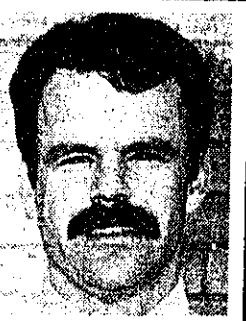


PEDALING AROUND

Not so real people

By Mike Eliasohn



It finally happened. Television has run out of human beings to talk about.

It started a couple of years ago with NBC's "Real People," the show that makes real people look like real weirdos.

In television, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, so next we were blessed with "That's Incredible." ABC's incredible rip-off.

Then the creators of "Real People" started imitating themselves and came up with "Speak Up America," which features Marjoe Gortner, who should have stuck with evangelism; Jayne Kennedy, who fortunately didn't stick with football, and Rhonda ("Hi, yall!") Bates, who seems fascinated with human depravity.

Admittedly, I haven't seen the show. The promos are sickening enough. All I have to hear is Ms. Bates saying, "On the show, we go out and talk to some real Hollywood gigolos," and I know I don't want to watch.

She is probably a secret agent for Ronald Reagan, trying to make all Southerners look like buffoons.

"What's it like to walk around in sheets? Tonight, we go and talk to some real Klu Klux Klansmen and find out."

CBS couldn't be left out in the cold, so developed "That's My Line," which dwells on persons with unusual occupations. The weirdest occupation of all belongs to the man who developed the show, or perhaps the television executive who agreed to put it on the air.

NBC, trying to fight its way out of the ratings basement, now has a third "genuine people" show on the air.

"Games People Play."

One of the "games" on the opening show was about one or two men trying to escape from a car loaded with dynamite.

That's a game a lot of people play. "Hey, Harvey. What do ya' want to do tonight?"

"I don't know. How about loading a car with dynamite, setting it on fire while we drive down the road and see if we can escape before it blows us into little pieces."

The producers of the show should have known better than to put such a stunt on the air.

"That's Incredible" is being sued by the idiot who was seriously burned while trying to run through a 150-foot tunnel of flames for the cameras. The would-be daredevil proposed the stunt and is now suing the producer for disregarding his safety.

If Mr. Not Flame Repellent's attorney wins the suit, that would be incredible.

That brings us to "Those Amazing Animals," the show for people to watch who are tired of looking at other people looking foolish.

In this show, the animals gain revenge for all the nasty things human beings have done to them.

The sneak preview episode featured a shark biting naturalist Valerie Taylor in the leg.

At least the shark had good taste.

ABOVE BOARD

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Cass Cityan stands mute to bad check charge

Arthur R. Bean, 34, of 6484 River Road, Cass City, stood mute in Circuit Court Sept. 2 to a charge of non-sufficient funds over \$50.

He is charged with giving a check for \$1,529 from Fawn's Country Kitchen April 30 to a delivery driver for Gordon Food Service of Grand Rapids, despite there not being enough money in the restaurant's bank account.

The restaurant is located at M-24 and M-46, south of Caro.

Judge Patrick R. Joslyn entered a plea of innocent and scheduled a pretrial hearing Oct. 20. Bond was continued.

Valencia McCaw, 22, of Saginaw, pleaded guilty to a charge of forgery. Her plea was accepted and sentencing scheduled Oct. 20.

She is charged with forging a money order for

\$170, which she cashed July 20 at Paul's Party Store in Kingston township.

A jury Friday found William W. Brown, 19, of 704 W. Huron Road, Vassar, guilty of uttering and publishing.

Joslyn, who presided over the two-day trial, scheduled sentencing Oct. 20 and continued bond of \$5,000.

He was charged with falsifying a check March 19. Another jury Friday found Terry L. Burrows, 30, of 1114 E. Caro Road, Caro, innocent of a charge of receiving and concealing stolen property over \$100.

Judge Martin E. Clements presided over the two-day trial.

