





# ROCK MUSIC

BY BRUCE MEYER  
United Press International  
Albert Hammond played his first professional gig when he was 13—rock 'n' roll in a strip joint near an American military base in Morocco. He is 29 now, and trying very hard to become a star.

"At the moment, it's lonely, it's depressing, it's hard work. I don't mind the work, but work is one thing, and not being accepted is another."

Born in London to Spanish parents, Albert spent most of his childhood in Gibraltar. He formed Spain's first rock 'n' roll band (The Diamond Boys), tried to make it as a solo act in Beatles-dominated England, wrote a series of hits for other people and the music for a Broadway production that never opened. He also recorded one smash hit: "It Never Rains in Southern California."

"If I was trying to make money, I could do 'It Never Rains' like that. I could write bubblegum hits in five minutes."

Albert Hammond has an image problem. He wants to be known as a reasonably serious songwriter, but "It Never Rains" was such a big top-40 hit, most people have him typecast.

He is having some trouble coming up with a tune that satisfies his aesthetic requirements—and makes it on the charts, too.

I thought he had what he wanted in a tune called "The Free Electric Band." The title track from his latest album (Nums K2-32267). It's a solid, gentle rocker, but never made it into the top 50 on the national charts.

The album is the same way: solid but not heavy, lyrically intelligent for the most part, rather weak melodically, production and arrangements excellent. With the semi-failure of "Free Electric Band" as a single, it's doubtful whether the album has much of a sales future, and that's a shame.

Frankly, Albert should try bowing over the charts with a few of those "five-minute" wonders. It's never been a sin for a writer to climb to the top on a string of lightweight singles. Once there, you can do anything you want.

The most important thing to know about Melissa Manchester and her music is that she is a New Yorker. She's also from a theatrical family, with (like Albert Hammond) a classical background.

But all of it is secondary, almost incidental, to being born and bred in the city. She seems to say it with the capitals.

My music is very urban, because, well, it would never occur to me to write 'plunka-plunka twang-twang' because I wasn't brought up with those feelings and those rhythms.

"Coming from the city, you feel surrounded by other rhythms, and aromas, and dialects and attitudes. A lot of people get nervous around a city person because... they're much quicker, more quickly paced."

Melissa, like Albert Hammond, has an image problem. Hers is somewhat different, though—she simply doesn't have one. Which can be good, or bad, depending on how you look at it. It leaves her relatively free to develop.

Melissa Manchester is a good, if not breathtaking, songwriter and performer, with a beautiful voice that shows the control of formal training. She has as much chance as any newcomer I've run across this year. For the one-upmanship-minded record buyer, her first album, "Coming Home to Myself," (Bell), could be a good investment.

## Court Okays LNG Program

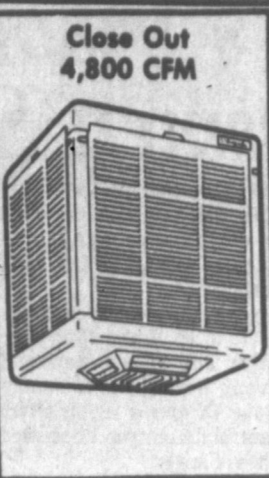
BOSTON—The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has cleared the way for importation of liquefied natural gas from Algeria to help overcome next winter's gas shortage in the New York and Boston areas and other East Coast cities.

The court ruled in favor of Distrigas Corporation and two of its affiliates (wholly owned by Cabot Corporation), which had asked for a stay of two Federal Power Commission orders issued May 25 and June 20, 1973.

The FPC orders could have interrupted the importation of the LNG and could have halted terminal operations of Distrigas at Everett, Mass. and on Staten Island, New York.

