH A GAME

The loser goes to Boca Ciega football. Besides being depressing, its just plain ugly. The night seems to be darker just over the stadium. Also while you are sitting at the stadium one wonders where your car stereo is. Another thing is that most of the time you knew, Bogie was going to lose and the game was boring.

THE "I GOT SWINDLED "AWARD

Across the lunch table, the baseball player was about to cry. Mike Hurm was very mad. He was mad because he hit .390 and did not make first team in Pinellas County. He also had thirteen steals as a lead-off man. But after all he won our award.

TOP FOUR BEST QUOTES

4- "Let me tell you something, look, they won't throw to my side because they are scared of me. They know their junk will get picked off," Charles Flanning said.

3- "We have a combination of great pitching, outstanding fielding, and powerful consistent hitting," Jeff Gordon said. He was talking about Lakewood. But it sounds more like the Oakland A's.

2- "Success is relative, numbers don't mean success. If we WIN more than we LOSE, and enjoy, the game than we would of been successful." Baseball coach Mike Jacobs said.

1- The best quote was Tom Roberts talking about sitting on the bench. "One time I was so intense, really into the game. Then I saw the finest woman and all of us (guys on the bench) were looking at the girl."



AC Morris

1st Annual Spartan Sports Awards



William Floyd darts across the field in search of a touchdown. Photo by John Firmani

WORST QUESTION OF THE YEAR

While at the Pinellas County Basketball Championship game, a Lakewood reporter was conversing with a Clearwater Cheerleader. She asked the reporter, "Does Lakewood always win or always lose." The reporter answered, "They always lose, thats why they are playing in the championship game."

THE TOP FIVE THINGS A REF THINKS ABOUT WHILE AT LAKEWOOD

- 5- "What's the quickest way out of here."
- 4- "Are these people yelling at me going to kill me, or are they kidding?"
- 3- "Why didn't I work the Seminole game?"
- 2- "Wheres my stereo about now?"
- 1- "Whats that strange voice coming from the P.A."

THE "UP AND COMING" AWARD :

The next Lakewood superstar is Trevor Mallory. He can play football, basketball, and baseball. He has a great arm, that will lead to touchdown passes as well as strikeouts. Mallory has all the tools to make himself the next Lakewood "Prime-time performer."

THE LOVE CONNECTION AWARD

This award has to go to the most athletic couple at Lakewood. Yea, you guessed it Bill Logan and Cinde Santner. Both are going to The University of Louisville, where they will be together again. They were great people to interview.

THE NICEST COACH TO IN- TERVIEW:

This award has to go to Larry West. West always answers all your questions. He tries to put his team in the best light. However, not at the expense of honesty, when a question is put to him.

Top Five Cheerleading Teams

5- Duneden: This is really a sharp team, they show a lot of style. They are well organized, and perform cheers that get their fans into the game.

4- S.T. Pete: Traditionally they are among the best. They always seem to have a lot of style and look very good. And the fans are really into the game.

3- Clearwater: These girls show the most spirit of out any cheerleading team. Their energy seemed to bounce back and forth between the crowd and them.

2- Shorecrest: This team is rich all across the board. This team seemed to be the most organized and disciplined. But, they were not the best.

1- Countyside: They had 14 members who were into the game. And most boys agree they are GORGEOUS.



Bill Logan prepares to crush a running back. Photo courtesy of the St. Pete Times

Move over Bo, T.C. knows sports too

Lakewood High sports coaches select Tom Carter as Athlete of the Year



by Mike Phillips

Staff Writer

If you get senior Tom Carter to sign your yearbook make sure you keep it in a safe place for year's to come. Because all indications point to Carter being a standout collegiate football player and possibly making it into the NFL.

Carter (he prefers to be called T.C.) who played quarterback and defensive end for the Spartans, was named by the LHS coaches as Athlete of the Year. Out of 13 possible votes Carter received seven. Swimming superstar Nicole Haislett was the runner-up with three votes and Lawrence Coles who played football and wrestled picked up a vote. Three coaches declined to vote.

But don't assume T.C. knows only about football.

T.C. knows basketball. He was a starting starting forward for four years.

T.C. knows track & field. T.C. ran the 100 meter, 200 m., and the 400 m. relay and competed in the long jump. Last year he was favored to win state in the 100m but pulled a hamstring in the regional meet.

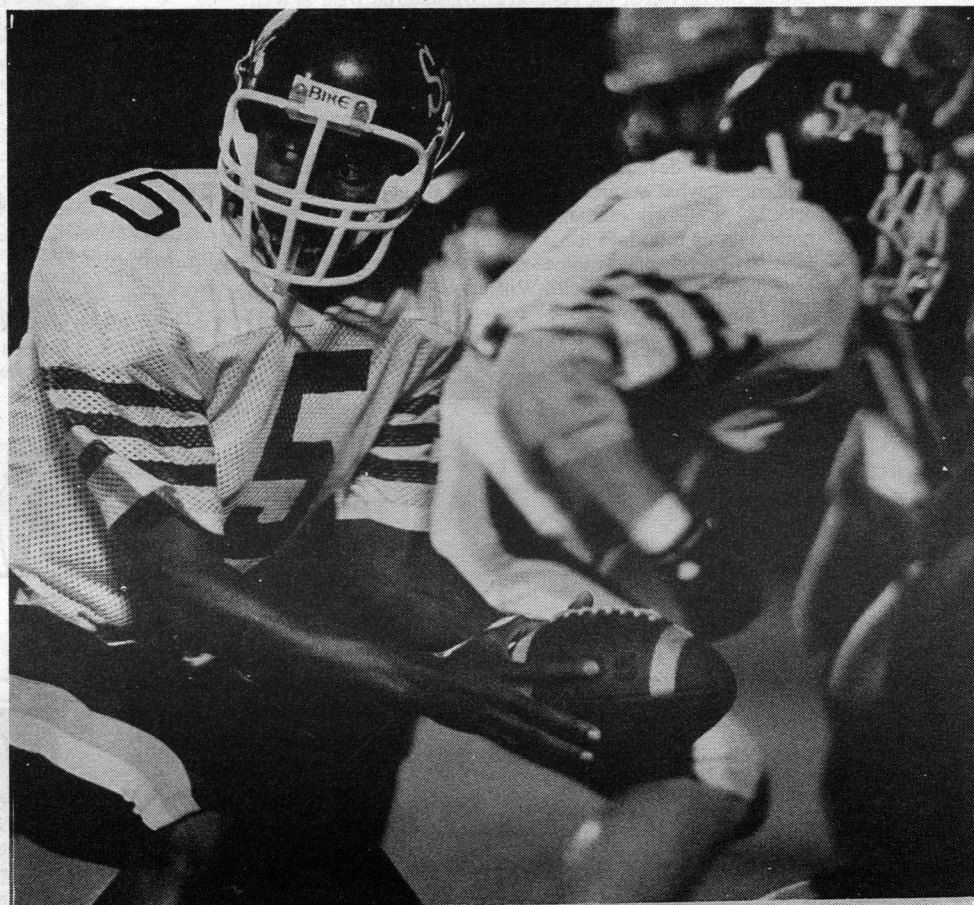
T.C. knows baseball- In his first year on the team he was used as an effective baserunner.

T.C. knows sports.

In his year's at Lakewood, T.C. competed in as many sports as he could because, "it gave me something to do. I'm a real competitive person."

Recruited from colleges all over the nation T.C. signed with the Notre Dame Fighting Irish.

T.C.'s best asset was his speed. He was timed at 4.41 in the 40 yard dash.



Athlete of the Year Tom Carter led the football team to a 9-2 record. In his four years at Lakewood, he also played basketball, baseball, and ran track. Photo by John Firmani

"There's very few pro athletes who can run that fast," said head coach Rich Ninis. "That's what could put him over the top and into the NFL, he definitely has the capability. It just depends on him."

As for T.C. himself, he has more important things to concentrate on.

"I want to get my degree first and use

football as a tool. If I'm successful in college football then I'll consider turning pro."

T.C. has excelled in academics by taking numerous honors and advanced placement (AP) courses giving him quality points to boost his GPA.

Last semester T.C. received a 3.48 GPA

and placed in the top ten percent of the senior class.

"He's got an outstanding attitude toward academics," said social studies teacher Jerry Moffit. "There aren't many students who do as well as him in class."

"There's very few pro athletes who can run that fast."

-Rich Ninis

Taking second place in the balloting was Nicole Haislett, who is currently training for the 1992 Summer Olympics which will be held in Barcelona, Spain. Haislett set state and national records in the 50 meter and 100 meter events.

"I've been very impressed with Nicole's ability to set a goal and accomplish it," said swimming coach Libby Cullen.

Haislett will attend the University of Florida on a full scholarship. Haislett was named by the *St. Petersburg Times* as the Swimmer of the Year as well as the *Times* Athlete of the Year for the past two seasons.

"I've seen her really progress over the years," said teammate Nikki Mouser. "She definitely has the potential to make the Olympic squad."

Third place finisher Lawrence Coles played defensive end for the football team. As one of the top wrestlers he led the wrestling team to a 9-6 overall record. Coles has been recruited around the country for both football and wrestling.

First year head coach Bill Grant said, "He really contributed to our success during the season."

Spring sports blossom in Spartan Country



by Steve Lindsay

Staff Writer

BASEBALL

The highlight of the spring sports season was the District champion baseball team. They ended the year with a 16-10 record and a District Championship trophy.

The teams season came to an end when they suffered defeat at the hands of Naples High School by a score of 6-1 in the Region final. "Baseball's not a sport like football or basketball. The best team doesn't always win. It all depends on who gets the bounce on a daily basis," said Head Coach Mike Ja-

cobs.

The teams success was initiated by the intense play and attitude of eight key players. Jeff Gordon, Mike Hurm, Dave Pentz, Trevor Mallory, Dave Bosco, Ryan Jacobs, Rex Troche, and Phil Azoon all came together to form the elite squad.

SOFTBALL

They said it was going to be the "Rude Awakening", and it may have appeared so the way they "cleaned up" in the Hernando Tournament. However, the teams overall 7-15 record (3-11 in Conference play) was a sad reality for the softball team. "We worked well together with what we had but the fact that we had a young team with little experience and a new

coach brought our record down," said Jen Grabowski.

The teams experience and skill came from veterans Jen Grabowski, who was the teams most valuable player, and Nicole Paquette. A disappointment came in the middle of the season when pitcher Casey Brubaker was taken off the line up due to a wrist injury.

GOLF

It may not of been the Master's Pro Tour but the Lakewood Golf team went out and opened some eyes this season.

The golf team had two players named on the Pinellas County All-Conference team. Young hopeful Chip Lawrence was named to the Honorable Mention All-Conference team with a 4th

place showing at the District tournament. For the girls team "surprise golfer" Christina Andress took 3rd place on the Girls All-Conference team and another 3rd place at the District tournament.

The teams overall record was 6 wins and 21 losses. The team took 10th place in a field of 26 at the District tournament.

Brian Seibert and David Deschryver contributed to the team with their skill and experience and will be returning to the team next year. "With the addition of one golfer next year, we will make a run for the district title," said Coach Ray Delk.

