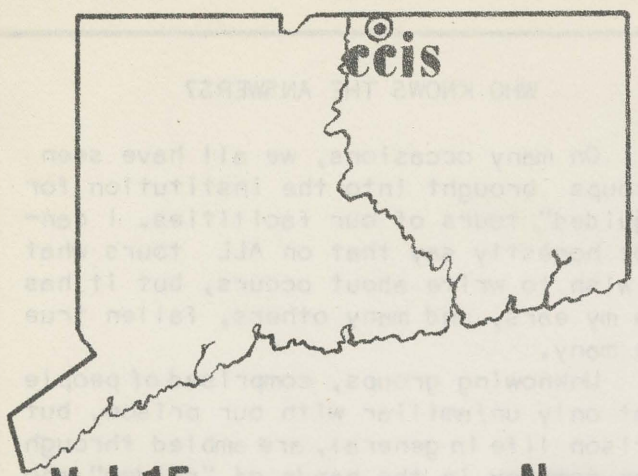


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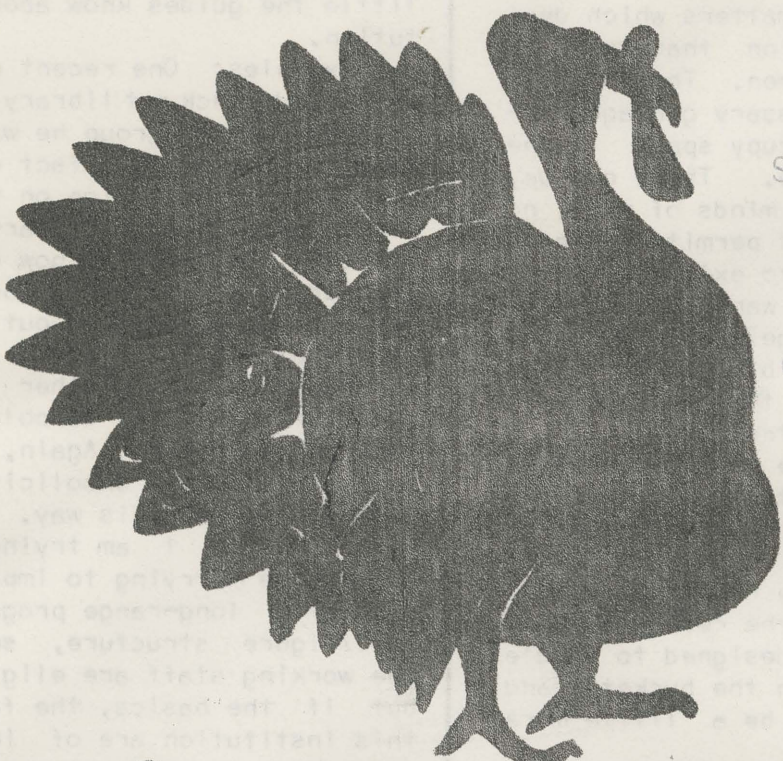
THE WEEKLY SCENE

Somers, Conn.
MEMBER OF THE PENAL PRESS ASSOC.

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No. 47



CONNECTICUT
STATE LIBRARY

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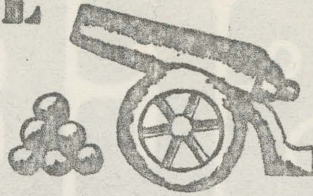
HARTFORD,
CONNECTICUT

thanksgiving

1970



EDITORIAL SHOTS



A HEALTH QUESTION—PLUS ONE!

There exists, at this time, a great many problems that face all of us serving time here at CCI, some of which will not be solved overnight. However, there are a few that can be handled quickly and efficiently. I would like to bring just a few of these to light now, so that an adjustment can be made.

Two of these are matters which deal with points of sanitation that touch on the health of all the men. The first is the unsightly, unnecessary garbage barrels that presently occupy space in the Mess Halls at meal time. There can be, to my mind and the minds of many, no justifiable reason for permitting these odorous receptacles to exist in their present locales. Who wants to have to sit and eat near garbage? Who likes to have to face the possibility of having what few clean clothes they wear splattered by a badly aimed tray?

Moral wise, they are unsightly; health wise, they are unsanitary; and there is no reason to have to wait for a man to slip on the splattered floor and injure himself before they are removed. Unless I am sadly mistaken, the refuse area of the inner kitchen was designed to handle this problem. Banish the buckets, and allow our mealtimes to be a little more pleasant.

Second on the health front, when are steps going to be taken to alleviate the present state of the ceilings over the table? When some of the curling, toxic peels of paint fall into a man's food?

True, the point might be taken that it hasn't happened yet! Preventive medicine was not designed to cure a patient after he got sick...but before! Yes, it might require a little extra work on the part of someone and a little time...but we are bulging the walls presently with the available someones and in prison, one commodity that is in surplus is TIME!

Problems with corrective solutions, anyone?

WHO KNOWS THE ANSWERS?

On many occasions, we all have seen groups brought into the institution for "guided" tours of our facilities. I cannot honestly say that on ALL tours what I wish to write about occurs, but it has to my ears, and many others, fallen true on many.

Unknowing groups, comprised of people not only unfamiliar with our prison, but prison life in general, are ambled through our complex in the hands of "guides" who sadly fall far short of being knowledgeable. It has, on occasion, been almost humorous, at least to me, to see just how little the guides know about this institution.

Examples: One recent guide knew the men could check out library books...after a member of the group he was guiding was able to point this fact out because he saw the check-out sign on the desk; and even then, it was a near-by inmate who filled in the group on how often men were allowed to visit the library, how many books could be checked out and for what length of time!

Number two: Another guide was not even sure what the School Audio Visual room was used for! Again, an inmate was happy to offer an unsolicited interpretation, then went his way.

The point I am trying to bring out is, if one is trying to impress the visitors with long-range program data and a fact/figure structure, some members of the working staff are eligible as guides, but if the basics, the fundamentals of this institution are of interest to the visitors, then don't ask a Californian to guide you through Virginia! In some plainer words, ask those who live here, who work here, whose entire 24 hour day is encompassed by this institution to relay information.

That is, attach inmates to these groups as guides. The outsiders might get a more knowledgeable picture, and I have met people who ARE interested in an inmates point of view!



Letter to the editor

Dear Editor:

I can't criticize the movies as a whole. As a rule, they're pretty good. I know, that with the number of men in this institution, you can't please everybody at once.