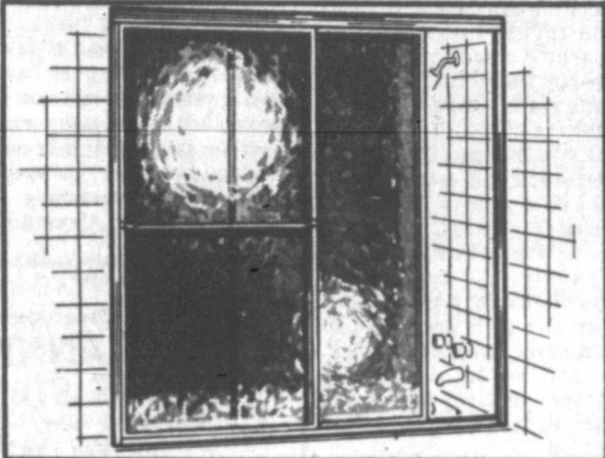
The effect of the order is to permit Distrigas to proceed with the scheduled deliveries of LNG from Algeria during the time the case is under review by the court. The first cargo is expected to arrive at the Distrigas terminal at Everett in early September.

The action also permits the company to continue construction of its terminal at Rossville, Staten Island, in time to receive LNG this winter.



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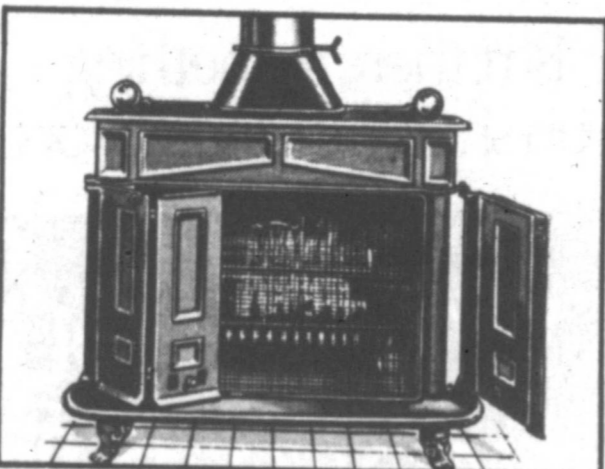


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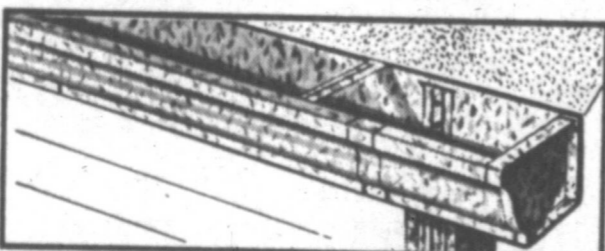
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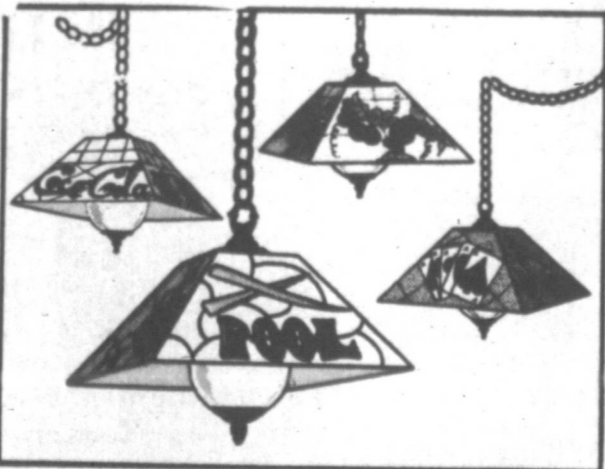
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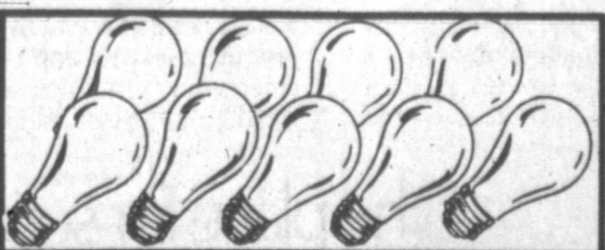
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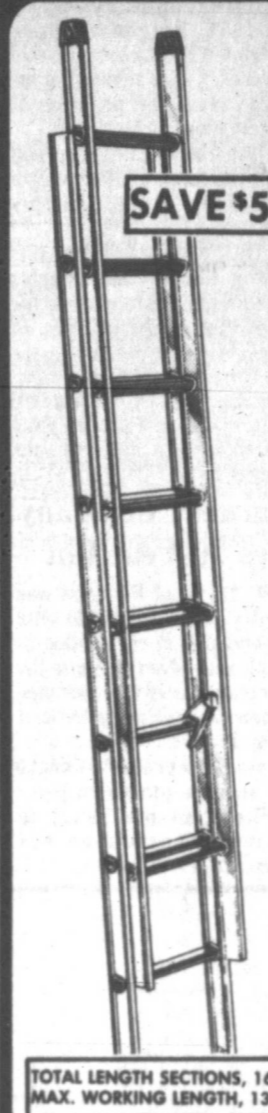
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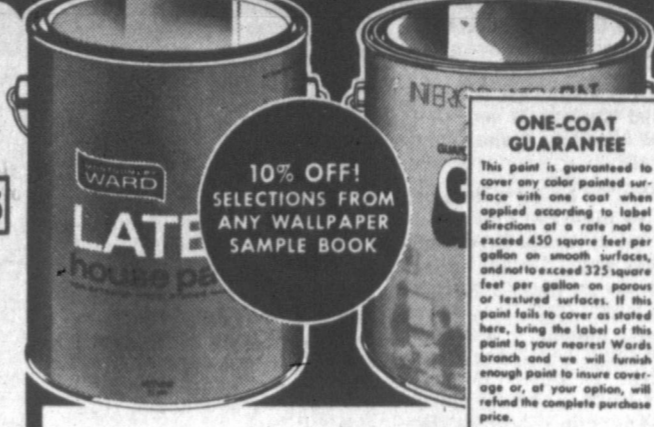
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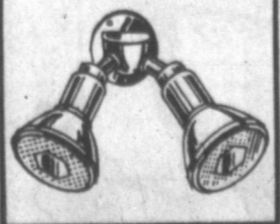
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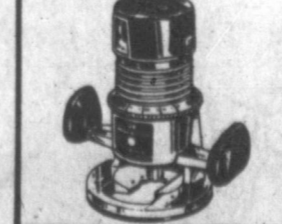
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# Dixon makes Nixon look like a security risk

