

## X-RATED ROCK

TO THE EDITOR:

One demand of the Parents Music Resource Center is that lyrics should be printed on album covers. This makes about as much sense as using the centerfold of an adult magazine as the magazine's cover.

Most teens today buy tapes instead of records. Also, tape cases are smaller than album covers, which would make the printing of the lyrics on their covers illegible and therefore impractical.

Placing ratings and warnings on albums and tapes also defeats the purpose. Ratings such as "X," "O," or "D/A" tell the purchaser that the item contains offensive words. Letting the consumer know this can lead to two results: decreased sales because the consumer is offended by the material; or, more likely, increased sales because the purchaser wants to hear these words.

As a teenager, I know that unless one pays close attention to the lyrics, they are inaudible, and therefore the listener is unable to emulate the lyrics consciously in real life.

In conclusion, my advice is just to leave us be. Our parents made it through Jerry Lee Lewis, the Beatles, Elvis and the Rolling Stones with no side effects. So, too, will my generation make it through Twisted Sister, Prince and Madonna.

CHRIS SNETHEN, OREGON CITY

## JUSTICE NOT FOR ALL

TO THE EDITOR:

On October 9, 1985, Clatsop County's Bar Association voted against considering any proposal for legal aid to indigent county residents. After my initial shock at this slap in the faces of the poor, I remembered a similar feeling of shock seven years earlier when I first came to Astoria.

I had lived in several cities around the country before settling here. I had never lived in an area that did not provide equal access to the law via legal aid programs. I had mistakenly come to think of such access as a fundamental right in our country. I made inquiries and found not only that no legal aid program existed in Clatsop but that repeated attempts to establish one had been defeated by the Bar.

So why, after seven years, was I so shocked by the Bar Association's action? Perhaps because it is so hard to believe that individuals who are trained in our laws have so little understanding of justice.

JULIE SNYDER, ASTORIA

## THE LESSON THEREIN

TO THE EDITOR:

Fire in the hole! Move over all you wonderfully talented writers, poets, artists. Heads down humanitarians. Open your eyes you dedicated dreamers. James Boswell is going to write an article for the Times Eagle. At least he has threatened to in his letter to the editor in the September issue.