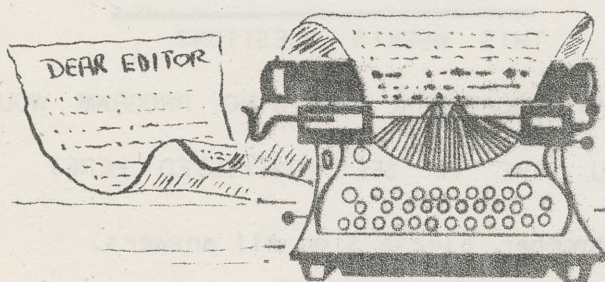
I saw the movie "A Walk In The Spring Rain" this past Saturday night. If it had been possible I would have left after the first half-hour. From the conversations that I heard going on around me, I think that most of the other inmates would have left also. The guards couldn't leave, they were getting paid not to. At the end of the movie almost no one was watching the screen...until the very end when a girl in a mini-skirt walked in front of the camera.

In a place like this, a movie can please a portion of the inmate population. Thus, a comedy will only be liked by the men who like comedies, a western only liked by western fans, etc..

I would like to know which portion of the inmate population a "melodrama of middle-age love that will appeal to women patrons particularly" is supposed to appeal to?

This was not the worst movie I have ever seen, but it was, by far, the dull-est. I hope that the person who chooses which movies that we are to see will read this and, in the future, be a bit more careful.

Respectfully yours,
Arthur J. Davleau



PROBLEMS OF THE SPANISH INMATE IN PRISON

One of the biggest problems I find is that most of them do not understand the English language and cannot communicate with the administration the way they will like to, if they have a problem to discuss there is no one of their own language they can bring it to so they can get the help that they are seeking. We feel that there should be a classification officer that will speak the Spanish language that they could bring their problems to because we must admit that we all have problems and there comes a time when we need someone to talk to about them. For instance, when one of the Spanish fellows gets a misconduct report and cannot speak English, how can he defend himself before the people when they take him to court? There is also a lack of officers who speak the Spanish language. There should be a steady man working in the mailroom so we can get our mail on time. At the present time there is only one who comes in three times a week to check the outgoing and incoming mail of a population of about 100 Spanish inmates here in the main prison alone, so what happens? we get our mail very late. We also find it very hard for the inmates that attend day school to try to at least learn to read and write the English language where all the teachers only speak English and all the books and other things that they give them are in English, so they can't read them.

Why can't they come up with someone that will speak both languages, and then possibly the fellows that attend school can learn much easier.

By: Ismael Nieves, Jr.



THE INMATE SPEAKS

THE QUESTION: IF YOU HAD THE AUTHORITY, WHAT ONE RULE CHANGE WOULD YOU MAKE?

W. Street: Inmates should be allowed to write 5 uncensored letters to whom they wish, since they purchase their own paper, and this would end the rigamarole of a man having to submit a special mailing list, with all the additions and subtractions necessary.

T.J. HART: The rule I would most like to see changed is the one requiring inmates to send a Request Form to any member of the staff he wishes to see. I am aware of the official position that the Form cuts down on the amount of time staff members have to spend on frivolous matters, however I am also aware it is used as a barricade to avoid problems that they do not have answers for.

Do away with the Request Form and force members of the staff to start coming up with some straight answers.

J. CONTE: What rules? We have been trying to get standardized rules here for a long time...and we're still waiting!

If I had the authority, the one rule I would change is the rule that allows people to make up rulings off the top of their heads, on the spur of the moment.

A. MURPHY: I would eliminate the Request as a useless piece of paper. First there is often insufficient room to list the entire problem; second, it takes so long to receive an answer, if any.

When a problem arises suddenly, a man may need to see the Warden, Asst. Warden, counselor, etc., immediately. I would even recommend a day or two allotted as "Request Days" where the men would line up and get answers to their requests, problems, etc., face to face with the man they want to see.

J. WILLIAMS: The rule change I would make would be to have Tuesday and Thursday recreation extended until 9 o'clock and initiate use of the Mess Hall as a card playing area. I feel the larger area in fact would alleviate the heat and smoke problem and I'm sure the men would see to it that the area were maintained in a neat and clean manner.

BRAD: Rules? If I had the authority to change a rule, I wouldn't know where to start, since I don't see anything that resembles a 'set of rules.' What I would do is institute a standard set of rules to be followed by ALL shifts!

F.D.S.: I would initiate a rule change that would allow men presently given misconduct reports freedom of movement until the day they face the Disciplinary Board. I would have to exclude those on report actually so-called 'caught in the act,' such as a public fight, etc..

This way a man who is acquitted on a report would not lose work time, recreation, money, and so on.

J. LEY: Last week's question of the week can't be answered because there are no rules here. Mr. MacDougall promised us a 'set of rules,' "in the near future," just after he was appointed Corrections Commissioner in July, 1968. It has been over two years and we are still waiting for a rule book. As things stand now we do what we want to do until someone stops us. Then what one guard will give you a report for, another won't. How are we to know what to do under the present system?

E. McNALLY: If I had the authority, I'd change the 9 p.m. recall to 11 p.m.. In view of the fact the shift does not change until midnight, there should be no problem.

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION?

WHAT VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE INSTITUTED HERE?

*Remember, please sign all answers.

NOW...HEAR...THIS!

NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE NOTICE

SALE AND MAILING OF CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas cards will be sold to inmates at the Commissary beginning the week of November 23rd. through the 27th., 1970, excluding Thanksgiving.

THERE WILL BE NO OTHER COMMISSARY SALES DURING THAT WEEK.

Inmates in segregated areas, who are unable to reach the commissary, will be contacted by the Commissary Store Supervisor during the beginning of the week of Nov. 23rd.

CREDIT WILL NOT BE EXTENDED UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.

A postage charge of \$.06 will be included in the total cost of a card, which will be sold on an individual basis, or by the box; each type of card to be designated by an identifying number and total cost to facilitate ordering.

INMATES MAY PURCHASE CARDS TO SEND TO PERSONS ON THEIR APPROVED LISTS AND TO OTHER IMMEDIATE FAMILY AND CLOSE FRIENDS.

NOTE: ALL CARDS WILL BE MAILED UNSEALED AS THIRD CLASS MAIL, POSTAL REGULATIONS REQUIRE THAT SUCH MAIL NOT BE SEALED AND CANNOT HAVE ANY WRITTEN INSCRIPTION EXCEPT THE SENDER'S SIGNATURE AND POSSIBLE, AT THE MOST A CHRISTMAS SEASON SALUATION PHRASE SUCH AS "MERRY CHRISTMAS" OR "SEASON'S GREETINGS". ANY CARDS BEARING WRITTEN INSCRIPTIONS BY THE INMATE OF A PERSONAL NATURE, OUTSIDE OF THE AFOREMENTIONED SIGNATURE AND SEASON'S GREETINGS, CANNOT AND WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO BE MAILED.

