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VILLAGE

**Turn a Cordial Occasion...
into a Loving Affair.**

**and the biggest selection of candles in town.*

Jonathan Siegle finelines

Recently The Emerald ran a letter critical of campus jugglers. That the letter was so phomoric is unquestionable. However, it did bring to the attention of many that we did in fact have an invasion of jugglers.

I, for one, am grateful.

The jugglers are part of a revival of folk art, street theater, troubadours and clowns. They represent a time when art was found in the doing, not in the watching. It's a revival of art for fun.

A computer can be programmed to draw a picture, but it's not art. (Thus, 'computer art' is a contradiction.) Art is the one thing that separates cultured human beings from barbarians.

Big Macs and Pepsi-Cola may be culture, but they're not Culture.

Our campus jugglers, in continuing an ancient and honored art, are turning their backs on our computer chip society in favor of a time when the creative force meant making something from nothing. A mime has one element, himself. A storyteller, his memories. A juggler picks up a few objects and is a performer. I only wish I could do it.

Counterpoint: This issue of Distractions is devoted to Christmas, or what in my house we used to irreverently call "December gift giving."

Every year millions of people struggle to spend millions of dollars on millions of gifts



This year, as many of us remain frozen in the depression, buying gifts becomes more of a struggle than ever.

Erich Fromm wrote that the most loving thing one can do is not give a gift, but receive a gift with love.

Let's look at that a different way: Don't buy a gift, make one.

Hold it. Forget the stitched leather wallet and all that other arts and crafts crap. I'm talking Art.

Like juggling, Art is in the doing. Like juggling, in order to

do it one has to let go. Many people feel that it takes ego to be an artist. Not so. It takes ego not to be an artist.

The artist is a person with the creative urge who isn't concerned about reaction. He needs to do. What makes his work Art is not its perfection, but its imperfection. Art is made by humans. Humans are imperfect. It follows.

Some suggestions: a caricature, a photo, an illustrated bit of writing, a song composed just for the occasion, a children's story, an IOU for a gourmet meal.

Make your own list. Personalize it.

Then juggle. It's the juggler in us that makes us create.

Then create. It's the creator in us that makes us juggle.

Bean Continued from Page 9B

and in an emergency, the stylish edible moccasin.

You needn't be on Bean's mailing list to appreciate "Items From Our Catalog," but it helps. Much of the pleasure is derived from the careful reproduction of writing style and tone.

Nevertheless, Gingold has put together a masterful piece of humor. So many attempts at print comedy today are either scatological or hyped up reproductions of cute cat comic strips.

"Items From Our Catalog" takes on a venerable institution and gently tweaks its nose. It is done with care, restraint and obvious affection for its subject. It is also very, very funny.

Jonathan Siegle



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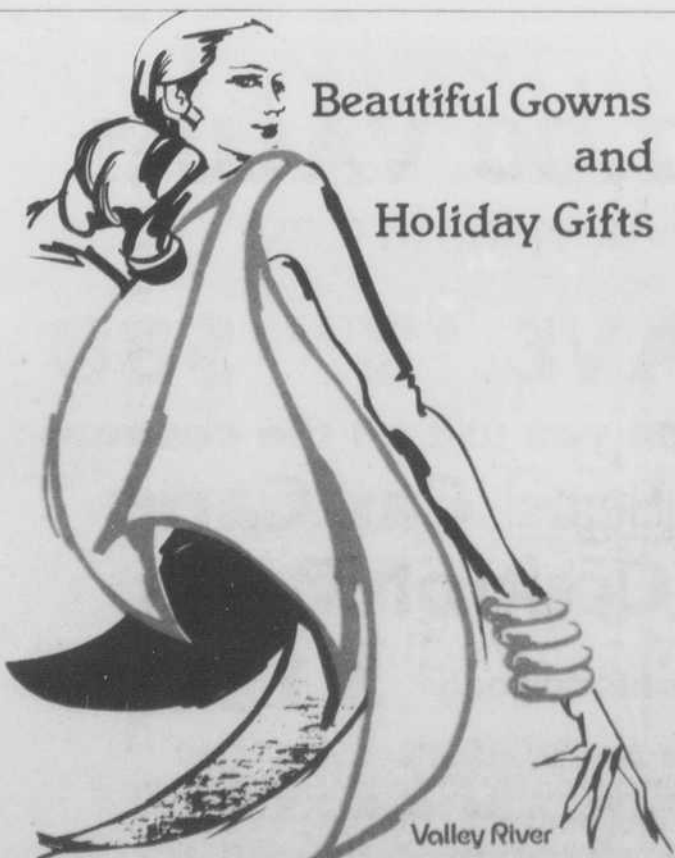
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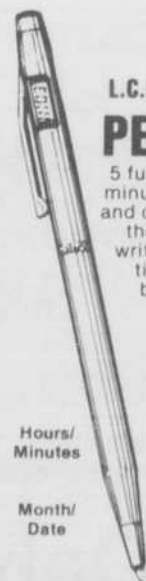
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J.K. GILL GIFT GUIDE

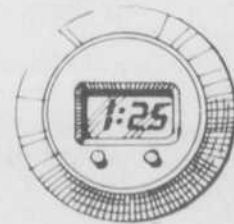


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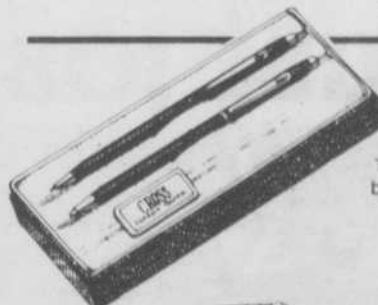
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Wednesday, December 1, 1982