



"If It Fitz. . ."

Doves on the defense

By Jim Fitzgerald

At the risk of sounding more profound than is my custom, I concede that my tragedy is I've reached a point of human progress too soon; I am living before my time.

For many years, I've hoped to live long enough to know children whose lives are so peaceful they can't believe there was a time when people killed people on purpose. But now I know I'll never make it.

The Russians are in Afghanistan and war is regaining much of the popularity it lost in Vietnam. Former peaceniks are snarling. The defense budget is going up and daughters may be drafted along with sons. People would rather fight than join a car pool. The Doves are on the defense. They've been penalized half the distance to the goal, and the crowd is cheering for the Hawks.

A spokesman for the U.S. Navy was surprised and dismayed that a coalition of anti-war groups protested a Navy contest which asked Michigan school-children to design an insignia for the newest Trident submarine, the USS Michigan. "We ran a contest just like this in Ohio for the launching of our first Trident, the USS Ohio, and there was no protest."

A Trident sub is armed with 24 missiles and 408 warheads. Each warhead is five times as powerful as the bomb dropped on Hiro-

shima. Why shouldn't Michigan children draw pictures glorifying such a magnificent weapon? No one wants World War III, of course, but if it should come, and a Trident bomb kills several thousand people, just imagine the thrill if your very own daughter, only a fourth grader, designed the insignia for the submarine that launched the missile that wiped out Moscow. Wow.

This type of sarcasm doesn't endear me to those many people who believe the Trident insignia contest is a fine tool for teaching children the importance of defending their nation against marauding gas-station attendants. These brave patriots call me a sappy dreamer for wishing kids were taught peace, not war. They say the only realistic way to ensure peace is to build increasingly deadly weapons, and the sooner children learn this, the sooner they will grow up to be good taxpayers and willing soldiers.

And that's the way it is. I said I had probably been born too soon to be so pacific. This thought was stolen from Eric Sevareid's memoir, "Not So Wild a Dream." Referring to the collapse of France in 1940, Sevareid said the French had learned too well the lesson of World War I. "Their last experience had taught them that there is no such thing as true victory for

civilized men who have no desire to conquer others. Their tragedy was that they had reached a point of human progress too soon; they were living before their time," he said.

This Sevareid quote was recently unearthed by conservative columnist George F. Will so he could say that something like the French lesson had been learned by Vietnam war protesters. "Their lesson is that force can accomplish nothing satisfying to a truly civilized sensibility, such as theirs. Their refusal to countenance the idea of U.S. military force is, to them a sign of their moral progress in advance of their time," Will said.

He concluded that such moral progress reached too soon is not really progress because "it incapacitates people from resisting barbarians," such as the Russians, especially when they move into Afghanistan. George Will writes for Newsweek and has won a Pulitzer prize. Who would dare disagree with him?

So here I am, arrived too soon at the point of moral progress where it is acceptable to teach children the Trident submarine is evil. Instead, they should be urged to design an insignia for it, or the barbarians might get them. Goodbye, car pool. Hello, Hiroshima.

Facts from the farm

The cost of farmland has increased 200 percent since 1970. A 14 percent hike is forecast for 1980.

Spending on farm inputs will rise 11 percent in 1980, after a 16 percent increase in 1979, predict U.S. Department of Agriculture economists.

The Haire Net



If you listen to reporters speaking to you over the airwaves or through the newspapers you'd think that the victory of the United States hockey team in the Olympics had a profound effect on our daily lives.

It's rally around the flag, boys, and America is best after all. It demonstrates that we are really a united people and look out Iran, look out Moscow, and look out the rest of you who are spitting in the face of Uncle Sam.

Which goes to prove that not only the fans at the games get carried away by the hysteria of the moment.

There's no doubt that the win excited most of the nation. It had all the ingredients. The natural support of all Americans by Americans, and more than that, the terrific lift of winning when you were supposed to lose. There never was an underdog any greater than that hockey team.

It wasn't necessary to be a hockey buff or even a sports buff to be lifted by the win. By golly, it made you feel good and our lads deserve to be winned and dined by the president.

But it's pure fantasy to believe that the victory is more important than that.

What it really does is make us forget for a moment the troubles of the day. The hostages in Iran won't be coming home one day earlier than before. The Russians won't move out of Afghanistan and inflation will still be with us as strong as ever.

To bring it closer to home. If Cass City should win a state championship in basketball it would unite the community behind the team. The boys would be lionized. For a brief moment they would be the heroes of the school, the town, the Thumb. Everybody would rejoice.

But a week after that was over the real world would be back and that joyful week wouldn't keep the teachers from hitting the bricks for a contract if they had to.