For example, inscriptions such as "Hi Jane," or "Hello Joe," "Write Soon," ect., cannot be mailed third class postage, and will be rejected for mailing.

NO CHRISTMAS CARDS WILL BE MAILED FIRST CLASS POSTAGE.

Inmates MUST also write their name and number on the INSIDE of the envelope flap. Cards received in the Mail Room without this identification will not be approved for mailing. LEAVE ENVELOPE FLAP OUT.

Christmas cards will be accepted for mailing from Nov. 30, up to and including Friday, December 11, 1970.

In order to avoid any unnecessary expense on the part of some inmates and reduce the volume of mail to be processed, please do not send any cards to prison employees either through U.S. or institution mail.

LETTERS

Correspondence privileges - Shall remain as they are.

VISITS

Visiting privileges - Shall remain as they are. There will not be visiting privileges on Friday, Dec. 25, & Friday, Jan. 1, 1971.

BY DIRECTION OF THE WARDEN

MANDATORY MINIMUM RELEASE

A while ago I first heard the term "mandatory minimum release." It set me off looking into the pro's and con's of it. What it means.

The term means, in effect, automatic parole at the expiration of the minimum sentence, without having to appear before the Board of Parole. Or being paroled the "first time up" without being entwined in the court-like proceedings of the Board of Parole.

On the "pro" side of the coin; a man is found, or has plead guilty before the court. By state law, a person must have a mandatory pre-sentence investigation. The aim of this law is to give the court a composite "picture" of the convicted person, his crime, and any facts that will aid the judge in determining the sentence to be meted out. The judge then considers all the facts and sets a maximum and minimum sentence. Based on this, the judge sets what he feels will serve Justice and contribute to the rehabilitation of the convicted person.

Under the present system, all this time, effort, and concern of the court is disregarded! A man/woman must appear before the Board of Parole and face it's court-like proceedings, go through undue duress and live with the fact that a misinterpreted word or look may deny him or her their freedom! Under this present system the qualified opinion of the representatives of the people of Conn. has no meaning!!

On the "con" side of the coin; Correction Officials can rightly say that a man who is "earning the privilege of parole" will not be disregarding the rules and regulations of the institution. That a man with a short minimum, knowing he will be released on parole, automatically, will do as he pleases concerning the rules and regulations. That the institution cannot function and be conducive to anyone's rehabilitation when a serious, consistent behavior problem is present. And they are right! Let's at least admit that much. So we must seek a remedy to change that hypothetical set of circumstances.

At the time of the expiration of the minimum sentence, the persons institutional case history is brought before a classification committee. If it is determined that the person has been an institutional behavior problem, not worthy of the right to parole, then the committee would submit it's findings to the Commissioner of Corrections, who in turn, would petition the Supreme Court of the state to suspend the Mandatory Minimum Release ruling. A hearing would be held by the court as to a decision concerning minimum release. The convicted person is represented, and the Dept. of Corrections, as to present both sides of the argument. This could be set up as a final, binding decision, concerning only minimum release.

I know I haven't covered the ground 100%. I'm not schooled in legalities. But I know that under the present system a lot of ground is trampled on twice. Why? A lot of duress is unnecessarily created. Why? To what purpose does it serve?

Serving time beats a man down, especially when he doesn't know when he's going to be free again.

I feel that mandatory minimum release is a good, workable concept, aimed at creating an attitude and environment of rehabilitation. How do we get these ideas beyond the Weekly Scene or Bridge? How do we reach the people who can effect such a concept? If you agree with mandatory minimum release, and are someone in a position who can reach the ones who count, then do it!!

By: M.C. Hyde

THE READERS WRITE *





SAT.
Barbra Streisand

Direct from its spectacular run on Broadway

**Fanny
Brice!**

THIS TOP RATED BROADWAY MUSICAL IS BASED ON THE LIFE AND CAREER OF ZIEGFELD FOLLIES OWN COMEDY STAR FANNY BRICE, HER AMBITIONS AND HER BROKEN LOVE LIFE.

155 MINUTES

MUSICAL

RATED "G"

THE SIGHT OF FAT ORSON WELLES MINCING AROUND THE JUNGLE BUSH LIKE A DRESSED TARZAN WHO HAS JUNGLE ROT MAKES PART OF THIS MOVIE A DIVERTING, IF PREDICTABLE AS A COMEDY CAN BE.

URSULA ANDRESS (WOW) IS A MILLIONAIRESS ON SAFARI AND GEORGE SEGAL IS A GUIDE WITH SUCH THRILLING LINES TO HIS ROLE AS "FOLLOW THAT OSTRICH!" (THAT'S WHAT IT SAYS).

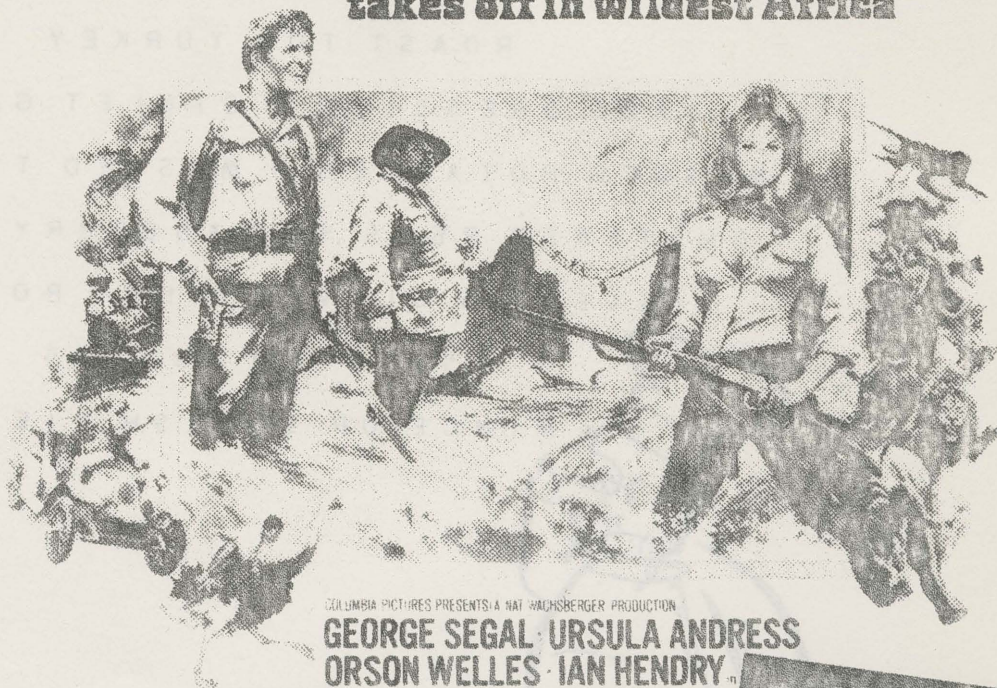
ADD TO THE PLOT ONE BIG STOLEN DIAMOND, A CHASE THROUGH THE VELD AND A FINAL CONFRONTATION.