Burrows had been charged with possession of a stolen garden tractor Aug. 23, 1979, in Vassar township.

A trial in March on the charge was declared a

mistrial by Clements after a juror disclosed she or he knew or was related to the defendant.

DISTRICT COURT

George E. Russell, 29, of 5077 Koeppen Road, Cass City, pleaded guilty Monday to a charge of driving under the influence of liquor.

Judge Richard F. Kern accepted his plea and placed him on six months' probation, during which time Russell is to attend alcohol classes and other counseling as may be necessary.

His driver's license was suspended for 90 days, except for driving to, from and during work and to and from the classes.

He was fined \$100 and assessed \$100 court costs.

Russell was arrested on the charge in Cass City Aug. 29.



PARISHIONERS at St. Pancratius Catholic church have a new cross and statue of Christ risen to gaze at, which hang on the wall high over the altar.

Looking at them are, from left, Margaret Demo, Bertha Ertman, Wally Czekai, Caroline Garety, Helen Rutkoski, Enick Rutkoski, Helen Whipple and Father Joseph Morales. Twenty-five member families of the parish paid for the cross and the statue.

GOOD ARGUMENT

About the only good thing that can be said about ignorance is that it is the basis for many interesting arguments.

At education committee hearing

Senators consider Owen-Gage bill

By Alan Bloomfield
Special to the Chronicle

About 35 people attended a Senate Education Committee meeting last Thursday in Lansing, held to consider a proposed bill which would aid the Owendale-Gagetown School District.

Few had a chance to ad-

dress the committee. The meeting, held in the capitol building, was recessed after only 40 minutes when the senators there were asked to return to Senate chambers for a re-convening of the Senate. The committee plans to hold another session to consider the bill, but no date has been set.

Owen-Gage attorney Dennis Cawthorne told the committee the proposed legislation, House Bill No. 5411, would correct the "terrible unfairness" inflicted on Owen-Gage and would also protect other small school districts. The bill, he said, would prevent the "erosion and bleeding" of a school district against its will.

The state House of Representatives "overwhelmingly

passed" the bill earlier this year, he continued. Introduced by State Rep. Quincy Hoffman (R-Applegate), the bill passed the House last spring by a 75-6 margin.

Present state law, subject to interpretation and barring a reversal by the state Supreme Court in Owen-Gage's final appeal in the Goslin property transfer case, requires public approval of a property transfer

if the parcel to be transferred is more than 10 percent of the district's state equalized valuation. The land must be contiguous to the school district to which it is to be attached.

Hoffman's bill would change that so once more than 10 percent of the original district was transferred away, a public vote would be required on all subsequent transfers.

Property transfers have reduced the Owen-Gage school district to 57 percent of its original 80-square mile size, Cawthorne indicated.

State Senator Edward Pierce (D-Ann Arbor), a member of the education committee, wanted to know why property owners desired their property to be transferred from Owen-Gage.

Mary Jane Voelker, of Owendale, replied the basis of her property transfer to another school district was "to provide children with a better educational opportunity."

Owen-Gage Supt. Ronald Erickson said the Owen-Gage schools had just as much to offer as the school districts to which property had been transferred. There were people who resided in transferred areas who objected to the areas being transferred, he added.

State Board of Education President Barbara Roberts Mason said the bill pertains to matters which the state Supreme Court will consider. Until the court has ruled on the property transfer issue, the bill should not be acted upon, she felt.

"I believe it would be a denial of due process if property owners couldn't request a transfer of their property to a contiguous district," she said. Even if the bill were passed, she added, "The State Board (of Education) would still have the right to look at appeals" of property owners whose transfer requests had been denied by intermediate school district boards of education. The bill has not addressed the appeal issue, she said.

The state board did not support the bill when it went before the House earlier in the year.