By Tom Tiede

NEW YORK — (NEA) — Resembling Richard Nixon has had pleasant and unpleasant consequences for James LaRoe.

When he graduated from college, with ambitions of becoming an actor, he was turned down flatly because, well, "how can you make love on a stage with a face like mine?" So he settled into a routine existence of regular toil, interrupted, with boring repetition, by neighbors who brought relatives over to "meet the guy who looks like Tricky Dick."

Then, when Nixon became President, LaRoe's fortune changed. He left the workaday world (commercial artist) and finally got into Show Biz. He adopted the name Richard M. Dixon, got an agent — and with the help of makeup and auditions who will laugh at anything — he began an impersonation career which has, he says, "taken me all over the world."

Alas, however, things have recently turned sour again for the man with the fluke face. Allegations emanating from the Watergate investigations indicate that Richard M. Nixon was one fellow who was not laughing at Richard M. Dixon. Sources say that Dixon (LaRoe) was one of the people whom the White House had investigated for "security reasons."

As it has happened, of

course, the White House investigations have not been exactly shattering to the victims. The list of White House "enemies" includes many entertainers, as well as businessmen and politicians, who have profited from the publicity of being on the enemy list. Paul Newman hinted it was an "honor" second only to the Academy Award.

But James LaRoe has been crushed. "Me, investigated? M'God, he sighs, in earnest, let me make this perfectly clear, it's like someone has taken the flag pin from his lapel:

"I'm the damndest patriot you ever saw. I think this is the greatest country in the world. I'm one of these guys who walks down the block in the Fourth of July parade."

His jowls fairly tremble.

"I remember once in Vienna, or was it Berlin, no, it was Vienna. I was being interviewed by some reporter and they had to drag me off the guy when he made snide remarks about America. I was ready to nail him. They had to drag me off."

Investigated. By his own country. Gad?

Bear in mind here, LaRoe says, that it hasn't been easy being Richard Dixon. "I've had people spit on me. I've had hippies come charging up to me with blood in their eyes. One time at the University of Miami, I was doing a home-

coming gig. I was riding around the stadium on a car fender, you know, with my hands waving over my head, and this kid ran up before all those people and tried to get me. Four big football players stopped him cold."