It wouldn't keep the school from asking for more mileage this spring and it won't have any bearing on whether or not the voters will approve it.

That doesn't take anything away from whatever achievement the team makes this year.

There's a great deal to be said for even a few moments of shared excitement, shared achievement, shared glory.

It certainly doesn't really change anything, but it is a great, great, great feeling for at least a brief moment in most of our lives.

There aren't enough of those to scoff at any that come our way. They are as beautiful as a rainbow after a thunderstorm.

And just as transitory.



CUB MASTER Carl Palmateer presents awards to David Burnette Monday as his father, David, watches. Awards presented to the Cubs were the highlight of the annual Blue and Gold banquet.

Awards presented at Cub banquet

The annual Cub Scout Blue and Gold Banquet was held Monday evening at Campbell Elementary School.

The invocation was given by Robert King, followed by a potluck dinner.

The following boys received awards:

Bob cats -- Jeff Bliss, Scott Fader, Alex Swiderski, Daniel Anderson, Bobby Nolan, David Nolan, Harold Hendricks, David Peruski, David House, Paul TerBush and William Profit.

Wolf rank -- David Burnette, Paul Asher, Tim Albee, Randy Johnson, James Finkbeiner, Harold Hendricks, David Peruski, David House, Michael Scollon, Mark Albee.

Bear Rank -- Kris Kleo, David Burnette, Paul Asher.

Webelo activity badges -- James McDonald, Michael Hoppe, William Profit, Rusty Schneberger, Kris Kleo.

Gold Arrows - Kris Kleo, David Burnette, Paul Asher.

Silver Arrow Point -- Kris Kleo.

Entertainment was provided by Don Childs and his magic act. The pack presented a certificate of appreciation to him.

Re-registration was held for the boys for 1980. All boys who have not registered should contact Cubmaster Carl Palmateer.

Cub Scout pins were presented to all the den leaders. Wayne Dillon, Lynn Albee and Barb Hendricks served on the kitchen committee.

Keehn faces charges

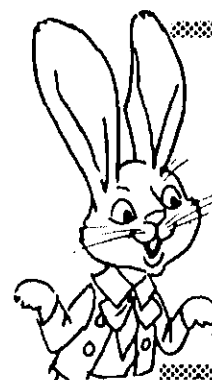
The Tuscola County Prosecutor's office Tuesday issued a warrant charging Robert C. Keehn Jr., 21, of 3115 Cemetery Road, Kingston, with three counts of felonious assault and one count of malicious destruction of property over \$100.

The charges are in connection with an incident Feb. 9 in Cass City.

According to village police officer Donald Miller Jr.,

who handled the investigation, Keehn was scheduled to appear voluntarily this Wednesday afternoon with his attorney before Tuscola County Magistrate Donald Smith for arraignment.

Keehn is charged with having threatened three persons with a knife while they were seated in a car parked on Seeger Street and then slashing all four tires of the car.



Rabbit Tracks

By John Haire

(And anyone else he can get to help)

Attending the Lions sponsored fish supper Friday in Cass City was not as big a hazard as eating chow prepared by amateur chefs usually is.

It wasn't because I knew how the fish would taste. I knew because a week earlier the Lions practiced for the big event at the White Creek Club and I was there.

You remember how the little Dutch boy put his finger in the dyke to save his country? Just about everyone has heard that story. Everyone in the United States that is.

Caroline Swart, who is an exchange student from Holland in Cass City, never heard it before coming here and neither did anyone else who lives in Holland.

That's an American story and it's a fable, she says. When you consider that those dykes in Holland are big enough for two-lane roads on top of them with plenty to spare it's obvious that it would take a pretty big finger to plug the dyke.

There's a limited number of new official Michigan maps published by the highway commission available for free distribution as long as they last.

Usually these maps are among the best available. Usually. One year the official map left out the arm of Lake Charlevoix which is about a half mile wide and perhaps five miles long.

We received a tribute written to Mrs. Arthur Holmberg for the way she taught the 4th grade class in Cass City. Unfortunately it wasn't signed. If the author will come in and sign we'll be happy to publish it in the next edition.

The weather

	High	Low	Precip.
Wednesday	42	28	.04
Thursday	40	28	0
Friday	31	20	.18
Saturday	36	22	.25
Sunday	36	7	.02
Monday	26	-6	trace
Tuesday	23	-6	.03

(Recorded at Cass City wastewater treatment plant.)

* (Snow recorded as melted water - 10" snow = 1" water).