Katherine Asher, Tuscola County Democratic executive committee member, told the senate committee she supported the bill and

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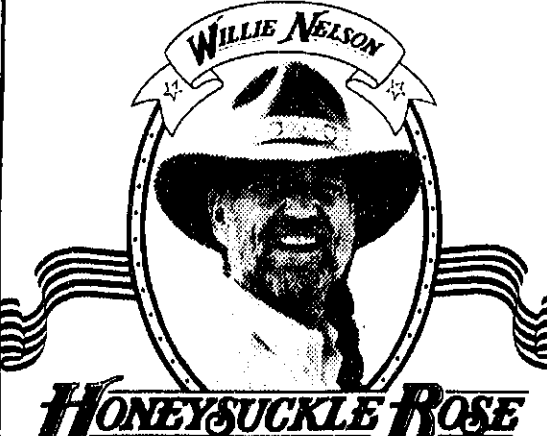
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LOS ANGELES TIMES

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Marilyn Beck,
Syndicated Columnist



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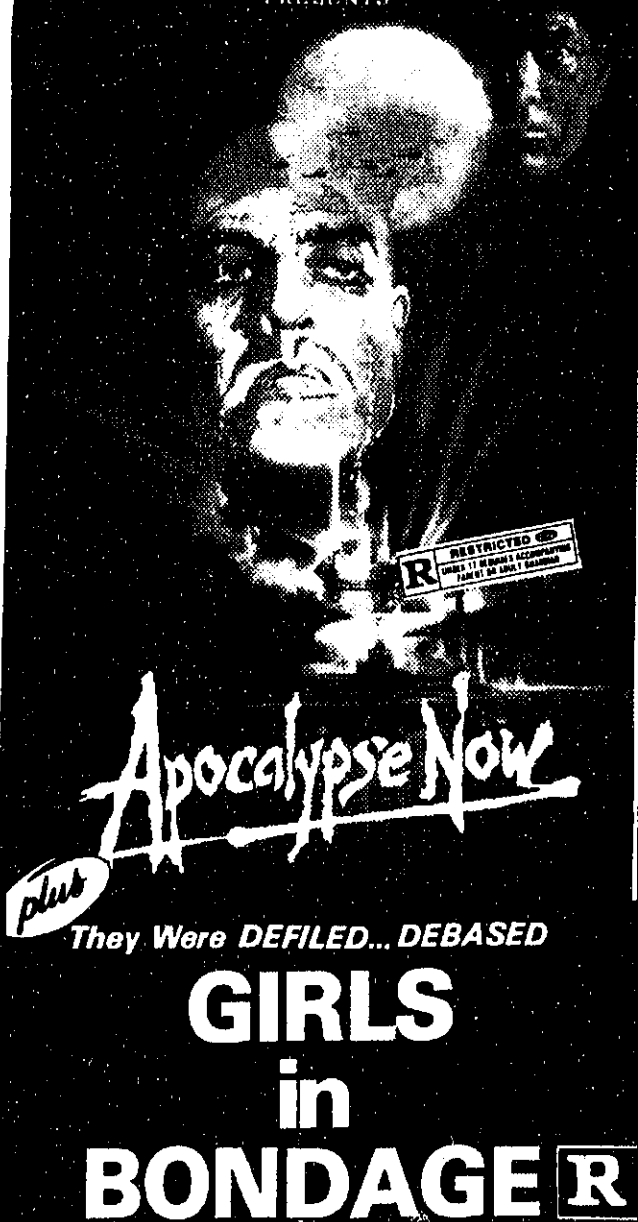
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O-G senior citizens

The Owen-Gage Senior Citizens met at the Elmwood-Gagetown Fire Hall last Thursday.

The meeting was called to order by Mable Ondrajka by saying the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Thirty-three members were present and 29 blood pressure checks were taken.

Door prize winners were Elma Miklovich and Leslie Munro.

The next meeting will be at the Owendale Municipal Building Sept. 18 with a potluck dinner.

"Operations and hospital rooms cost a lot more than you think."

Ernest A. Teichman Jr.

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