But, LaRoe adds, he takes the risks. Besides the money (a reported \$1,500 an appearance), he also feels he "is doing a service to the country." He says that his act — speeches, films and dances — brings Richard Nixon a little closer to the people. "When I get through people say to me, well, we know you're not really the President, but watching you and laughing at you, well, maybe Nixon's a human being after all."

LaRoe, to be sure, does not have to play the clown. Indeed, he, uh, could have taken the easy way. "Listen, I could double my income if I wanted. Look what guys like David Frye are making — and most of the time they knock Nixon like hell. If I wanted to knock him, I could make the money too. You can't believe the things I've turned down. One time a guy wanted me to do a pornographic film — that would have been nice, huh, Richard Nixon naked?"

But, no, LaRoe says he accepted "only nonpolitical gigs." That is to say "I wouldn't want to earn my living hurting the President." A few years ago he did make an anti-Nixon film — a dud

called "Richard" — but he insists he did not read the full script and was unaware of its critical nature. That film, perhaps, embarrassing to Nixon, was the impetus behind the White House probe of LaRoe.

What kind of probe took place? LaRoe says he doesn't know and fears to contemplate. One White House investigation, of friends of Mary Jo Kopechne (the victim in Ted Kennedy's car accident on Chappaquiddick Island), is alleged to have attempted the gathering of "sexual misconduct" recordings. LaRoe doubts such procedures in his own case. "I've been happily married for 25 years and try to attend church on Sunday."

Whatever the spying, it was, adds LaRoe, inappropriate, insidious, illegal and injurious: "The ironic thing is that if the FBI would have come to me and said, Mac, we're checking up on you I would have said, fine, do your damndest. But going behind my back? I'm stunned. I'm sick."

It is, says LaRoe, enough to make a man wonder. And in his case he says he's wondering about getting out of show business and in politics. "I've had people from both parties tell me I could do it." Well, perhaps. With his face, after Watergate, voters would at least have to admire his courage.

(NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.)

## The Almanac

By United Press International  
Today is Wednesday, Aug. 29, the 241st day of 1973 with 124 to follow.

The moon is between its new phase and first quarter.

The morning stars are Mercury and Mars.

The evening stars are Venus, Jupiter and Saturn.

Those born on this date are under the sign of Virgo.

American poet Oliver Wendell Holmes was born Aug. 29, 1809.

On this day in history:

In 1852, Brigham Young proclaimed the "celestial law of marriage," thus signifying his approval of the practice of polygamy among Mormons.

In 1960, the premier of Jordan and 11 others were killed when a time bomb exploded in his office.

In 1965, American astronauts Gordon Cooper and Charles Conrad landed safely to end the eight-day orbital flight of Gemini V.

A thought for the day: American poet Oliver Wendell Holmes said, "Put not your trust in money, but put your money in trust."

### Insurance Company Gives 20-Year Pin

J.W. Davis of Perryton was recently presented his 20 year diamond pin in recognition of his 20th year of service with the American National Insurance Company in the Pampa District on Aug. 17, 1973.

Davis was presented his 20 year service pin and a party was held in his honor in commemoration of his anniversary.

# President's Displeasure With Newsmen Showing

By EUGENE V. RISHER

SAN CLEMENTE, Calif. (UPI) — President Nixon has never really liked newsmen. At best he has considered them necessary nuisances. With the pressure of the Watergate scandal his usual irritation has approached hostility.

Even before his famous 1962 "last press conference" when he let all the bitterness of his defeat for governor of California spill out, he had made it clear he had little confidence in newsmen giving him fair treatment.

But in his news conference a week ago, he counted most members of the press and television journalists among the enemies he said "would not accept the mandate of '72" and were trying to exploit the Watergate scandal in order to drive him from office.

"After all, I know that most members of the press corps were not enthusiastic—and I understand that—about either my election in '68 or '72. That is not unusual," he said.

### Prefer He Fall

Frankly, if I had always followed what the press predicted at the polls predicted, I would never have been elected President. And so... I impute no improper motives to them. I simply think they would prefer that I fail."

It is true, probably, that a preference poll of Washington newsmen during the last election would have shown somewhat less enthusiasm for Nixon than the 61 per cent of the vote he pulled.