TENNIS

BOYS: It was going to be the strongest most experienced team

ever. With all-star players like Dave Anderson and Jeff Beck the team was destined for success.

The boys team finished the year with a 13 win, 3 loss record and a 3rd place showing in the District tournament.

The top five players on the boys team were; #1-Dave Anderson, #2-Jeff Beck, #3-Terry Griffith, #4-Mike Stover, #5-Mike Phillips. Phillips was the only player of the top five to reach the District finals.

GIRLS: Unlike the boys squad, the girls team traveled a rocky road in 1990. This year was primarily a building year for the girls which their 4 win, 10 loss record indicated. The team won an upset victory against Gibbs in the final match of the season.

SUMMER WEAR: Colorful rayon-knit shorts dominate the new summer season



by Kim Harris and Ramona Franklin

— Staff Writers —

The sizzling hot summer days are back. Along with the summer days are the new fashionable styles that can accommodate the beach scenery, and most of all the feeling of relaxation.

There are so many clothes to offer, the fashion industries have finally realized that summer wear is just as important to individuals as winter wear. "I feel that the youth of today are very conscious minded when it comes to making important selections for the summer. Teenagers come in the store looking for particular garments they have admired on another individual and want the garment for themselves," said Cheryl Davidson sales representative of Maison Blanche.

Department stores of the 90's carry everything from stringless bikini tops to colorful exotic short sets.

They also have polka dot summer dresses, and other things among the tip top of the fashion chart, material wise as well.

Fashion industries are also on the up and up when it comes down to prices. "You can easily go to K-mart and find something just as cute as the high priced garments we have to offer. Our prices for bathing suits range from forty to sixty dollars," said Janice Pryor, Maison Blanche employee at Tyrone Square Mall.

This new decade has found an enormous amount of color to express what summer dressing is all about. Teens enjoy dressing in lively colors. Polka dots seems to be one of the hottest items in today's teens wardrobe. "My closet consists of so many polka dotted clothes until it's not funny. I just simply love dots," said senior Keith Williams.

Today's teens really look forward to this time of the year. The rush to the stores with the intention of buying something fashionable and new. Girls today love fancy exotic bathing suits. They come in all sizes and forms. You can purchase the bathing suits whole or half sizes. "I personally enjoy the

strapless bikini suits. The reason I feel this way is because it allows me to get a even toned tan," said junior Michelle O'Conner.

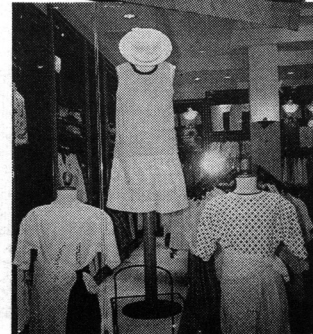
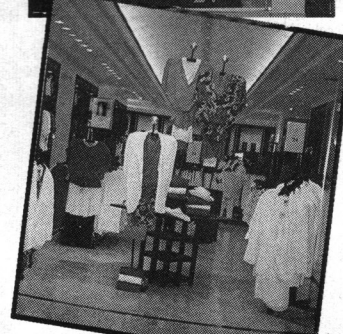
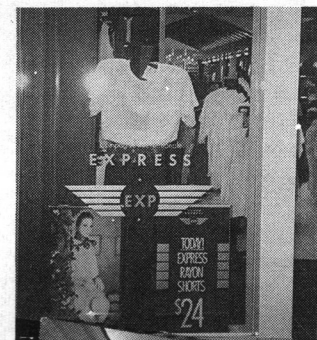
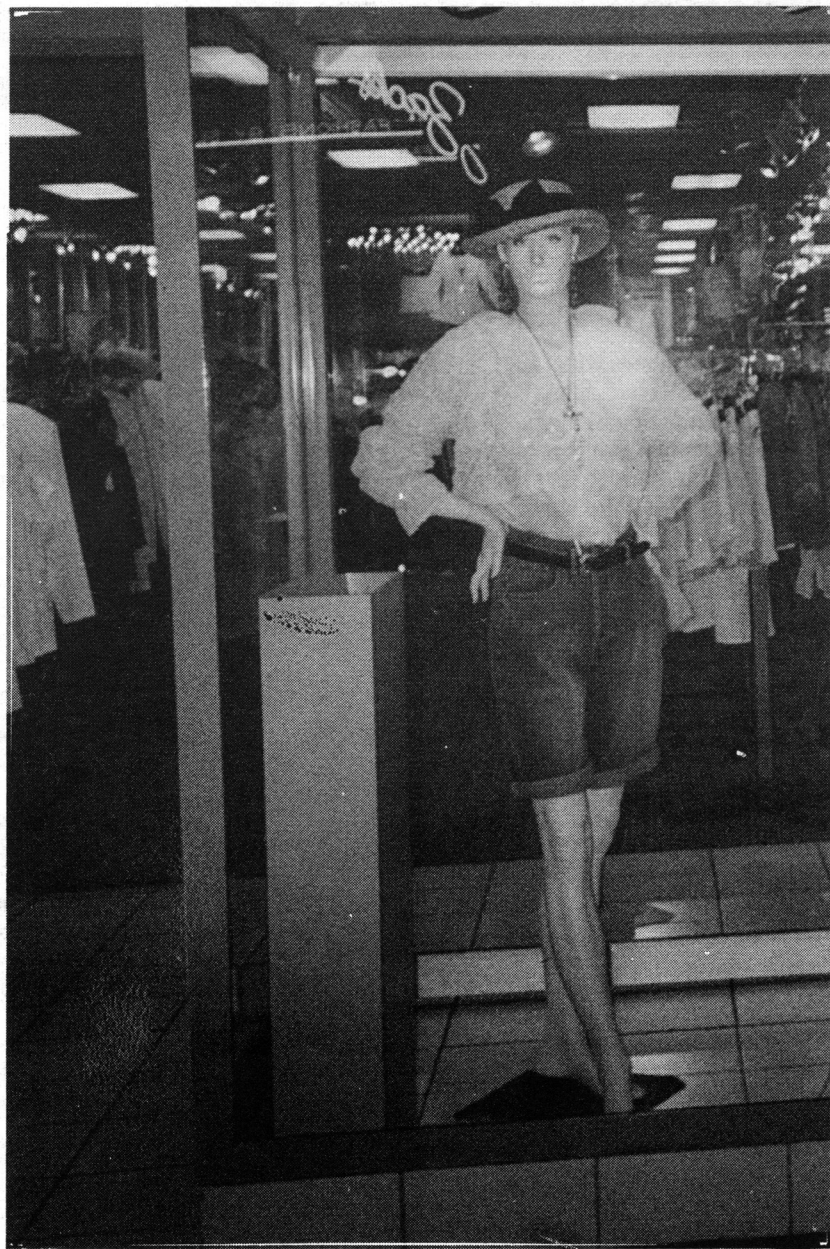
There are many other types of fashions available for the summer time. There are also kinds that many people feel are not appropriate for outdoor adventures. "I love the safari outdoor look, I think it is very attractive, it brings out my natural color," said Melissa Pilenzi.

This new decade also brings in a new way to accessorize yourself. Today you can make scarfs into half tops (tank tops). Another popular item on the fashion chart are straw hats.

Among all these fashionable ideas teens will always find a way to express themselves. "Basically you can get in anything these days it doesn't really matter. Regardless of whatever we do we are teenagers," said junior Nancy Otto.

Make this decade bright and lively there are so many colors and fashions available. Take advantage of your options, be innovative, creative, EXPRESS YOURSELF.

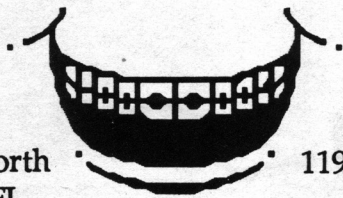
What's
Hot!



Top left: Contempo Casuals show off their garments for the summer.
Top Right: Limited Express sports their original garments.
Right Middle: Limited projects their ideas of what should be worn during the summer.
Right Bottom: New creative summer accessories

Michael W. Rowe, D.D.S.

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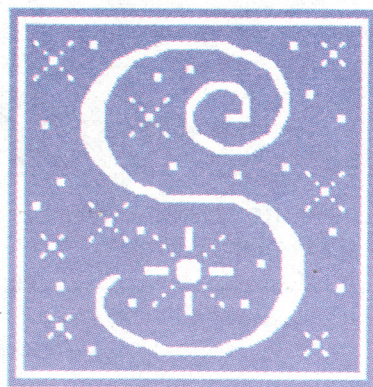


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Shakespeare with a *Twist*

American Stage Company "Americanizes" Shakespeare for park audiences



by Jennifer Fentress

— Managing Editor —

The even, conversational hum of the audience quickly subsides as the stage lighting dims and the players move into the shadows. Yet, unlike any other play, you notice silhouetted skyscrapers surrounding the impromptu theater, and you notice the audience is comprised of picnicking families, seated on blankets.

"This is the story of Illyria..."

The chorus sings while dancers, dressed as American sailors, skip and prance to New Orleans-style jazz. Seated beneath a neon sign blaring "CAFE," the four-piece band is clad in the colors of Mardi Gras -- red, gold, and green.

Shakespeare himself may not have ever envisioned his plays in such a light. However, this spring, the American Stage Company's artistic director, Victoria Holloway, is taking a chance with Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night*; in addition to squeezing in a full, original musical score, Holloway adapted the play to fit the setting of Mardi Gras in the 1930's.

Set in the mythical port of Illyria, the plot centers about a young woman named Viola, and her search for her twin brother

whom she lost when they were shipwrecked off Illyria's shores. The plot in this romantic comedy takes several turns when, during her search, Viola disguises herself as a messenger boy in the court of a local duke.

The theater group chose to produce Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* for the fifth annual Shakespeare in the Park -- an outdoor showcase of Shakespeare plays which is free to the public -- because, "...last year we did his (Shakespeare's) first romantic comedy, the *Comedy of Errors*. I haven't done this one (*Twelfth Night*) and it was appropriate, since it was his last romantic comedy," said Holloway, Director.

Yet, in today's television-oriented age, audiences have difficulty relating to some aspects of Shakesperean theater. It is Holloway's aim to bridge this gap by adapting the play for modern audiences, while retaining the feeling of Shakespeare.

"Adapt to the audience -- that's how Shakespeare wrote his plays -- for the audiences of the time. The scripts are so universal, they've lasted over four hundred years, so they lend themselves to be adaptable," said Patrick Boyington, the Assistant Director who also portrays Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*. "Victoria's (Holloway's) aim is for the audiences to have a good experience with Shakespeare. The language becomes more and more foreign with America being so TV oriented, and oriented to simple language. The idea is to keep them (audiences) coming back," continued Boyington.

Holloway justifies her interpretation by explaining that, "The play is set during the twelfth night after Christmas, which traditionally is a time of feasting and festivities. Where else does a carnival-like atmosphere make sense than Mardi Gras?"

"The thirties were an interesting time. The setting is appropriate because in the post twenties people were more footloose and carefree... unconcerned," added Boyington.

While critics remain skeptical about this departure from the norm, the American stage production has achieved its goal, according to Holloway and Boyington.