IT SOUNDS CRAZY, BUT IT IS BILLED AS A COMEDY-ADVENTURE.

104 MINUTES RATED "M"

THE SAFARI TO END ALL SAFARIS

Remember how "Cat Ballou" took the wild west for a ride?... now "The Southern Star" takes off in wildest Africa



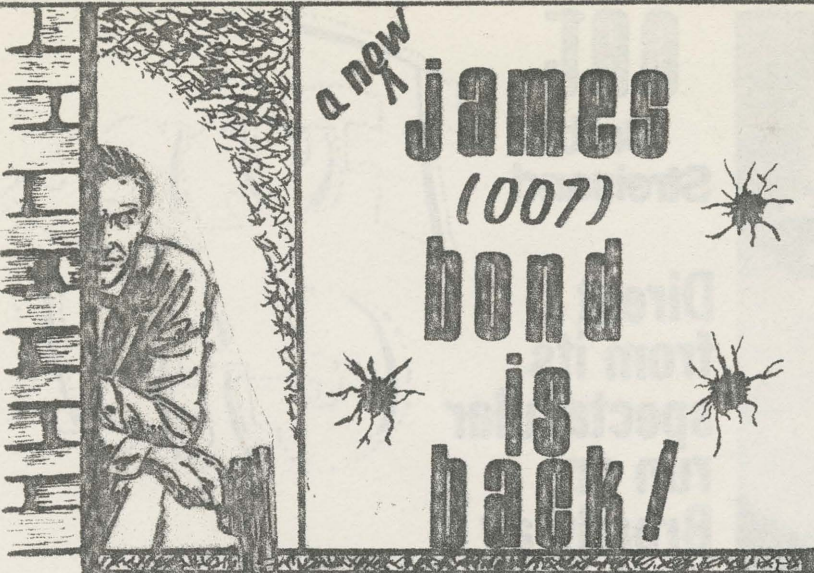
COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS A NAT WACHSBERGER PRODUCTION
GEORGE SEGAL · URSULA ANDRESS
ORSON WELLES · IAN HENDRY

with **JOHNNY SEKKA** and **HARRY ANDREWS**
Music by GEORGE HARVARENTZ Screenplay by DAVID PORSALL and JACK SEDDON
Based on a novel by JULES VERNE Produced by ROGER DUCHET Directed by SIDNEY HAYES
Color by TECHNICOLOR® TECHNISCOPÉ™
Hear Matt Monro sing the title song on the
Topic single and Chappin Soundtrack LP



Jules Verne's diamond-hunt adventure... filmed on location in Senegal!

SUN.



THANKSGIVING

On Her Majesty's Secret Service Action-Drama
Rel. Dec. '69
 United Artists (6926) 142 Minutes

Here's good news for exhibitors. James Bond has returned after an absence of two years. Filmdom's most popular secret agent, 007, is back in an action-packed adventure that reaches many peaks of excitement. Once again Albert R. Broccoli and Harry Saltzman are the producers of this, their sixth film based on the famous Ian Fleming creation. This time, however, there is a new actor portraying the James Bond role. Handsome Australian George Lazenby, who makes his film debut here, is quite effective and manages to humanize Bond more than his predecessor did. Diana Rigg, star of TV's "The Avengers," also makes her debut and accomplishes what no previous James Bond heroine could ever do: get him to the altar. Camera work by Michael Reed in Panavision and Technicolor is excellent. Actual locales in Switzerland and Portugal further enhance the film. The direction of Peter Hunt and screenplay by Richard Maibaum concentrate on action, making one unaware of the long running time. Oscar winner John Barry has provided his usual effective Bond music. The sequences with the bobsleds, stock cars, skiing and cable car provide breathtaking suspense. This film should prove to be exceptionally popular at the boxoffice. The ending of the film will surprise most viewers and provoke discussion.

George Lazenby, Diana Rigg, Telly Savalas, Gabriele Ferzetti, Ilse Steppat, Bernard Lee.

BREAKFAST

THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

- TOMATO JUICE
- SAUSAGE & SCRAMBLED EGGS
- TOAST & COLD CEREAL

DINNER

- ROAST TOM TURKEY
- SAGE DRESSING * GIBLET GRAVY
- MASHED POTATOES * MASHED TURNIPS
- BUTTERED PEAS * CRANBERRY SAUCE
- CELERY & OLIVES * HOT ROLLS
- ASSORTED FRUITS
- MINCE OR SQUASH PIE



SUPPER

- TURKEY SOUP
- ASSORTED COLD CUTS W/CHEESE
- POTATO SALAD
- MINCE OR SQUASH PIE

UNDERSTANDING

Man's mind is easily fatigued and his imagination is strained by even a brief glimpse into the possibilities of the life of the soul. When man assumes that because he does not understand a thing it does not exist, he is denying himself the avenue for creative knowledge; knowledge both of the life of the world and of the life beyond this earthly existence.

Men of science have decried the "foolishness" of faith, when there is so much that has been already demonstrated beyond any question of doubt. For this reason some would throw out everything that has not been proved demonstratable. Here is where the danger to the average man lies, he is inclined to take the attitude of the young worker in any scientific line.

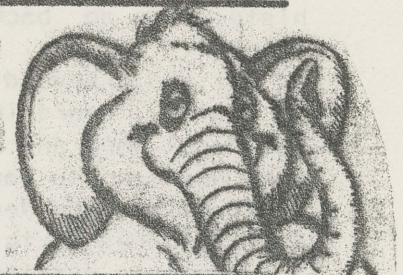
Because he finds so many proven facts lying within his grasp, he fails to take a broader look at the whole horizon of possible knowledge and realize that he is working only with an almost infinitesimal section of the substance of the universe. The whole realm of the unseen forces and invisible substances is left out of his sphere of consideration, as well as the vast scope of the "undiscovered" even in his own field. It is this small concept of how much there is to "understand" that gives the scientific beginner his cocksure disregard of any thing that has not yet been fully demonstrated. It is alright to require proof, but should not this include the acceptance for proof, of the fact that there are multitudinous realities about which we know nothing.

No one has been able to isolate and examine many important areas of truth through the 5 senses, through the weighing and measuring, the seeing and smelling, the testing so familiar to the scientific worker. This does not prove their non-existence or the impossibility of their discovery and analysis by other methods worked out by the science of tomorrow. The sooner the chronic disbeliever gets these basic facts into his head, the sooner will he be ready for further expansion of the possibilities for life.