DEERING PACKING

1 Mile North, 1/2 Mile East Of Silverwood at 4808 E. Mayville Road

FRESH COUNTER MEATS

CHECK OUT PRICES ON

- ✓ LAMB
- ✓ PORK
- ✓ VEAL
- ✓ BEEF HALVES AND QUARTERS

FOR BUSINESS TRUCKING AND SLAUGHTERING CALL 517-761-7073

Regular Meeting

NOVESTA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

Will Be Held At

NOVESTA TOWNSHIP HALL
TUES., MARCH 11 - 8 P.M.

Proposed additions to the zoning ordinance will be presented. They are as follows:

Article IV 2-2

No. 20 Multiple Housing Units.

Section 5-3

G Business Districts, residences maintained in conjunction with a business.

Section 7

7: 1-B

Each parcel of land must have the specified width frontage for its district, lying adjacent to a legally constituted public street or road; or adjacent to an approved private road as designated by agreement with the Novesta Township Board.

PLANNING COMMISSION OF NOVESTA TOWNSHIP

SAVE 44¢ — BRING WITH YOU

Ben Franklin

February 28 & 29

March 1

Get A Beautiful 8 x 10 Color Portrait

WITH COUPON ONLY **44¢** plus tax

+ 50¢ film surcharge Family Groups only 88¢ per person

Thurs.: 10 to 4:30

Fri.: 10 to 7:00

Sat.: 10 to 4:00

Lunch: 1 to 2



Your Baby's special charm captured by our specialist in child photography — just the gift for everyone in the family! All Ages. Family Groups, too. Limit One Special per Person. One Coupon Special per Family.

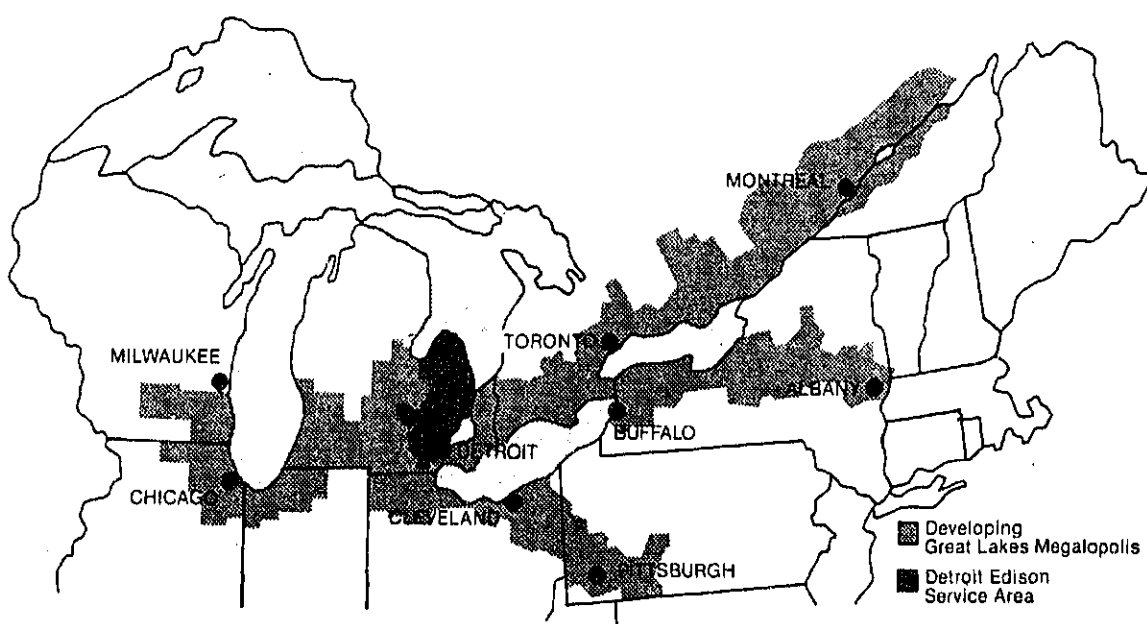
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Cass City



Southeastern Michigan. The heart of one of the world's largest industrial areas—an urbanized region that stretches along the Great Lakes from Chicago and Milwaukee on the west to Montreal, Pittsburgh and Albany on the east.

It's a huge market quickly reached by overnight trucking that rolls out from Michigan's toll-free expressways. Six rail networks and three air cargo ports put the rest of the country in easy touch. And the Port of Detroit

provides major commercial docking facilities along 32 miles of deep-water frontage on an international waterway.

It adds up to an enormous advantage in selling the products made here. So does the fact that there's plenty of electric power. Because Detroit Edison generates more than 80% of its electricity from coal—our nation's most abundant fuel.

Thinking of expanding or relocating your business? Detroit Edison can

provide energy *plus* assistance to help you make the right decision. Write: Area Development, Detroit Edison, 308 WCB, 2000 Second Ave., Detroit, MI 48226.

Keeping the power in your hands

Detroit Edison