"It has been working out really well. The audiences are following the story well and are enthusiastic," said Boyington.

The crowds seem to concur. This year the company has tallied record showings, and expect to perform for more than twenty-four thousand people by closing night.

During the sneak preview showings in late April, Janice Keyes, a tourist from Missouri, explained, "I was expecting to come here and be bored. I was surprised. I enjoyed this fresh interpretation, and being under the palm trees... It couldn't have worked anywhere else."

In addition, resident David Carr claimed, "I like the costumes and songs, and the idea of resetting Shakespeare from the late 17th century. It's more adapted to Americans by setting it in New Orleans in the late twenties... It's a wonderful cultural gem."



Renaissance.....

St. Petersburg Style

Cultural awareness grows with city



by Leah McRae

— Staff Writer —

St. Petersburg is on the horizon of a cultural revival. The city's expansion in industry and population means a cultural awakening for St. Petersburg residents.

"It destroys the myth of St. Petersburg as a senior citizen death spot. It proves that culture and the arts (in general) are alive and well in St. Pete," said St. Pete resident Steve Waugh at a performance of Shakespeare in the Park.

The cultural prosperity in St. Petersburg finds a surge of concerts, plays, and art festivals. Only in the last decade has the city seen a vitality in the cultural scene.

"A lot of organizations have been working to make people familiar with the arts. Art is something people need to be exposed to as an important part of each person's education," said Bonnie Grey, Director of the Suncoast Academy of Dance.

In the past ten years, St. Petersburg has seen the splendor of events like Shakespeare in the Park, the Festival of States, the Sam Robinson Musical Festival, and the numerous privately sponsored concerts in the area. The birth of these events indicates that St. Petersburg is in the middle of a growth spurt, stepping far beyond a small town status.

"Events like Shakespeare in the Park expand the city's cultural awareness. This is evident in the city's growth over the past couple of years," said Grieta Pantenaude, junior.

Unfortunately the increasing number of events parallels the decreasing support of the city government for events like the Festival of States, which is both publically and privately funded, and the reluctant re-opening of Jannus Landing.

"The city only sponsors the Festival with half the funds than the past. This means in the future we need to solicit more corporate funds," said Rui Frias, Festival of States Director of Media Marketing.

However, the decrease in funding and overall support by the city government has not deferred the wave of new events. The refocused direction means prosperity not only in the performing arts, but also a future expansion in St. Petersburg's industry. The dubious support of the city's government turned many art organizations onto corporate financial support; for example, the renamed Parade of States to the Sun Bank Parade of States.

The benefits to the city are obvious in its overall growth and development.

"When people and businesses plan on relocating they look to see what type of performing arts programs are in the area. They would rather move in this area as opposed to a place with no performing arts program," said Jane Machichick, Assistant Director of Marketing and Public Relations for the Clearwater Performing Arts Center.

The recent influx of culture in the area means a new availability to the arts by all of St. Petersburg's residents. The climate seems appropriate for altering views of the culture in St. Petersburg.

"It gives the area an added dimension, an extra plus by offering different amenities, like dance companies, ethnic groups, and first rate performers," said Machichick.

Daring productions, like plays by The American Stage Company, prove that St. Petersburg has the potential to be a meum for the performing arts on a larger scale.

"The city's growth shows that St. Petersburg is worthy of such cultural events and first class performing arts because we (St. Pete residents) are supportive," said Ms. Pantenaude.

With the prospect of tourist dollars the summer promises a continuing trend in performing arts in St. Petersburg.

ABUSE from Page 2.

After that, Mark's head was forced underneath the yellow blanket. The girl had no shirt or bra on. Mark's mouth was pressed up against one of her breasts.

"She was holding me tightly by the neck so I couldn't move my head. She told me to kiss her there. Then she pulled my head out from underneath the blanket. She kissed me and used her tongue. I was only five, so I had never felt that before. She grabbed onto me between my legs. She was holding me pretty hard. She started to undo her pants."

The entire time this frightening episode was occurring, Mark fought to get away.

"I was underneath the blanket and everything had a yellow reflection. They laughed while I was underneath there." Just before Mark's face was shoved between the girl's legs, he broke away.

"I ran away and cried," he said.

Rape is one of the most controversial forms of sexual assault. Not only in terms of the perpetrator, but also in terms of the

victim. There is always a question of whether or not the victim is telling the truth. Very often the assailant claims that the abused victim wanted what they got. Prosecution of a rapist is a very draining and often a terrifying experience. Defense attorneys frequently interrogate possible rape victims into hysteria.

"I never really told that many people, it didn't seem as serious as the other rapes I had heard about," said Colleen, who was raped at the age of 14. She was at a party and she noticed a male friend of hers was upset. She asked him if he wanted to talk and they went into a room alone together. She soon realized this was a horrific mistake.

"He was really drunk. He locked the door and turned off the light. Then he basically pushed me onto the bed. He ripped my shorts in half, literally."

The perpetrator was much stronger than Colleen. He secured her tightly under him. "All I could do was cry. I was a virgin, and

besides the fact I was scared he would hit me, entry was a very painful thing."

The rapist told Colleen that if she didn't "settle down" he would put a pillow over her head so she "wouldn't know what he was doing." Finally she stopped struggling.

"I let him do what he wanted. I couldn't believe how bad he was hurting me." Because Colleen was a virgin and sexual intercourse was turning out to be a difficult task for the rapist as well as the victim, he did not climax. He rolled off her and demanded oral sex.

"Finish me off," he told me. He grabbed my head. That didn't last long either," said Colleen. "A week later I saw him. You won't believe this. He asked me out."

Why a person would sexually molest a child considerably younger than himself is beyond society's conception. There is a lot of controversy about whether or not sexual abuse is truly sexually motivated or if it is directly related to another frus-

tration within. Many experts believe that rape is a crime of power. Rapists often search for dominance when they can control another person. Many times sexual victimization is a result of a vicious cycle. Often when one is abused as a child, they too, abuse their children. Whatever the case may be, any child can be at risk. There is no set framework for victims of sexual molestation. What is evident is the tremendous amount of abuse that society lets slip through its fingers. Many victims of abuse live a silent agony for they have no one to trust.

Sun Coast Child Protection Team is an agency that offers help to children who are physically, sexually, or mentally abused or who experience neglect. Their number is 527-5955. If you are a victim or know someone being victimized, please call. There is also a general abuse registry number available for reporting abuse: 1-800-962-2873.

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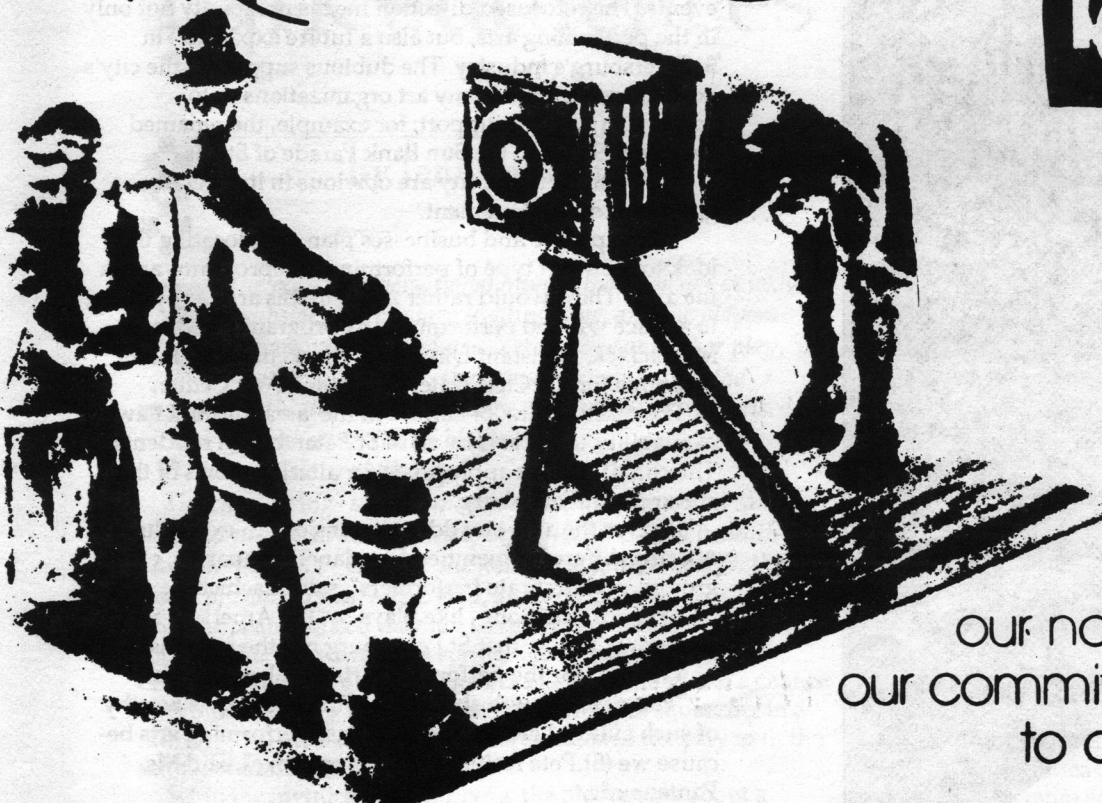
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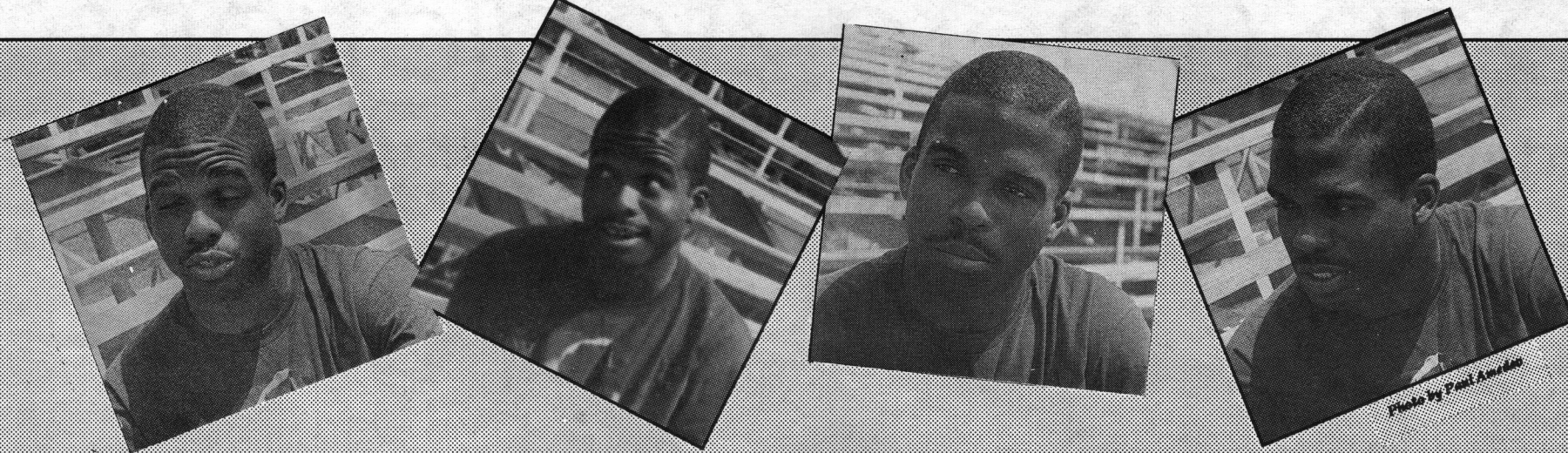