We must take as our first step on the Road to Understanding acceptance of the fact that we do not, cannot, and probably never will understand everything about this mighty universe in which we are privileged to exist and have a part. But we are expected to be willing to keep an open mind, so that we do not place blocks in the way of our own progressive thinking. Since the Kingdom of God lies within us we must leave a clear channel through which it can manifest.

By: Ray Frazier

"SPACE DOES NOT
PERMIT A BIGGER
ELEPHANT"



WHY DO WE GO TO CHURCH ON SUNDAYS?

More and more people are going to church these days for fun and games instead of for what church is all about.

I would like to know if some of these phonies that show up in church on Sunday's really know why they go there. Church is suppose to be a sacred place of worshipping the creator of Heavens and Earth. There are a few individuals that show up on Sunday's just to carry on a conversation with their friends. I hope these people realize that they are disrespectful to the rest of the people that goes to church for a better understanding of their faith and why they are a part of this world.

If you have no respect for Religion, and no faith, why not stay in your cell on Sunday mornings and give the rest of us a chance at life? These phonies know who they are and how disrespectful they can be to others who care. Church is not a place for fun and games so if you are not interested stay away and let those that are interested enjoy the spiritual uplift that they can receive through the church. So do yourself and the rest of us a favor and the Lord will bless you for it.

By: Michael S. Barrett

The Black In History

BLACK CONSCIOUSNESS

Today, everyone is talking about the roles Blacks played in history, and every year Blacks celebrate a Negro History Week. Celebrating Black History under the title Negro History, eliminates the majority roles that were played by the Black man, because Black History - when referred to as Black - goes back as far as history itself. However, when his history is sought out and written under the term Negro, his history can go back only as far as the Negro.

If you go beyond the shores of America in history, searching for the history of the Black man, and are looking under the term Negro, you cannot find him. Negro History, and the Negro, goes only as far as the shores of this nation. Whenever you see one outside America and calling themselves Negro, they are letting the world know that they are a product of Western Civilization, since the Europeans gave us the title of Negro during slavery.

When we discuss Negro History, we speak of us being cotton pickers, orange growers, and victims of the rapes and lynchings. This is the role we played under the title Negro, and this is the role being celebrated when you celebrate the past of the Negro.

However, if you want to take some time and do research, we, as Black people, have a world-wide history. Before we begin to dig into the roots of that history, let's back up far enough to find out just who we really are.

If we go back a little over 6,000 years ago, which is just before the planet was cut into different parts, all land on earth was called Asia. Now, since people are named after the land from which they come, what name should we, as Black people take? Our foreparents were called Asiatic Blacks - from the land of Asia - but this was before we were stripped of the knowledge of self, this was before a Roman Emperor by the name of Leo Africano discovered South Asia and placed his name on it ... AFRICA!

Since we are from our foreparents, we must believe that we are Asiatic Blacks.

By: Bro. King X



LAUREL & HARDY SHOW TIME



ATTENTION ALL COMEDY MOVIE FANS

The last time Mr. Hal Stanton, the host of WWLP-T.V.'s the Wonderful World of Laurel and Hardy was here, he mentioned that he was glad to hear that we had started a Laurel and Hardy fan club, and at that time he appointed me president of that club.

Well, as it turned out we had mentioned to him that we had planned to start a club. At that time it had not become a reality and was being considered.

Since that last movie showing I have discussed the idea with Mr. Tom Healy, a teacher here in our school. He is the man that had a great hand in our seeing the movies we now have. Mr. Healy told me that he thought it was a good idea and that he would do what ever he could to get this program rolling for us.

So now, what remains to be done, is for men that are interested in being a part of the Comedy Classic Film Club, to send us your names so we know how many men are interested and just who to issue passes to. The object of the club will be to meet in the school on certain days to discuss just what films we would like to see and anything in general to build our club to what we would like it to be.

If you are interested, please send your names to the Weekly Scene or give them to me in person and I will put you on the club roster. You can see me in the library any day Mon. thru Friday.

Mike Baron

NAME _____

NUMBER _____ BLOCK _____

I would like to be a member of the Laurel and Hardy fan club, please add my name to the roster.

PIANIST - Qualifications: Must be able to read music. Needed to accompany present Music Program already in progress. NO AMATEURS NEED APPLY. Send written request to Mr. Healey, School for audition.

A NOTE TO OFFICER "X"

I was told something the other day concerning the Drama Class, that made me feel very angry and upset. An unidentified Correctional Officer allegedly made the statement, that the acting teacher, Miss Seagrave, and the inmates, were being too friendly with each other, and he thought she shouldn't be here at all.

Well let me tell you something, Officer X.! I don't know what you think we inmates are, or what you think Miss Seagrave is, but we're men, and she's a dignified, respectable woman. We know how to behave decently, we've seen women before, and we've been around women before. For God's sake, give us a little credit! No inmate in the Drama Class is going to do anything wrong, because if he so much as said one wrong word to Miss Seagrave, the rest of the class would jump on him and beat him to death! And we wouldn't do it because we've such gallant cavaliers defending the lady's virtue - we'd do it because of the program! This Drama Class is the best thing that ever hit this place, and we want to keep it! We're not going to let anyone foul it up. we discipline ourselves, every inmate in the class is, watching every other inmate to make sure nothing happens; so you can stop worrying Officer X!! Your fears are groundless.

Edward G. McNally



Actually it's a trick of the Wardens to take the fire out of your gripes.

"THANKSGIVING"

If we the people are to prefer a future of peace and unity in the love of Christ to a future of nuclear warfare of enslavement by the powers of darkness, then we must in this late hour respond with complete generosity and zeal in our efforts to live and spread the peace plan from heaven on this wonderful thanksgiving day.

By: Henry A. Rogers

NEW LIBRARY BEING FORMED

The Department of Correction is presently developing a library of slides to be viewed by the Legislature and various Civic groups. The purpose of such library is to show, and explain, what is available in the institution to the men. Educational, Vocational, and Recreational facilities can be interpreted on a larger scale with the aid of slides.

The formulation of the library will take approximately 6 months to complete. The program has been Innaugurated by Commissioner Ellis C. MacDougall and steps were taken last week to get the program off the ground. The Public Relations Department of the administration, accompanied by a photographer, toured the institution capturing their observances on film.

In the future, these slides will be made available as aids for speeches given by members of the administration. Example: Educational. If the State School Principal, Mr. Charles J. Jones, were to be invited to give a speech on the educational procedures in the institution, he would be more effective in his oratory with the use of the visual aids at his disposal. He could talk all night explaining conditions under which the education program is directed and not get his point across. However, with the use of the slide library, one picture is worth a thousand words.