But to say that most want him to fail after he was elected is something else again and suggests a deep and abiding bitterness.

Nixon's news conference was his first in more than five months and he was taut and nervous during the 50-minute session. Despite a visible effort to control his temper, he showed flashes of anger.

When Dan Rather of CBS, a tough and persistent questioner considered by some White House aides and apparently by Nixon himself to be overly critical of the President, prefaced a question by expressing "due respect to your office" Nixon shot back: "That would be unusual."

And at the end of his response, his anger showed through again. "Obviously, you, in your commentary tonight, can attach anything you want to it. I hope you will be just as fair and objective as I tried to be in giving you the answer," he said.

### Bordered On Impropriety

His chief of staff, Alexander

M. Haig Jr., no doubt reflecting the President's own thinking, said after the news conference that he thought some of the questions bordered on impropriety even under the circumstances.

Cynical nerves start quivering when such things happen. It is an ancient tactic to overstate, or misstate, the position of your "enemy" before attacking it.

None of the questions asked of the President had not been rhetorically posed in print before, and none was unexpected.

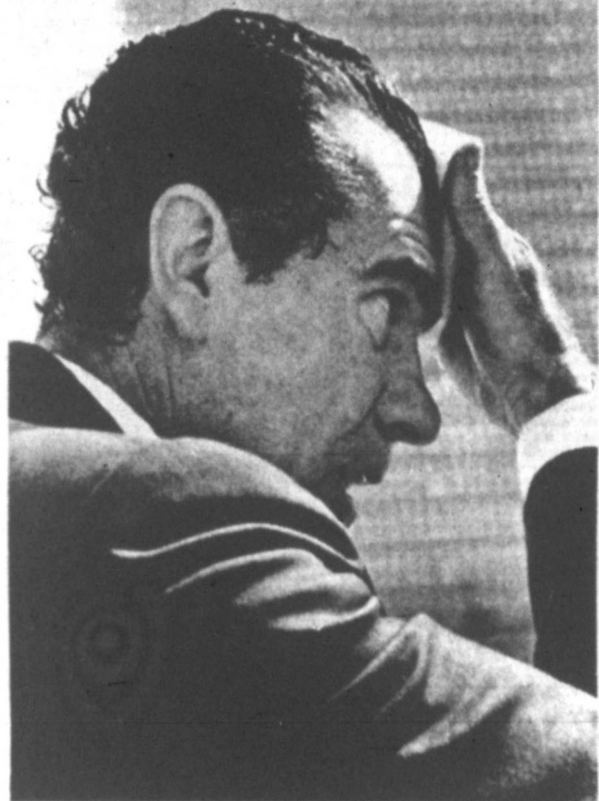
Some saw the President's responses as a move to transfer the debate over the Watergate scandal to an argument over how fairly he is treated in the media.

### Now You Know

By United Press International  
The ancient Hindus, who cut off the noses of certain criminals, are credited with developing techniques of plastic surgery as early as 800 B.C.

Just Received - New Shipment  
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WHO HAS a high position in the U.S. government and who is his impersonator? James LaRoe, alias Richard M. Dixon.

### FOR SUPERVISORS

## Lady Bird To Present Highway Beauty Prizes

AUSTIN — Six Texas Highway Department maintenance construction supervisors have been selected as finalists in the 1973 Lady Bird Johnson Award for Highway Beautification.

The former First Lady established the award four years ago to recognize the Highway Department maintenance man who does the best job of highway beautification in his area.

Prizes consist of appropriate plaques and cash awards of \$1,000 for the first place winner and \$500 for the runnerup. Mrs. Johnson will present the awards in a special ceremony Oct. 11 at Lyndon B. Johnson State Park near Stonewall.

The finalists, all of whom will be recognized at the ceremony, are John E. Black of Brady; Orin Gerald Brooks, Fort Davis; Charlie A. Hobbs, Seymour; John W. Parsons, Cameron; Willie F. Rankin, Jr., Floresville; and James C. Simmons, Dallas.

The six finalists were chosen by Departmental

administrative officers from entrants representing all 25 Highway Department districts across the state. The winner and runnerup will be selected by a committee outside the Department.