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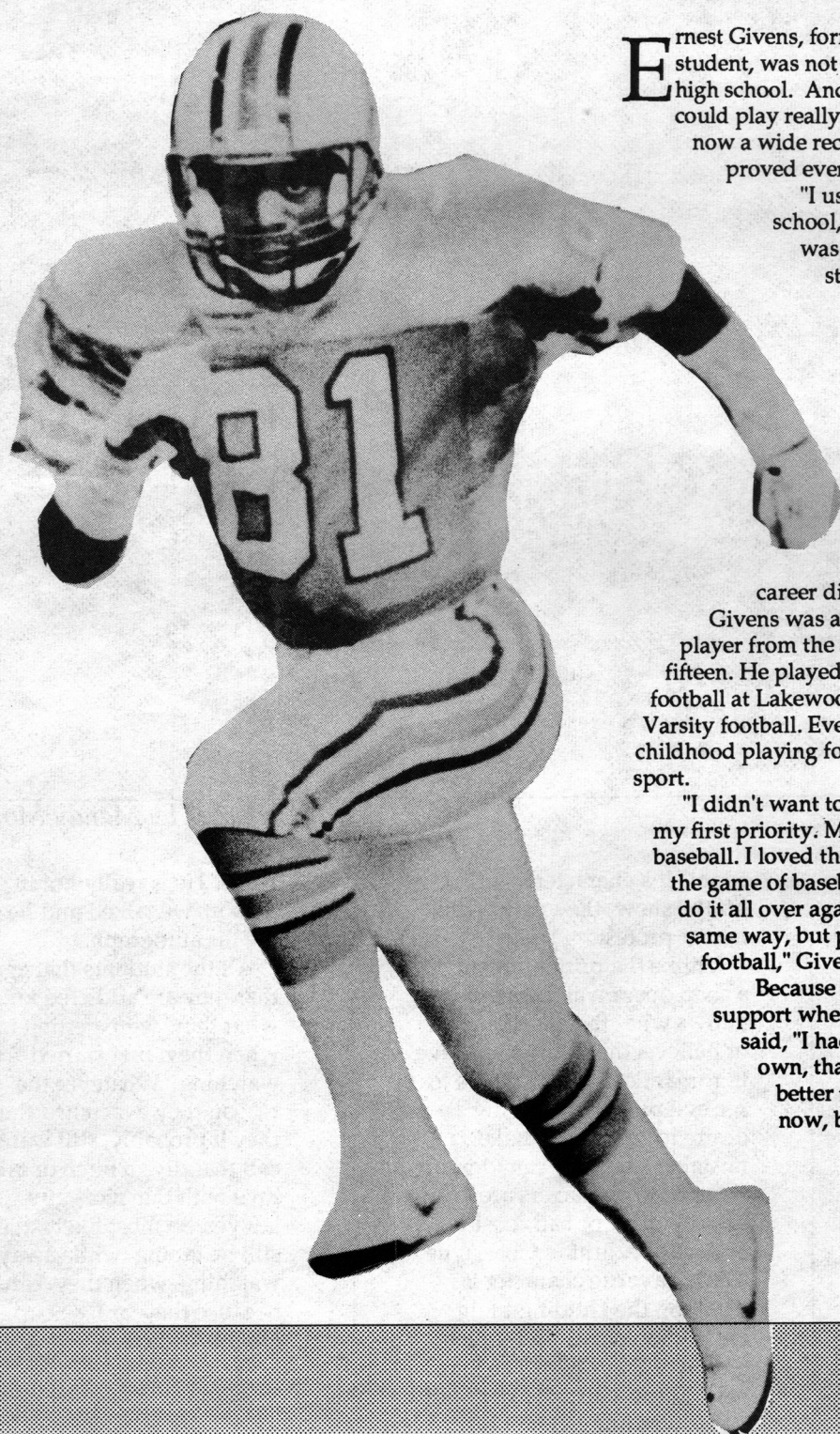
Against the Odds:

Lakewood graduate Ernest Givens succeeds in professional football



by Jonti Phillips

Staff Writer



Ernest Givens, former Lakewood High School student, was not an all-star football player in high school. And no one really thought he could play really well. But Ernest Givens, now a wide receiver for the Houston Oilers, proved everyone wrong.

"I used to play here in high school, but a lot of people said that I was too small, so I took that in stride as a compliment—that I'm too small and can't play anything. I said 'Hey, if they think I'm too small and can't play anything, what will happen when I do make it? Then what will they have to say?' So after that, I just kept playing," Givens said.

Ernest Givens football career did not begin in high school. Givens was a Junior Spartan football player from the age of seven until the age of fifteen. He played two years of Junior Varsity football at Lakewood, as well as one year of Varsity football. Even though he spent his childhood playing football, it was not his favorite sport.

"I didn't want to play football, that wasn't my first priority. My first priority was playing baseball. I loved the game of baseball; I still love the game of baseball. If I had to back up and do it all over again, I would do it the exact same way, but play baseball first instead of football," Givens said.

Because he didn't receive much support when playing football, Givens said, "I had to do everything on my own, that's why it makes me feel a lot better to appreciate what I have now, because I did it myself. If I could tell the young people, 'Hey, you can still do it, you can still have your dreams if you work hard at it', I would."

After graduating from Lakewood, Givens attended a junior college on scholarship, and then received a football scholarship to University of Louisville in 1984. He received an Associate's degree at junior college, and is now, at Louisville, working on getting his Bachelor's degree in physical therapy. He plans to play football for three more years at the most, and will then "probably want to have my own business which I am in the process of working on now. It will probably be in the travel business or a sporting goods store. I don't want to get involved in something that I am not affiliated with all the time, which is sports. I want to do another phase of mind, something other than sports," Givens said.

Twenty-five year old Ernest Givens has lived in St. Petersburg all of his life. When he is not living in his condominium in Houston, he lives only a couple of miles from Lakewood. Givens said that staying close to your birthplace is the most important piece of advice that he would give to young athletes.

"I would tell the athletes at Lakewood, don't ever forget where you came from... when you start forgetting where you come from that's when you start having second doubts about what you want to do with yourself, then everything else reflects on you by people saying, 'Well, he forgot where he came from, nobody here is going to help you'. That's the attitude that you have to take," Givens said.

Ernest Givens has certainly not forgotten where he came from, and he says, "I'm not going to ever change. I'm always going to be myself, if you can't accept me for myself, then you can't accept me."

Soap Opera Addictions

Students examine their attractions to daytime dramas

 by Rashida Clendening
— Staff Writer —

Junior Tiffany McGowan rocks back and forth in her chair trying to remember the one she hates the most. "Oooh, who is that bitch? I hate her, she is always trying to steal all the men." No she's not talking about the school man-stealer, just "Kelly," one of the daytime divas on the Soap Opera "Santa Barbara."

Students like McGowan are breaking the stereotype of the typical soap opera watcher; the housewife. Since students are in school or at work, they are going home after school and watching or many students set their V.C.R.'s for their favorite soaps each morning.

"No, I don't think I've ever missed a show," said Junior Jennifer Davis, "Oh yeah, one time, but I just read about it in my magazine." The magazine she was referring to is also known by watcher Java Brown as the "soap opera watchers Bible," : Soap Opera Digest. Soap Opera Digest has been in print for almost ten years and continually offers updates and interviews for its readers.

Davis and her friend, Tami Williams both have subscriptions and Williams says she has pictures of her favorite characters cut out from the magazine and hanging in her room. "I watch because the guys are hot," said Williams "It's a lot of fun (to watch)," said Davis, "but if you call her while she's watching she'll hang up on you." The two agreed that they would be working if they weren't watching and that they are addicted.

According to *MediAmerica: Form, Content, and Consequence of Mass Communication*: Soap Operas are often filmed only a day or two in advance, which may be an advantage because that way recent news events can be written into the script. Prime-time shows are done as much as six months in advance.

Usually Soap characters are carefully created for the mass audience. These characters are usually between twenty-five and thirty-five years old and are financially comfortable. The leading men are usually doctors and lawyers. The women are attractive and well manicured. The characters tend to do a lot of eating, drinking, and arguing.

Days of Our Lives, General Hospital, Guiding Light, Ryan's Hope, Santa Barbara, and As The World Turns all play the drug that these girls are addicted to.

Their main reason they all gave for watching the soaps is that they are interesting. Williams also mentioned that they (soap operas) show the difference between make belief and realism. Davis said, "It's (the soap

opera) like real, the stuff on there is like real life." Junior, Lynn Dodge said, "It's neat to see other people have problems." Dodge's favorite character is Reva Shane on the Guiding Light. She likes her because she is "Gutsy".

With responses such as these, soap operas prove that the relationship the audience has with the characters can be psychologically fascinating. Most likely there is no other type of television audience so involved with its characters.