R. Girard

purlined editorial

The Scandal of Court Congestion

The nation's local criminal courts stand alongside the police as the front-line of U.S. law and order. But in city after city, they have become scandalously congested—nowhere worse than in New York City, a paradigm of American judicial failure.

The clog in New York's criminal courts is so monumental that in 1968 they took on 480,000 new cases and wound up with 520,000 still unsettled. The backlog has multiplied nearly 15 times in ten years. Preliminary-hearing sessions are so jammed that 30 seconds is a typical proceeding. After that, the average defendant waits two months before getting to plead guilty or not guilty. Those who demand a trial sometimes wait three years—in jail if they cannot afford bail.

Queen's Justice. On the other hand, the jam-up also allows knowing criminals to negotiate with harried prosecutors for a reduction of the charges in return for a guilty plea that will save the busy courts the time and expense of a trial. A 1968 survey of 136 accused muggers showed that 62% of them used such "plea bargaining" to get minuscule sentences for misdemeanors like petty larceny, which, strictly speaking, they did not commit. Moreover, a plea-bargained sentence often amounts to the time already served while waiting for trial. Mayor John Lindsay recently likened all this to the Queen of Hearts' version of justice: "Sentence first—verdict afterwards."

What can be done? The obvious answer is to erase some laws from the books. So-called "victimless" crimes like public intoxication, for example, devour court time across the country. Drug offenses account for 51% of all serious criminal cases in Los Angeles. If leg-

islators repealed penalties for crimes like gambling and pot-smoking, the courts could obviously focus on the major crimes they now handle so badly.

For the moment, though, the courts will have to revamp themselves rather than the law. The traditional answer is more judgeships. But too many judges still get their jobs on the basis of party loyalty, not judicial skill. Beyond that, new judges often make surprisingly little difference. Last year New York City added 20 new criminal-court judges—and the courts are more clogged than ever.

What the courts really need is a few imaginative ideas—and the reformers offer plenty. Current suggestions being tested include removal of parking violations from criminal courts and various schemes to release petty offenders without bail—for example, by issuing summonses for court appearances or by putting some consenting defendants on immediate probation without a trial or even a plea. At long last, a few cities are also discovering familiar business-management techniques. Philadelphia, for example, uses a computer for record keeping and to spot inefficiencies on the trial docket; the city is also moving lesser offenses out of regular courts. Charges that carry penalties of two years or less are handled by special judges who settle the case without a jury. Any defendant dissatisfied with the result may have a full court trial, but so far less than 4% have made the request. As a result, Philadelphia's untried criminal cases have decreased from 11,578 last year to 5,594 now.

According to retired Supreme Court Justice Tom Clark, who has concentrated on court congestion in recent years, a key roadblock is the over-compartmentalizing of judges. Most cities assign one judge to handle all ar-

raignments, another for all motions, and so on. Prosecutors and even public defenders are often assigned the same way. Thus all have to start from scratch at each level. Justice Clark and other experts urge that a single judge should handle each case from start to finish. The experimental reform has already speeded up court work in San Francisco, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

Imposed Time Limit. The chief prod for solving court congestion may well be the Sixth Amendment's guarantee of a speedy trial. So far, federal courts have found nothing unconstitutional about delays of a year and sometimes more. In a pending case, however, the nine judges of a federal appeals court are being asked by New York City, among other interested parties, to define the speedy-trial right—for the first time—by setting a six-month limit between arrest and trial. Under the proposed rule, a defendant could request that the charges be dropped after the deadline unless the prosecution offered compelling reasons for the delay.

The idea, of course, is that such a limit would force the courts to speed up—or else provoke public wrath when accused criminals go free. Whether trial deadlines should be defined by federal courts and enforced as a constitutional right is debatable. It may well be preferable for state legislatures to enact statutes setting the deadlines—as in Illinois and California, where defendants are now supposed to be tried within four and two months respectively. But if other states fail to follow suit, the reformers say, then a constitutional rule for speedy trial may be the only way to waken the public and solve the nation's deplorable court congestion.

TIME, NOVEMBER 9, 1970

"ARE YOU KIDDING, THAT'S MY TRIAL DATE . . . !"



PRISONERS LEAVING JAIL FOR COURT

A VOICE OF OPINION!

In regards to an article in the Scene last week, about the drug pusher being given the image of a cold-blooded person selling children dope. I agree that the average pusher is addicted himself, and is only supporting his habit, but the article seemed to evade the real problem. The real problem is drug addiction, not what happens to a man after he is strung out.

I ask you, does anybody have to get a group together to keep you from setting yourself on fire? No. Because we all know that fire kills. The average dope-fiend is aware of the horror of drug addiction before he gets involved with it. He's seen the junkies on the streets, sick, constipated, and all too often, very "greasy."

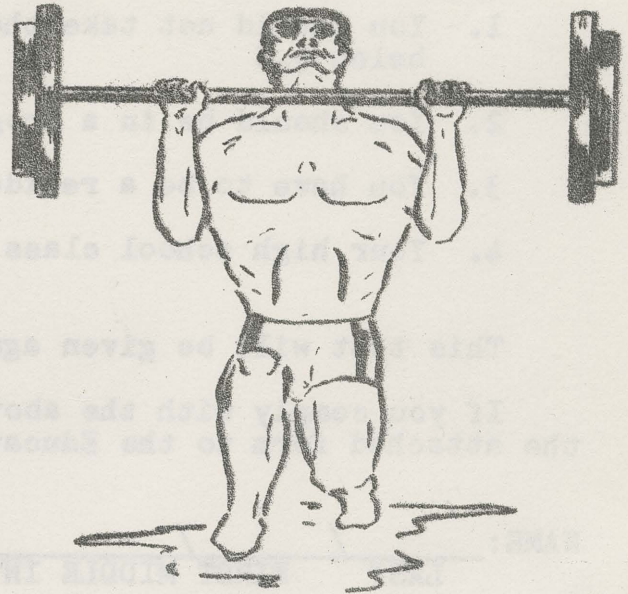
After seeing all the changes dope will put you through, you would think the person would need to join a group, and sit around a table and yell "I WANT TO SHOOT DOPE," all day. But he doesn't, he takes it upon himself individually to start. It is something he wants to do, for so many different reasons.

Now, after addiction, and a bust, he kicks and says he 'wants to leave dope alone for ever.' 'He's tired of being sick, constipated, and greasy, he's tired of running in and out of jail.' So now he needs a group to help him do something that's going to better himself; he sits around a table for hours and yells, "I WANT HELP." If he didn't need a group to encourage himself to become a slave of drugs, then you tell me why he needs a group to free himself from this slavery?