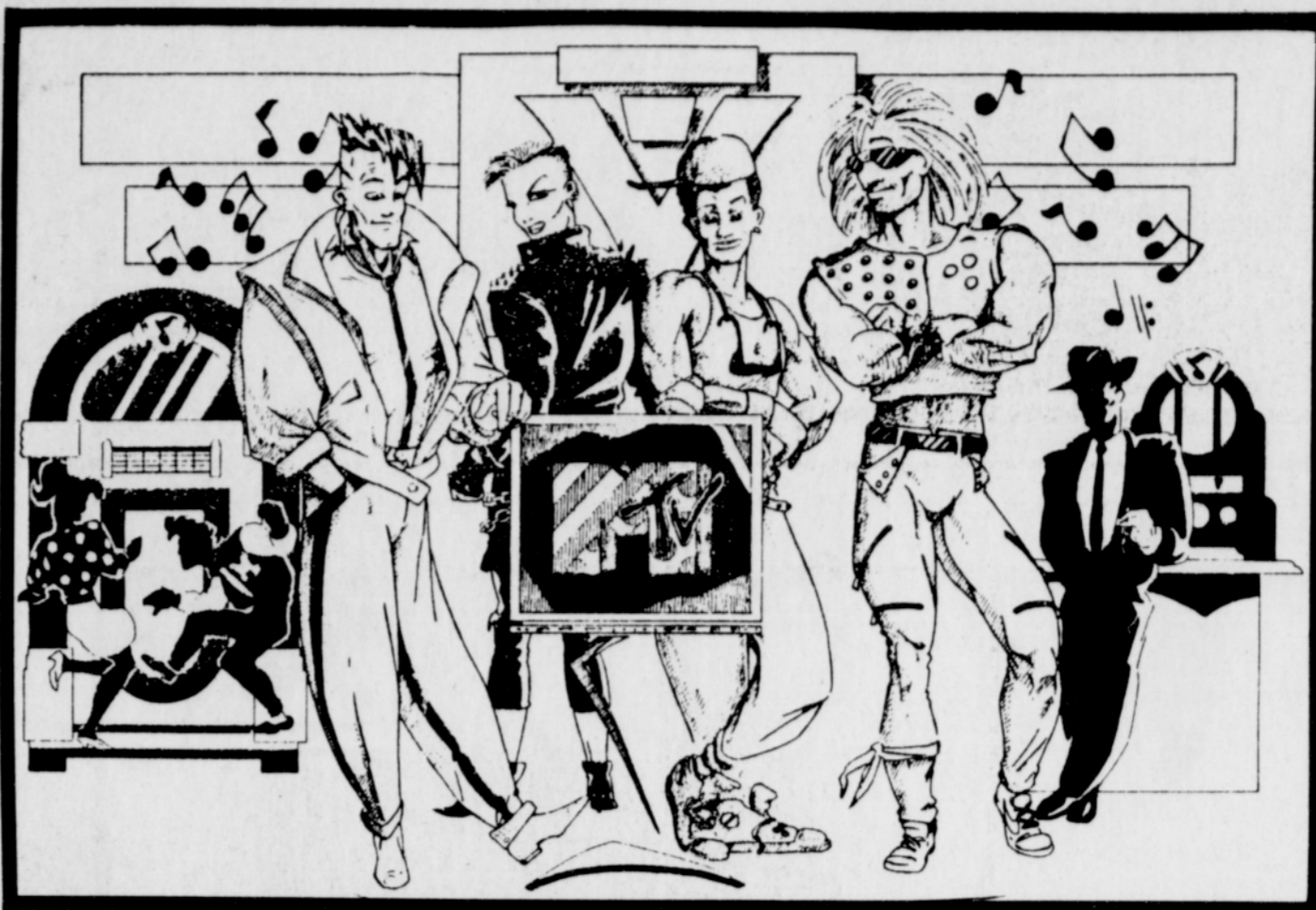
Mr. Boswell's promise to contribute a non-negative column to the Times Eagle, comprised of "Timely Tips and Helpful Hints for the Un-wealthy", is preceded by a negative review of the newspaper. After stomping his way through his first Times Eagle, he fires a salvo of examples that attempt to outline his dissatisfaction with the entire paper — with the exception of a poem. "Negative hit;" "stumped square oneness;" "art and opinion, most of which hits (him) broad-side."

Boswell makes a meager thrust in the direction of the Eagle's heart, flaying away with the rusty sword of semi-educated insolence. Ah yes! The very essence of the Eagle forum — the bird soars on the currents of opinions such as these. But McCusker will not be had. The slings and arrows continue to bounce from calloused wounds as he proceeds with his favorite and literary means.

I am not so seasoned as McCusker when it comes to criticism. I find myself encamped on pen and paper, stumbling for retribution. I am embarrassed to say that it was not JB's casual dismissal of the article on rape, with its "teaparty" and "henhouse" stats that drove me to return fire. He fails miserably to grasp the grim realities and deep emotions of the issue.

No, the shallow statements he makes on war have sent me into the fray. Having been lastingly affected by war, I am endentured to search out

The Pander Brothers



# LETTERS

and destroy these kinds of finger pointing, "I told you so" statements like "war is for those who want it," which obviously comes from someone who has never experienced it. Ignorance is bliss: "Anyone naive enough to opt for war needs the lessons therein." He finishes with "war is sad and hard" and "boring to the max."

For someone who claims to be so bored with war, Boswell has a dangerous habit of tossing "live ammo" — disguised as words — into the bunkers of those who contribute to the Eagle. Since JB is fond of examples, I would like to pull the pin on this one and toss it his way:

James Boswell had become bored to the max with war. One day he steps off his front porch and walks directly into the line of fire from someone else's war. He is an innocent non-participant but is blown away in the wink of an eye. Therein lies the lesson. War does not confine its carnage.