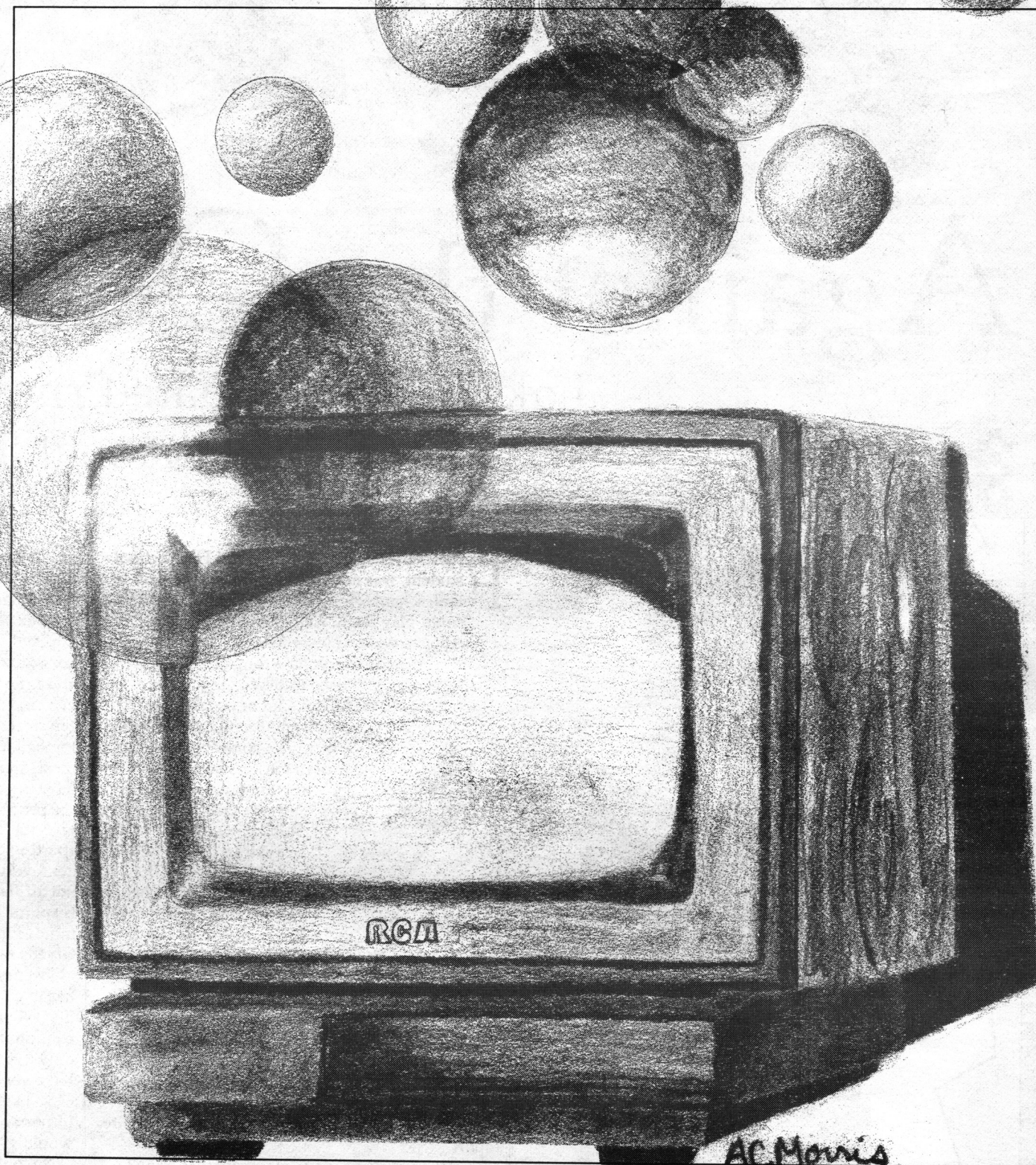
A lot of the time when a character is sick viewers might send in greeting cards telling them to "Get well

soon!" If a character is killed off the show, they may write in and protest.

Unlike the prime-time mind, a soap opera watchers mind knows what they desire to see or believe: the desire to believe in romantic love, the desire to see evil punished and the desire to see others make mistakes that they can identify with. Soap characters are usually good or bad, positive or negative. Junior Charlayne Clark's favorite character is "Phil" on the Guiding Light. He is known as a pretty nice guy. At a Day With The Stars held at the Curtis Hixon Hall Davis was hugged by her favorite character Evan

Bates. "He is really hot in person, we talked and he gave me his autograph."

All the students that agreed that they are addicted knew what they were getting into when they first started watching. Whatever the reason they watched then, they'll probably still want to call that diva a bitch or fall in love with the nice-guy lawyer. So most likely they'll still be taping while away or watching when they can because they are... Soap Opera Addicts.



Artwork by Mandy Morris

School's out for the Summer

Contrary to popular belief, teachers DO get away from school



by Wendy Peyton

Staff Writer

As that last school bell of the year rings through the halls of Lakewood High School on June 6th, the first day of summer as most students know it, begins. Many will be grabbing for their bathing suits and their Coppertone bottles, and for some, maybe even a cap and gown. But, wait a minute, summer vacation is not for students only.

Although students might not know this, teachers value their summer vacations as much as they do.

For social studies teacher, William Heath, summer begins when the last paycheck of the school year arrives. "What I do, is I take my last check and pay off my mortgage and any other loans, then I put the rest into a golf membership, put my clubs in my trunk and play golf

for the summer", said Heath. Heath belongs to the County Golf Association, but he doesn't only play golf, he also plans on going to California with his wife to visit relatives, and he would also like to take his catamaran out to do a little sailing.

Although Heath's summer consists of golfing, traveling, and sailing, English teacher Terry Cubine spends her summer visiting distant countries and watching car races. In June, Cubine and her husband will be in Montreal, Canada watching the Canadian Grand Prix. Then in July it's off to Daytona for the Firecracker 400. Also, as she has done for the past 3 years, Cubine will be going to Berlin and Budapest. "We're going to go to the Hungarian Grand Prix", said Cubine. Lastly, before returning to work, she will be going to Berchtesgaden, West Germany. Located in the German Alps, it is centered between Austria and Germany.

For the counselors of Lakewood, their only vacation time is basically just the month of July "What I like to do with my

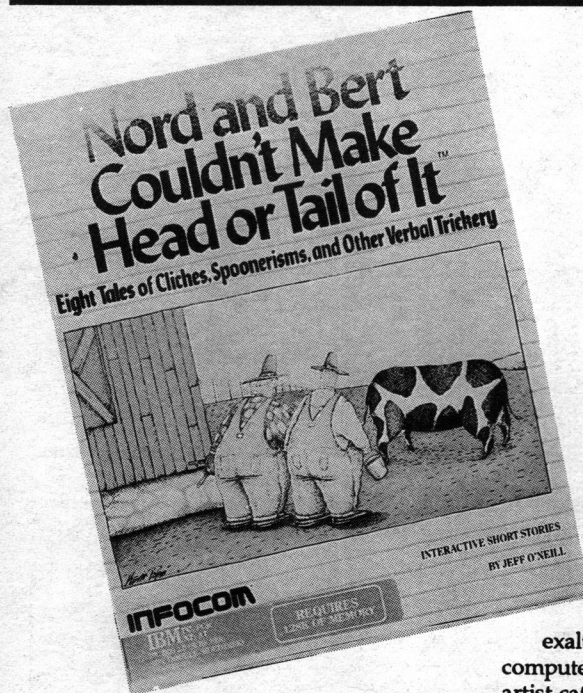
month is rejuvenate myself", said Kathleen Pszenny. She does this by reading, going to the beach and the movies, visiting family in Boston, and spending time with friends. "Because I'm single", said Ms. Pszenny, "I try to keep in contact with my friends." The one place where Pszenny would like to go for a vacation but never has is Paris. "I really want to go to Paris", said Pszenny.

Colette Wyand, English teacher and advisor for Lakewood's Literary Magazine, plans on going to the keys for a couple of weeks this summer. She will be going with her husband and another couple that they are friends with. They are going to hook the boat to the back of the car and drive down to their stilt house on Cujo Key. "We fish, explore little islands, and sometimes we go to dinner in Key West", said Wyand. Another thing she is looking forward to is her 30 year high school reunion. She graduated from H.B. Plant High School. "At the last reunion, I won the hoola hoop contest, said Wyand.

Hawaii is definitely the place for science teacher, Bettie Hardin. She will be spending the summer, and maybe one semester of next year in Hawaii with her boyfriend and one of her daughters. However, this is not just a vacation, while she is there, she will be building a self-contained house. "It has solar energy and it collects its own water."

This summer will be a recreational one for social studies teacher, Sharyn Jacob. First of all, she will be spending the weekend at Disney World with her fiancé. Her next stop will be at Key Largo where she will be planning her wedding for next March.

Students might not put much thought into what their principal does during the summer, but Principal Barbara Broughton certainly appreciates her time off. Although she works 12 months out of the year, if she does get a couple of weeks off, she would like to get away to the islands and just get on a boat and float. "I just want to go somewhere where there are no telephones, and no decisions to make."



-Commentary-



by Todd Barnash

Staff Writer

Remember back to December 25, 1985 when you couldn't wait to open your gifts that were under the tree? You slyly found out what you were getting—new computer games. That was the fad five years ago, yet this year Christmas would be different. Computer games aren't the fad anymore.

Arnie Katz, writer, editor, lecturer and computer game designer, as quoted in *Video Games & Computer Entertainment*, says, "Like every creative artist, I yearn to entertain the multitudes. It's not only that golden pot of royalty money, either. Ever notice how a stadium packed full of screaming rooters makes the home team seem to play with more spirit? The athletes on the field draw strength

from their vociferous supporters in the stands. There's an exhilaration in strutting your stuff in front of a really large audience."

Game writers are the same way. There is an ego-inflating confidence that comes from knowing that your book, movie, TV show or whatever is appreciated by millions. That exalted feeling is strictly hearsay in the computer gaming field. It's missing when the artist caters to a coterie of fans, no matter how knowledgeable they are.

Why aren't computer games hitting mass market pay dirt? People in the business are suggesting one reason - video games.

Video games are the current fad these days. People don't buy as many computer games because they are buying cartridges for the Nintendo, Genesis and TurboGrafx-16. That sounds like a good explanation until you consider the demographics of the two fields. What is the possible connection between a 12-year old's purchase of a video game and a 30-year old's decision not to buy a computer game?

If video games disappeared tomorrow computer entertainment would certainly experience an increase in sales. But the gain would come from a widening of the market to include some of the youngsters who currently do their gaming on dedicated cartridge systems, not because computer software publishers suddenly were reaching a greater portion of the adult audience.

It's time to stop blaming video games and

take a straight look at the problem. Video games don't prevent computer entertainment titles from attaining mass popularity. It's the games themselves that keep the hobby small and stagnant. And things aren't going to change much until publishers cut the alibis and address the situation.

As we enter the '90s, there is only one game publishing company that is even close to being right on task with computer game making: Cinemaware. There is no more envied and misunderstood company in all of home computing—envied because of sales and misunderstood because of the way Cinemaware achieves them.

Following is a prescription for connecting with the mass market the Cinemaware way:

Join the Cultural Mainstream: Don't let the technical experts dictate game content. They are often quite talented, but sometimes lack broad life experience and the socialization that goes with it.

Maximize Audiovisual Effects: Uninvolving games don't get played nor, when word of mouth circulates, bought after the initial flurry of sales.

Make the Game Accessible to People: No game that requires the user to read a novella before booting will be a megahit.

Stress Play Experience, Not Score: Some kids really get off on how big a number they can put on the game's vanity board. Adults, in

general, have little interest in setting records, possibly because their skills make this unlikely. Whatever the reason, most gamers gauge the success of their software purchases by how much fun they had with the product.

These four tenets are the foundation of Cinemaware's outstanding success. The computer-entertainment industry stands at a fork in the road. It can allow video-game manufacturers to capture the entire home electronic-gaming business, or it can fight for the mass market by offering game formats and content that people like.



Computer Games

Industry must respond to video entertainment system dominance

PARENTAL WARNING:

This album contains Explicit Lyrics



by Nancy Kelly

Staff Writer

Controversial music has increased in popularity over the past few years, and along with it the increased call for censorship. Society has been given two choices regarding censorship in music. Either yes (due to its obscene language) or no, because of the freedom guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Artists such as Eazy-E, N.W.A., Slayer, The Electric Angels, and 2 Live Crew are a few of the many names of groups on cassettes, compact discs, and LP's that often face censorship.

This censorship label which states: Parental Warning; Explicit Lyrics, "has had a positive reaction on sales of Rap music," said Cathy Stewart of Banana's Records & Tapes. "Recently, an assortment of record stores have sold a large quantity of

censored music more than before when the label was encouraging Parental Guidance, rather than Parental Warning," said Stewart.