Where were these drug groups, brothers when it was just a poor and Black peoples' problem? Now that the senators and mayors, and the average little "Leave It To Beaver" rich kids are messing with drugs, it's no longer a crime; it's a sickness. Before it was, "They ain't nothing but animals, anyway," and "Throw a dope fiend in jail and forget about him." But now that the problem has spread from the ghetto into the suburbs, "They are mixed up children," it's the "Generation gap," "He's trying to express himself," or "He's just doing his thing."

Where were all of these excuses ten or fifteen years ago? Brothers, you must realize that the introduction of these groups were not meant for you and me. Anyway, you don't need any group to stop shooting drugs; all you need to do is go down to the closet in your block and get that can of Noxon and shine your mirror up real good. After the count is in and everything is quiet, peek in the mirror and just be one hundred per cent honest with yourself. It's as simple as this: When you really decide that you want to stop, you will stop; but until you really want to stop you are going to go on making up weak excuses to continue to use drugs.

By: D. Palmer



Starting Monday, November 23, 1970, all those who are members of the organized weightlifting program will be required to show a weightlifting pass before being allowed to enter the weightlifting area. Anyone without a pass will not be allowed until the free time period, which is:

FREE TIME PERIOD

Monday thru Friday ---- free time starts at 7 P.M.

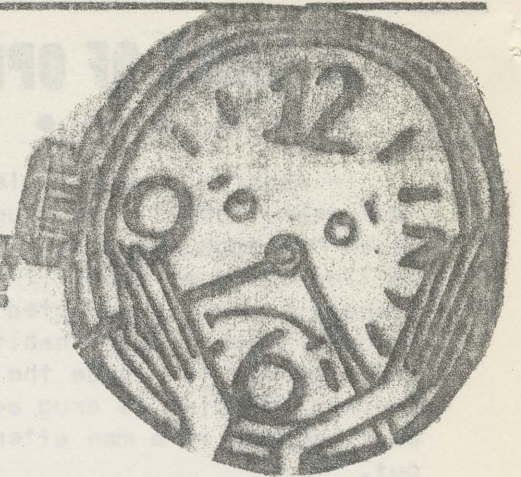
Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays ---- Free time starts at 2:30 P.M.

David R. Musco
Recreation Director

ARE YOU SERVING TIME.....

OR MAKING TIME SERVE YOU?

Get An Education!



The G.E.D. test for the High School Equivalency Diploma will be given in December 1970.

The test consists of five parts: English, Reading Comprehension, Science, Mathematics and Social Studies.

1. You should not take these tests if your grade placement is below 9.5
2. You should be in a program studying for the test.
3. You have to be a resident of Connecticut for the last six months.
4. Your high school class must have graduated

This test will be given again in April and August 1971.

If you comply with the above items and wish to take the tests, send the attached form to the Education Department.

NAME: _____ NUMBER: _____ UNIT: _____
 LAST FIRST MIDDLE INT. WORK AREA: _____

Check One Of The Following:


I wish to take all the tests.

I wish to take a retake in the following subjects: _____

G.P. _____

SIGNATURE: _____

ALL FORMS MUST BE IN BY MONDAY DECEMBER 7th.


 CHARLES J. JONES
 State School Principal

RESPONSE

In response to an article in last week's Scene entitled, "Facts The People Should Know." I agree with Mr. Hamilton that there are a lot of important matters that should be brought to the attention of the inmates. However, it is my own personal opinion (and I say my own because I am not a member of the Jaycees) that his accusations against the CCIS JCs are both unjustified and immature. In the issue about the camera, I would like to know if Mr. H. took into consideration where did the money for the camera come from in the first place? What does the cameraman receive for his time and energy? And how many prisons in the U.S. do you know of where an inmate can have this privilege.

The Jaycees have many projects going in this institution, including the inmate radio station W.J.C.R., EMPATHY, the drug rehabilitation program, and the Speak-Up program. All of these are designed to help the inmate help himself and make him an active part of whatever community he might find himself in. They are operated by members of the community and for members of the community, with no special privileges or pay.

The Crime Prevention project is on the streets because anyone with any common sense can see that while this prison represents the RESULTS of crime, the CAUSES are on the streets. If crime and the conditions to breed crime are to be obliterated, the causes of the problem are to be attacked...not the solution! The CCIS Jaycees are part of the solution!

I doubt very much if they represent the population of this community for it is made up of many different people of many different races with many different and complex feelings, attitudes and needs. To say that a few people can speak for a place such as this in an overstatement.

The JC's are a non-profit organization made up of inmates who donate their time, talents and energy - without pay or thanks - who are sincere in their ef-

forts to make this prison and the time that we have to spend in it a little more human and easier to bear. They do represent a small faction of this community who are doing instead of talking, and who believe in the Brotherhood of Man, and that Earth's great treasure lies in human personality and that service to humanity is the best work of life.

The Jaycees alone can never meet the needs of the population, but they do represent the needs of the population.

What it needs is more of this special kind of spirit. I believe in the basic rights of man and I support Mr. Hamilton in his endeavor. He is apparently motivated by a valid argument and he should be given ample time, space and consideration by both the population and the Jaycees. But he should confine his remarks to the problem.

By: L.R.



MISERY

Misery is a man that love's a woman, and takes her for his wife. Pouring at her feet the sweat of his brows, the blood of body, and the life of his heart. Placing in her hands the fruits of his toils. And when he slowly awakened, and finds that the heart he has endue to pump is giving feebly to another man for hidden joys and deepest love.

Misery is a woman, that awaken from the interentionlessness, and restlessness, of life and finds herself in the home of a man showering her with glittering gold, and precious diamonds all the material desire of female vanity, but unable to satisfy her soul with the heavenly wine that "Allah", has place in man's body to be poured in a woman's heart.

By: John McKay



XMAS PACKAGE LIST

Christmas List Notice Being Sent in All Outgoing Social Letters - 1979

To Relatives and Friends:

Christmas packages may be sent to men of this institution during the holiday season from December 7 to January 2, inclusive. All packages mailed parcel post should be addressed clearly and correctly as follows:

Name and Number
 CONNECTICUT CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION
 P. O. Box 100
 Somers, Connecticut 06071

Packages may also be delivered to the institution by the sender from December 7 to January 2, inclusive. All packages are subject to inspection, and any gift not acceptable will be returned to the sender. Regulations concerning such packages are as follows:

1. There will be a limit of one package from any one person on the inmate's authorized correspondence or visiting list.
2. Homemade and commercial cookies and candies are allowed. No other home prepared items will be approved.
3. Items in glass containers must bear the merchandiser's label. Home packed items in glass are not approved.