I look forward to James Boswell's helpful hints articles. But I cannot help wondering if his first lesson will be that of teaching us to fly like Peter Pan so we can go away to a land where there is "never-never" any war or rape or hunger and injustice. A useful hint may be that of learning to breathe while one's head is stuck firmly under the sand.

RUE FOLEY, ARCH CAPE

## WHY?

TO THE EDITOR:

I thought that going for a ride in the car on such a nice day would be fun. I had settled down, relaxed and was purring with pure contentment, when all of a sudden my friends rolled down the window, picked me up and threw me out of their moving car. The gravel was rough, the pavement was hot, and yet what hurt the most was the loss of my friends as they drove away without me. I tried to move but it was so hard because my back was broken, and yet I thought maybe if I could be by the side of the road when my friends came back to get me they would see me easier. I waited and waited, frightened, hot and in pain as one car after another passed me by. Of course I'm only five months old, so it's pretty hard to see me since I'm so tiny.

At last a car has stopped, gentle hands lift me up and I'm taken to a lady who helps us little animals. It's not bad here, plenty of food, water and shelter from the hot sun. There are about one hundred other kittys here also, so I have plenty of others to talk to, but with so many here there isn't much attention in the "Love" department on an individual basis.

Why did you do this to me, my friends? Did I do something to make you hate me? It's hard to believe that in my five months of life you could want to hurt me so much.

Don't worry any more. The doctor just told my new friends that because you threw me out the window of your car and I hit the pavement so hard that my insides will never function again. He will finish what you tried to do. He is going to put me to sleep. Now!

I sure wish mom could wash me one more time. I sure miss you and I'm afraid. Goodbye.

This was an actual abuse case we received here at our animal shelter and recreated in writing from witnesses and experience.

DAVID COPELAND, ASTORIA

## A TERRIBLE PARADOX

TO THE EDITOR:

There is a terrible paradox that threatens the future of our civilization and our children. The paradox consists of the conflict between our traditionally strong and aggressive defense of a free democratic government and open economy by whatever means that proves to be necessary, and the incredible overstock of nuclear weapons to levels whose fractional use is likely to lead to complete destruction of the civilizations and ecosystems of the entire earth.

How do we defend our freedom and offer hope to the oppressed when war, our traditional resolution method of last resort, now presents the threat of total mutual destruction rather than the prospect of winning?

Some still dispute whether a general nuclear war now would indeed completely destroy human life on Earth, but there is no doubt that the continuing increase in nuclear weapon capacity and possession will put us in that position within a short period of time. Some of us believe that already war is too dangerous to risk and is, therefore, obsolete. However, most of the world's population has not grasped this reality yet.

Thoughts this unsettling are commonly handled by denial, which indeed seems to be the case generally. Should not our most pressing business be the confrontation of the obsolescence of war and the urgent need for a new way of thinking about the defense of freedom?

WILLIAM E. MORTON, M.D., DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE, THE OREGON HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, PORTLAND

## RADIATION EFFECTS

TO THE EDITOR:

North Coast Citizen Action for Lasting Security is sponsoring the appearance of internationally known speaker, educator and lecturer Dr. Karl Z. Morgan, former director of Health Physics at Oak Ridge Associated Universities, at the Performing Arts Center in Astoria at 568 16th Street at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, October 27. Also appearing will be Dr. Richard Belsey, M.D., Head of Chemical Pathology in the Department of Clinical Pathology at Oregon Health Sciences University, and member of the Oregon DOE Hanford Repository Advisory Committee and Physicians for Social Responsibility.

Dr. Morgan, who pioneered research that established radiation standards in the 1950s, will deliver a speech on "Radiation and Living Systems," while Dr. Belsey will address the question "Is the Hanford Nuclear Reservation a Hazard to the Health of Oregonians?" Introduction of the featured speakers and opening remarks will be made by Mrs. Joanne Oleksiak of the Hanford Oversight Committee.

Admission to this outstanding presentation is free. A brief reception will follow in the foyer of the facility.

CHARLES McLAUGHLIN, CANNON BEACH