Why? "People want to know what the big deal is, that record companies go to the extreme to censor music of the 90's," said Alex Simao, sales clerk of Camelot Music. "Therefore, the public will buy more of the censored music and sales will increase," Simao explained.

The group that has recently spurred on the censorship act is 2 Live Crew. Their smash album entitled, *As Nasty As They Wanna Be* includes titles such as:

*Me So Horny, Get the F**k Out of My House, and If You Believe In Having Sex, has sold millions of copies*

Many record stores will not even sell the *Nasty* tape over-the-counter due to its obscene content. "Camelot will not lower their reputation to stock their shelves with the tape," said Simao.

Another company, Asylum Record Store also feels strongly against the selling of the *Nasty* tape by stating, "There are too many problems with the public and censored material to even sell the tape or display of it," said sales representative Jason Smith.

The group, 2 Live Crew also has

added a more decent version of their *Nasty* tape entitled *As Clean As They Wanna Be*. Sales clerk, Mark Richardson, of Banana's Records & Tapes said, "Our store will and does not carry either of the two tapes by 2 Live Crew, if a customer requests, they will make a special order with proof of age 18 and over."

"Groups such as Jane's Addiction, Salty Dog, and the Dead Kennedy's have said to have lyrics involving 'devil-worshipping' music or satanism," said Smith. "Even the soundtrack from the hit movie *Lost Boys* has been censored due to its 'satanic lyrics,'" said Smith.

Since music originated, people have been given the choice about what they wish to listen to. Different music appeals to various individuals, however the question remains—should those who don't wish to listen to certain music spoil the opportunity for others? Is censorship really necessary? This question is difficult to answer, however it will soon be resolved, most likely by the government.

Pro Music censorship benefits youth



by Christy Marks

Staff Writer

Censorship does not limit freedom. Along with freedom comes the responsibility to understand the boundaries of that freedom. However, people still argue that the First Amendment protects freedom of speech. Unfortunately, too many have taken this freedom for granted and have wrongly assumed that freedom of speech includes the right to use obscene or indecent language in music. This assumption is wrong.

According to Florida law, music is obscene if it deals with purient interest in sex (by community standards), is patently offensive (by community standards), and if it lacks serious literary, scientific, or political value. The music must fail all three of these tests for it to be considered obscene. This also applies to print and broadcast areas.

"The First Amendment is designed to protect freedom of expression. It is powerful protection, but there are limits to it. Obscenity is not considered to be expression protected by the First Amendment because (the music) is of no redeeming social value," said Professor Tom Marks of Stetson University College of Law.

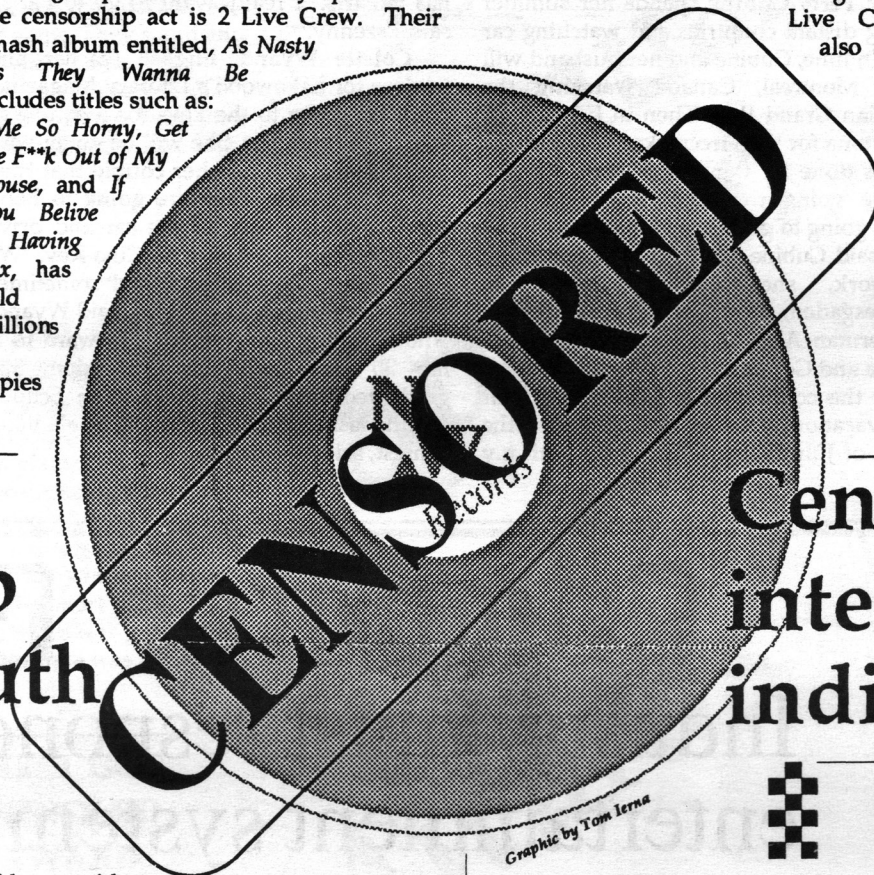
Many argue that censorship also limits creativity. Since when do curse words, violence, sex, and pornography fall under the word 'creative'? A great deal of record stores do not even carry the albums in question because of the risk involved and the loss in profits which would surely be the result.

Colleen Knights, a junior, feels, "The government should be responsible for the censorship of music. A lot of parents out there don't really care what their children listen to, and some kids are too immature to handle it. I personally do not want to be the victim of some terrible crime just because a stupid song encouraged somebody to do that. If the parent and the kid don't care about what they listen to, somebody should."

Carol S. Kraynak, a Lakewood parent, also has strong opinions on the issue of music censorship. "I really think we need to censor things in today's society. There have to be limits drawn. Some things are just not acceptable. I don't think it should even be recorded. It's actually very tasteless, it shows no real talent, it says nothing, and has no real thought to it. It is just not music. With censorship, you're not stifling creativity, you're redirecting it to be more socially acceptable. That is not infringing on people's rights."

Rev. Gerald Hendry, Assistant Pastor at St. John's Church on St. Pete Beach, says, "Any kind of music that would lead people to lose a sense of responsibility should be censored. Any kind of music that would cause a diminishment in people's responsibility should be censored."

The censorship of music may not be a popular idea at this time, but as music increases in popularity, more and more of its content will be analyzed. It is important that society realizes the limitations placed on the First Amendment, and make a mature decision based on that.



Censorship interferes with individuality



by Sheri Kraynak

Staff Writer

The First Amendment guarantees freedom of speech, yet lacks guidelines as to this speech being published or broadcasted. Music artists have found comfort in this privilege, but now are threatened by those who wish to take away their right through censorship.

Due to explicit language, or lyrics suggesting illegal actions, parental groups feel it necessary to suppress our right to individual choice by depriving us of music recorded

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press.

—First Amendment

by such artists as: Slayer, Easy E, and 2 Live Crew, before the sounds of their music reach listeners ears.

One's choice of music is an individual decision.

Throughout the years many religious and ethnic groups have found it necessary to suppress the individuality of artists across America. The outgrowth of censorship is a stifling problem of self expression. Censorship is a personal choice, and therefore should be reserved for the individual.

"It (censorship) inhibits creativity and also denies people the choice to make their own decisions about what they listen to," said Christa Roberts, a St. Petersburg High School student.

Religious morality and ideals play an important role in music censorship, yet no one religion is able to judge a music group or its song's content immoral. The vast differences in beliefs among religious denominations poses the question as to who interprets lyrics correctly. The idea that one may consider a song's content offensive and the other as amusing, suggests that censorship should be left up to the individual.

Parental discretion is advised when the music a child listens to is questionable. But, it is the parent's responsibility to interpret and discuss the content with a child, not a group to deny someone the privilege of listening to an artist's music. The explicit language present in many songs may be interpreted as obscene to one while simply colorful to others.

This is based on interpretation...an individual's interpretation.

New cars for less than a thousand bucks



by Anne Kleingarn

Foreign Exchange Writer

People who drive a Mercedes don't have the guts to drive a Trabbi.

The Trabbi, short for Trabant, is the best known of the few East German cars. It is also the car people make the most jokes about. The Trabbi basically looks like a box with tires or like one of those really old match-box cars from the 60's. According to the collection "9. November—Der Tag der Deutschen", published by Carlsberg Publications, West Germany, it has a two cycle engine with a cylinder capacity of 594 ccm. To fuel the 25 HP car a mixture of benzine and oil is needed. The exhaust resulting from that mixture is a strong environment pollutant and would not meet West German standards. The problem of speed limits does not exist, since a Trabbi hardly makes more than 55 miles per hour.

Why is the new Trabbi named "601"? Be-

cause 600 people order it, but only one gets it.

This joke aims more at the economic situation, because the delivery time for a Trabbi is twelve years. For most characteristics concerning the Trabbi there is a joke cracking on it. Since the Trabbi is produced in a series since 1964 and the pattern did not change, the Trabbi is nothing fancy:

How many people does it take to build a Trabbi? Two. Someone that folds and someone that glues!

Four door models and stereos are not self evident characteristics for a Trabbi and the room for passengers is limited, too.

The 'Trabbi is the most silent car in the world; when you sit in it, you cover your ears with your knees.

Around 2.5 million of these cars with the plastic body are registered in East Germany and they serve only one purpose: transportation. Since it is not a luxury, show-off article the price for it is

kept down by the East German government. A Trabbi costs around 13.000 East German marks, which equals vaguely a thousand dollars.

Before the border between the two Germanies was opened, people leaving East Germany often left their cars behind. The only value a Trabbi has is the time the owner spent waiting for its delivery.

After the opening of the border between East and West Germany, many thousands of East Germans loaded their belongings into their Trabbis and took off towards the West. There they spread out all over the country. In most cities there were not enough apartments and houses for the East Germans to stay. In Hamburg, they were put on boats in the city's port with their Trabbis parked on land. During that time Germany suffered from strong fall storms, supposedly a result of hurricane Hugo. Streets near the port were flooded: plastic Trabbis were flowing away; the cardboard model soaked.

Why does East Germany trade Trabbis for elephants with India? Because the circus must go on!

The Complaints Department

Welcome to the real world Stream of consciousness



by Tom Ierna

Staff Writer

Someone needs to kick me in the head. Well, maybe not. (I'm sure many of you would love to take me up on that offer!) I cannot seem to realize that the year is over and I soon will be doing nothing except sitting on my butt somewhere in real life. I mean, high school life isn't what you'd call hard, unless you are, say, an administrator that is given the ever-pleasant task of quashing a lunchroom riot where students are flinging all five food groups around and in which pieces are hitting walls where they will remain until they crawl off on their own accord. Where else can you get away with such behavior with only a slap on the wrist, an hour or so of scheduled free time after school, and a permanent record, and still have the chance to unwittingly bring a new form of life into existence?

Besides which, how about that school food? Those cafeteria ladies (and gentlemen) sure work their buns off. And do they ever get credit? No. That is why I have set aside this space to say I am the one who eats every dish that no one else will touch because it looks like it has been sitting under the heat lamps forever and probably has. Ever since I had that iron stomach installed....