Only the following items may be received:

Crackers, lump-sugar, peanut butter, jams, jellies, candy, cookies, cheese, pickles (small jar only), oranges, grapes, apples, tangerines, pears, peaches, plums, grapefruit, apricots, nuts without shell, instant coffee, Pream, instant tea, instant cocoa, and commercial fruitsake. NOTE: No dried or candied fruits permitted. No meats of any kind.

Cigars (not in glass containers), cigarettes, tobacco, and pipes in reasonable amounts.

Safety razors and blades (double edged only), electric shavers. (Battery operated shavers will NOT be accepted.)

No other items of any nature will be accepted.

NOTE: DO NOT SEND CASH OR PERSONAL CHECKS. Only Bank Cashier Checks, Registered checks or Postal Money Orders may be sent. Be sure to include your return address on envelope.

As all perishable items must be consumed by January 16, it is suggested that they be sent in reasonable amounts.

This notice is not sent at writer's request. It is sent in all outgoing letters during the first two weeks of December.

Frederick E. Adams
 Warden

A TODO LOS COMPANEROS DE HABLA HISPANA

Tenemos que resolver muchos de los problemas que se nos presentan en la vida. Y para ello, ahora es el momento. Los Jaycees nos están ofreciendo la oportunidad, para resolverlos. Tenemos un grupo de hispanos, que todos los martes se reúnen en la escuela, al comienzo de la recreación, para así hablar hispano, y los cuales tratamos de resolver. Pero para eso tenemos que estar todos unidos.

Por eso: únete con nosotros, y nosotros te ayudaremos a tratar de resolver tu problemas, al igual que ayudaremos a los demás. Y la única manera que podemos tratar de sus problemas es acudiendo a nuestra próxima reunión, el próximo martes al comienzo de la recreación.

"Les Esperamos"
Cordialmente, la comunidad

PREGUNTA DE SENOR "X"

Nosotros los de esta institución, quisieramos saber porque? No han preparado una lista, que pueda indicar a quien nos debemos dirigir, para las diferentes actividades, que se llevan a cabo en esta institución.

He aquí una lista de los nombres, de las personas que usted debe ponerse en contacto para la actividades en que usted está interesado.

- SCHOOL ACTIVITIES - Mr. Jones
- RECREATIONAL FACILITIES - Mr. Musco
- MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS - Mr. Healy
- ART SUPPLIES - Mr. Prue
- NOTARIZATION OF LEGAL PAPERS - Mr. Cybulski, Mr. Farnham
- BANKING FACILITIES - Mr. Bauers
- RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES - Chaplains
- CORRESPONDANCE - Classification Counselor
- MEDICAL TREATMENT - Dr. Cullen, Dr. Palomba, Dr. Flaherty
- DENTAL TREATMENT - Dr. Saltzger, Dr. Inguanti
- PSYCHIATRIC AID - Mr. O'Hara
- ALCOHOLIC AND DRUG PROBLEMS - Mr. Harris, Mr. Bills
- INMATE RECORDS - (inquiries about earned good time, parole board, release dates, etc.)
Mr. Farnham
- LIBRARY FACILITIES - (outside book purchases & subscriptions)
Mr. Stockwell
- ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRAMS & PROJECTS - (Get Smart, Learn Baby Learn, etc.)
Learn Baby Learn - Mr. Jessie Davis .. Get Smart Osborn Div. Program
- APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS - Mr. McCune
- CLOTHING PROBLEMS - Mr. Haddan



GODS & GODDESSES

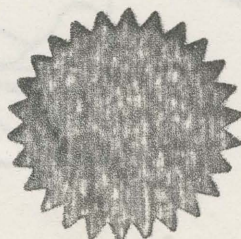
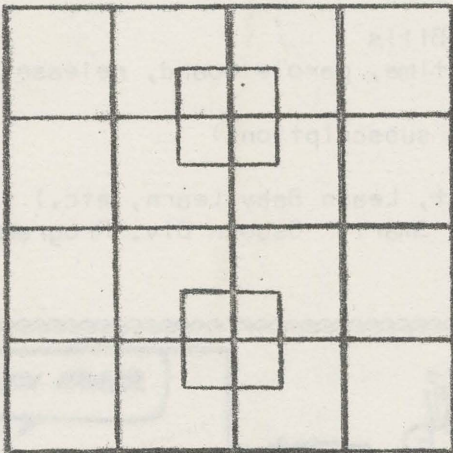
By: Bob Andersen

ANSWERS

A A M P H I T R Y O N S E S I H C N A P
 N R S T L A C I N Y P A X E L O N G P R
 S P S T Y N T N G R O A A O T E V A H O
 Q U N E A T A N D R O M E D A X A R R V
 A I C R A P X T E N A R A I P I N T A D I
 A L R A L T F H E C E B O S L A R E N I T
 L U M P L H N H T Q N X C T E T A M A T R
 G A P L T L A Y P E L Z H R N S I T E I
 A C H A T E S R A A X N U L A P S W A G
 G O R A O I D E I S A U S E L I E R O H
 A R I N P R D E J A L L A N T D R S C T
 M C T D N X T C A P D I O S A S A O A L
 E E R R T A G O D S A N E L L F K P N Y
 M S I O U N A R G E N C E Q L R A O A T
 N O I E A O Y N L P A J A X L Y Q P T S A
 N P A C A T U A G O D D O G N O H A A N
 R E S H R S A L S A L R I G H T E I T E
 Y L T E N A E Y P U N P S F S N U S N H
 E C R P O F N L I N O L U O U P S O P T
 M S A R I O O M L T R Y T U E I G N O A
 P A E O H R G E L I A G E L N I A E T D
 L S A S P A O A R B H H M O T O X B A O
 E U O E M X R L I A N C D N R L I Z S G
 H E R E A E N E M C L A A W H A T I S A

- Achates
- Achilles
- Actaeon
- Admetus
- Adonis
- Aeolus
- Aegir
- Aegisthus
- Aeweas
- Agamemnon
- Aglala
- Ajax
- Alcestis
- Alcmene
- Alpheus
- Amphion
- Amphitrite
- Amphitryon
- Anchises
- Andromache
- Andromeda
- Antaeus
- Antigone
- Aphrodite
- Apollo
- Ares
- Ariadne
- Artemis
- Asclepius
- Astarte
- Astraea
- Astyanax
- Atlanta
- Ate
- Athena
- Atli
- Atreus
- Atropos

brain-buster



How many squares can you see in the above diagram? There are a total of 40. Can you find them? Take up to twenty minutes, then ask one of the editors when you see him next, where they are at, ok?