But seriously, I have eaten every dish, no matter how strange and moving that those ladies (and gentlemen) threw at me, and darned if all of them tasted exactly the same! No joke, every meal I have eaten in this school has tasted distinctly like reconstituted paper bagels from concentrate. I am going to miss that after I graduate. Roughage in the diet is something that you just don't get from the steaks that mom serves!

Anyway, welcome to the realm of beyond the high school. Two things happen after you graduate—you party for three weeks, and you move out of your parents

house. (Of course the order of these can be different and their placement is sometimes offset. Some people may move out so they can party.)

So. Your parties are over and you have moved out. This is where the fun begins. For just \$225 per month, you too can have this full efficiency apartment with all of the amenities. (Fine print: Excluding refrigerator, beds and various other useful yet expensive household appliances. Children under 21 and you folks without four major credit cards for identification need not apply, and if you don't have a job more steady than bag boy at Winn-Dixie then you can definitely forget it.)

Then you have the costs of a vehicle to deal with. This vehicle will cost about \$475 when you buy it, and the first thing to go will be the brakes at the very moment when you are trying to avoid that tree over thrill hill (which you just caught air on), thereby rendering your front end slightly more compact. The basic gist of the matter is that the less you pay for the original, the more you will pay to keep it running. (My car was free, therefore I am severely in debt.)

Food bills will soon force you to buy canned goods and NISSAN™ "Oodles of Noodles" soups. Then you will be wishing for Lakewood's culinary delights.

And if you stay in school, don't plan on eating canned goods. You'll be paying for your continued education—one that will get you a now worthless B.S. degree to replace the totally worthless high school diploma you just got. All this just for an occupation. What an existence. You beat the snot out of yourself for 16 years or more in school only to do the same for pay until you retire.

Maybe I'll just stay here another year...Naah. C-Ya.



by Joshua Fryman

Staff Writer

"I feel... special... In just a few short days, I'll be graduating. I'm so happy. Yes, no longer can anyone tease me 'You've got 70 more years of school - nyah nyah nyah!'. But, I'll miss all of my friends, my comrades, my teachers... I feel sad... (sniff... sniff...)" Yea! Right! I'm on PAROLE, I'm outta here, and I LOVE it! Its been great, and its been fun, but C-Ya! But, wait a minute... Just how many thousands and thousands of dollars went to keep us in this complex? Hundreds of thousands, easily... And SPEAKING of hundreds of thousands, how 'bout those PROM tickets, eh? Personally (not only do I not know your opinion, but I don't CARE either, so be quiet if you don't like it), I think they should charge about \$20 for a couple and forget about the dinner. I mean, really, you could get... 15 (yes, that's 15) meals at the local Burger King for the price of our prom tickets... (ok, 25 if you eat lightly) But hey! Let us hold the prom at the Don CeSar, where the prices start at infinity minus one, and migrate to the fact that we were not allowed to go near the water... or the pool... or the water fountains... I mean, really, we might... DROWN... whoa, hey! "I'm Robin Leach, and I'm going to show you things you can't have!" (for the unlearned population, Robin Leach hosts Lifestyles of the Rich and famous and loves to be arrogant... kind of like the surfers...) (what?) But, that's not all folks... if you order now, you can also get this free senior form term paper! Just add the author's name and book title! Not like it's any big deal or anything, but do you really think any

normal senior is going to do a term paper in the last six weeks of the school year? I don't think so... But, then again, that might be why twenty or so of us won't be graduating this year... (but then again, maybe its just me...) Yet, finally, I'll be away from the "whatever crawled across the floor this morning" lunch around here... only to go to... Mystery Meat! "What crawled across the college parking lot and got run over by a truckload of surfers headed for Daytona!" Yet, as tragic as this may seem, don't try this at home, folks! Yes, these are professional math teachers performing these extraordinary feats! See them add, multiply, even do LONG division! They can do $3 + 2 = 12 - 7$ and get ZERO! Great fun for the whole family! Just mosey on down to Lakewood High! Ah, yes.. beloved (ack, choke, gag) Lakewood, home of the CAT program! Where else can you learn advanced computer engineering on a TRaSh - 80 CoCo III? "Gosh, Mr. Teacher, I can seem to get my 8" disk drive to work..." - "Hey kids, come learn advanced sciences in this great new port-o-let, er, room, er, win, er, building... yea, building we just developed! (It'll be done any day now, honest!)" But that's not the least of it... Now, in case of an emergency, we have some new EXIT signs that turn from green to red (ooo, ahhh), which have conveniently been installed next to our new, non-working fire alarm system! Ah, but then again, it could just be me... or, maybe this is all somebody's dream... then we're all someone imagination... any maybe they're just ANOTHER persons dream... whose anothers... and... STOP! AHHH! Infinite infinity which nears infinity results in an asymptote to infinity in the y performed to the $f(x)$ reacts with zinc superoxide over gravity added to the Shakespearean sonnet equals my high school memory. What???

If you have a complaint, please feel free to write it in this box but remember to use correct postage and a valid address when mailing it to us.

Summer Sports:

(kiing) S (kimboarding)
(urfing) S (kateboarding)
(ailing) S (wimming)



by John Firmani

— Photojournalist —

The heat and afternoon rains have arrived early this year even if graduation hasn't. But with the warm weather and sunshine abundant, the onslaught of Summertime sports has arrived. Among the most popular are water sports, including swimming, skiing, and simply lounging around the beach.

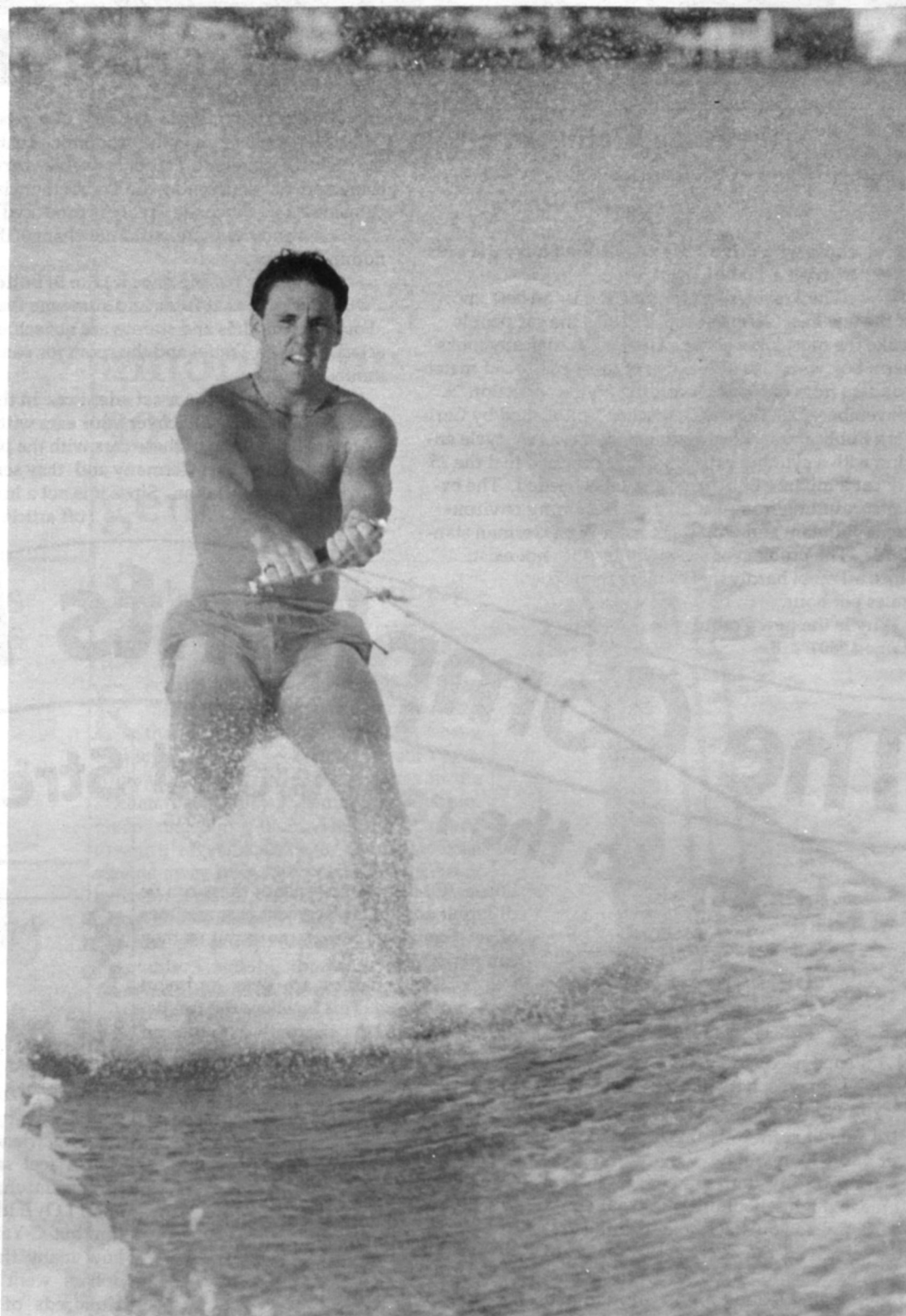
Swimwear makers and retailers have started their major sales. Sales of sports equipment has increased, ranging from paddleball sets to jet skis to bicycles. "Cycling during the summer is my favorite activity. It passes the time and keeps me in shape," said John Rivera, junior. Keeping in shape over the summer seems to be a major concern for students of all ages.

Sports equipment that offers exercise as well as fun seems to be the major sellers, according to Laura Steinberg, Assistant manager of Suncoast Surf Shop on Treasure Island. "We've been selling a lot of skateboards. Some skimboards, and some boogieboards, but the main seller has been skateboards. Women's bikinis and mens baggies have been our largest selling bathing suits."

Living out on the beach or by a dock has its definite advantages according to Kris Bowen, who is shown on the front cover with his Kawasaki Jet Ski. "Me and my friends will be goin' off my dock all summer on our (jet) skis, and hydroskiing off the boat."

Water sports aren't the only big sellers for the season. Free time from school, summer jobs, and family vacations yield time for less hectic sports. "I work at Tropicana (lanes of St. Petersburg) so I'll be working more and probably bowling more, too," said Mark Smith, junior. Typical Florida afternoon rain or blaring heat may ruin some plans for outdoor daytime sports such as basketball or football. "I like playing hoops at a friends house, but at noon the sun is too hot and in the afternoon it always rains," complained Leon Tucker, sophomore.

Whatever the sport or activity, students will always find time to keep themselves occupied during the summer.



Photos by John Firmani



Top: One of the hardest water sports may be barefoot waterskiing. Donny Garrison shows his agility with a splash of water following him up.

Left: Late in the afternoon, Rhett Janssen swims back to his boat in front of a brilliant sunset near his home on St. Petersburg Beach. After losing his grip on the tow rope, the boat will circle around to pick him up.

Center Right: Some of the best moments in hydroskiing come from jumping the tow boat's wake. Here Kris Bowen makes a splash a few feet in the air after launching from the wake.

LETTERS TO
THE EDITOR

Florida gambles for education

Lottery doesn't keep original promises to enhance educational funding

Dear Editor,

I've observed many shortcomings in the maintenance of school over my last two years. Such problems only decrease school spirit and pride. An example of this would be the lack of landscaping around our school. Another such problem is the constant grotesque state of our restrooms. These are not difficult to correct, but require a little elbow grease and the sight of a higher cause. It is these simple problems that bring our school pride down, because no one is proud of a school that does not have enough pride in itself to look presentable.

Amanda C. Atkinson
Sophomore

Dear Editor,

I am greatly disturbed by the selection of classes we have to choose from for next year. Many honors level students suffer because higher classes are dropped to accommodate lower level classes. Biology II Honors is not being offered, yet classes such as jewelry making are. Nothing is wrong with creative courses such as these, but shouldn't academically motivated students have priority? The basic reason for Biology II Honors being cancelled is that not enough students assigned up for a full class of twenty-five to thirty students. However these students seeking a challenging science course should be able to have a small class of fifteen. There are plenty of other "easy A" classes for the less academic student.

Monica McCausland
Junior

Dear Editor,

The school board has just taken one big step in the right direction. Girls can finally wear shorts, culottes that is. At the same time the school board ruled a few years ago that could wear tank tops, but guys couldn't, because guys have body hair under their arms. I feel it is wrong to allow girls to wear shorts and deny guys the right to wear them.

Julie Shook
Junior

"Florida, you can not solve your problems by sin; get right with God or else," stated a sign worn by Elder Oliver Gordon, Tyler Temple United Methodist Church, on the Florida state lottery's opening day, January 12, 1988. At the time, such antics weren't common, but perhaps they were a foretelling. The lottery has broken its promises to education.

The Florida state lottery with its glory-filled start had a positive purpose. Upgrading education is an area that people could easily support. Promises were made to enhance educational financing, but where are the results?

"Lottery funding is being used to replace the (educational) funding," said Fred Matz, Pinellas School Board Budget Director, "This happened in both Michigan and Illinois after they received their state lotteries."

In most parts of the state balloons flew, champagne bottles broke, and corks popped and wished the Florida state lottery on its merry way.

"The lottery gives people a false illusion of wealth resulting in moral deterioration," said Aimee Beard, sophomore.

On opening day, a man in Hudson purchased eleven hundred tickets. People spent their welfare checks. All over the state reactions were strong to the education supporting lottery.

"All the funds are supposed to be go-

ing toward education, but I haven't seen any of it," said Erika Yin, senior.

There is a general lottery fund administered by the legislature. In April when the Florida congress meets the funds received are divided. "50% goes back to the players (in the form of prizes), 37.5% goes to the Education Enhancement Trust fund (that is appropriated at a later date), 7.5% is administration cost, 5% retailers commission and 1% (of that 5%) of that goes to is used by retailers to cash winning tickets of \$5.99 or less," according to Scott Vandamen, Lottery Information Specialist.

Pinellas County received \$28,402,119 in the 1989-1990 school year. Since the

The lottery funds are being used to supplement what is already being taken away.

New lottery funds are simply superceding the old. No progress is being made to better the financial situation if the funds are simply being altered in favor of education.

Florida ranks third in the country for lottery sales, but a high second in public relations spending and advertising budget. 1.9% of total sales is said to be spent on advertising. In the past year that meant \$29 million dollars.

Due to the punctual start of the lottery, the lottery's secretary, Rebecca Paul, received a ten thousand dollar a year bonus.

This only in addition to her \$102,000 a year salary. There was much that could have been done with this money. Perhaps it could have gone into the Education Enhancement Fund.

On opening day Governor Bob Martinez told the press that he doesn't gamble and probably wouldn't buy

any tickets. Today, Bob Martinez supports a ten million dollar a year increase in the advertising budget next year.

"At first the lottery was publicized to enhance Florida's education, nowthere's an ill feeling among the public as the monies other places," said Julie Oescher, senior.

Much is negatively said in this state about the quality of education. Drop-out rates, failures, and low over all test scores are soaring creating an atmosphere that asks for assistance. The lottery offered, but the manner in which they helped was unproductive.

If Florida insists on having a state lottery it should legislatively mandate where the lottery generated funds go. Laws should be created regulating the percent of funding that goes Education Enhancement Trust.



Graphic by Jennifer Fentress

"Lottery funding is being used to replace the (education) funding. This happened in both Michigan and Illinois after they received their state lotteries."

-Fred Matz, Pinellas School Board Budget Director

CENTURION

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The CENTURION, Lakewood High School's Newspaper, will be published six times in the 1989-90 school year by the journalism program at 1400 54th Ave South, St. Petersburg, FL, 33705.

The CENTURION staff recognizes itself as an open forum and invites a free exchange of ideas from students, school personnel, and community. Obligations to our reader will be upheld. A factual, informative, and entertaining newspaper will be provided. First Amendment rights will be practiced.

Advertising that advertises illegal products under the laws of Florida, opposes any religion, or is of any sensitive nature will not be accepted.

Question or Comments?
Call (813) 864 - 3613 or
(813) 867 - 3161 Ext 259

It's all in the hands of a

Palm Reader

One hot, Florida day I decided to venture into the world of psychic powers. I got my palm read, my future predicted all in one afternoon...

 by Kristin Klinkenberg
— Editor in Chief —

I stepped out of my car into the humid afternoon. I looked at the plain sign bearing the name, "Madame Chatka- Palm Reader." I looked around the parking lot. It appeared there were no other customers, just a few children gathered around a swing in the corner of the yard. It looked innocent enough, so I ventured towards the front porch. Apprehension arose in my mind. When I envision someone who reads your future I think of the *Wizard of Oz*, when Dorothy contemplates running away with the psychic. I looked around to see if maybe a tornado was approaching and wondered if there would be candles lit everywhere and beaded drapery hanging from the ceiling to the floor.

But as I entered the house here, I was greeted by the radio and there was a young woman sitting on the couch. The decor was extremely modern. The furniture was expensive, the tables were glass and the lamps had large, unusual shades. The woman looked up at me with questioning eyes.

"I'm looking for Madame Chatka," I said. She asked if this were my first time (which it was) and disappeared. When she returned she said the "sister" would be with me in a moment. I sat down nervously on the couch.

In about 3 minutes, she came out. Dressed in a straight black dress with a black bandana over her head, bangle-bracelets adorning her entire arm, Madame Chatka reminded me of a gypsy.

She extended her hand. I got up, took her hand and she led me into another room. This too was modernly decorated and we plopped down on the couch, I farthest from the door. She stared at me for a while and finally asked my name. I told her, and again she took my hand.

In a very thick Spanish accent she said, "I have 3 specials. The first is twenty dolla and I read your palm, Kristin, and give you advice, Kristin, and you ask me five questions. The second is fifteen dolla and I read your palm, give you some advice and I'll answer three questions. My third price is ten dolla. I read your palm and answer two questions. Do you understand, Kristin?" Yes, I understood her very clearly. I told her I'd go with the twenty dollar "special" because I wanted to be sure I wouldn't miss out on anything. She was very pleased with my choice. First she instructed me to make a wish.

"Throughout the session I will pray for you so your wish will come true. It may not come true right away, Kristin, but I will help you."

Next she asked for my hand. I gave her my hand and she began to trace the lines across my palm.

"Kristin, I will be very honest with you. Sister Gina (her other name- if you look her

up in the phone book she is listed as both) does not lie. She tell all- good or bad. Kristin, I see a long life ahead of you with some trials but mostly happiness." Now I admit I was getting a little caught up in this.

"You will have a boyfriend very soon. He will be someone new. You will meet him somewhere very unexpectedly."

Now this was really getting interesting. Next I asked her what she saw in the way of my health.

"Well, Kristin, you are a very healthy girl, no? You will continue to be if you believe in yourself. Everyone's health is controlled by themselves and God. You believe in God, Kristin?"

I nodded my head. "Kristin, I tell you. Someone has hurt you very bad. They've made it hard for you to believe in yourself. Someone has stood in your way. You need to be forceful, move ahead. You understand, Kristin? You understand?" Boy, did I ever understand. I think I started to get that glazed look over my eyes from listening to all this.

Next, I was to think of three questions. I wanted to ask about a successful career, better luck with males and lots of money.

First I asked her what kind of career I'd be doing. "You want to be successful in your career, no?" I nodded. "You work for a doctor of some sort right now, don't you?" I'm sure my mouth dropped open about twenty feet because it's true, I *do* work for a doctor.

"Well, you won't be doing that all your life. You're going to be using your mind more creatively. People are going to know who you are, no?"

I suppose she is right because I want to go into something involving broadcasting/journalism. So I nodded at her.

"See, Sister Gina can see things. She knows, no? Kristin, I believe we've already talked about your second question. Yes, there will be a very special boy for you soon."

Again, I was very surprised she knew what my second question was. I wonder how many teenage girls she talks to that all wish for the same thing.

Then I asked her my third question, the inevitable, "Will I be rich?" Someone was cooking in the kitchen. A cross between onions and garlic floated throughout the house.

"Kristin, I said you'd be successful, right? You may not be rich but you'll have an enriching career," said Madame Chatka. My high opinion of this whole meeting was slowly decreasing.

"But Kristin, let's get back to something more important. I know you'd like to know more about who your next boyfriend is, no?" Well, yes, of course I do.

"Well the only way I can tell you is if we burn candles. We burn nine candles to solve all your problems, no? It is ten dolla per candle." I didn't have ninety "dollars" to find out who would be courting me in the near future.

"I'm sorry. I don't have ninety dollars," I said.

"We have to burn one at least. Come on, you buy one candle and I tell you everything."

I didn't want to spend any more money. "I really can't, Madame Chatka," I said.

Madame Chatka took my hand again. "Kristin, if you buy candle then things come true and

maybe you come back and buy me something for my house or some more bandanas like this one." She pointed to the one used as a turban on her head. Now I knew why she had such nice things in her house. Of course that would mean she's a pretty good psychic.

I had to tell her no, I couldn't buy any candles.

She looked really disappointed. I ad-

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-Madame Chatka

mit I almost changed my mind.

"Well, Kristin, you come back next week and buy candle. Let Sister Gina make things come true for you. You come back, no?"

Perhaps I would come back some day to light the candles. I looked at this woman in front of me. I asked her how

she became a palm reader. How does she read the future?

"Well, Kristin, I was born with an invisible veil over my face. I can see things because of this veil. It's a special gift," she said.

I got up to leave. I extended my hand, and said thank you.

"Kristin, don't forget to come back next week for your candle. Don't forget, ok?"

I just looked at her. Then something in the corner of the room caught my eye. It was the strangest thing. I saw a loaf of bread with a hole in it with wax dripping down the sides. I asked her what it was.

"It's a spiritual bread for burning candles. It's tradition," she said.

As I started to leave my mind wondered and was filled with new prospects. I dreamt of a new boyfriend, and a successful career. Suddenly, my visions of the great psychic and my predictions of my future was smashed when she rushed after me, pulled me from my dream world and asked, "Kristin, you run my daughter to laundromat, no? Only two minutes away, Kristin?"