Professor Elio Urbanovsky, chairman of the Department of Park Administration, Horticulture and Entomology at Texas Tech, is chairman of the selection committee. Others on the committee include Roy White, an Austin architect; Glen Biggs, First National Bank of San Antonio; and Mrs. Bill Hobby, a vocal beautification advocate.

"By giving this award, Mrs. Johnson is graciously calling attention to the continuous efforts of our employees to beautify our roadways," State Highway Engineer Luther DeBerry said.

The maintenance supervisors are responsible for taking care of all state-maintained highway facilities in their respective areas.

All bats have voracious appetites.

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A SAM PECKINPAH FILM • FROM FIRST ARTISTS

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Show At Dusk

The ultimate in Martial Arts adventure and excitement!

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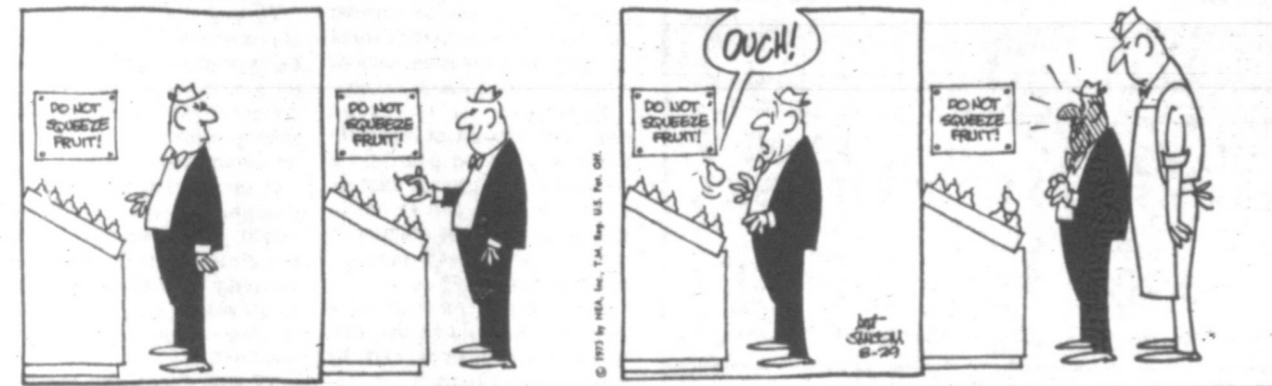
CAMPUS CLATTER



WINTHROP



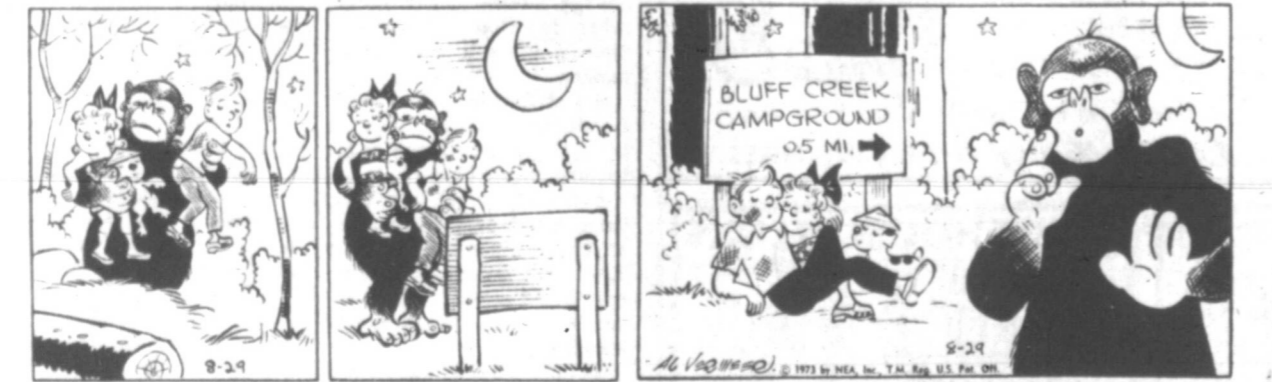
BORN LOSER



BUGS BUNNY



PRISCILLA'S POP



ALLEY OOP



FRANK AND ERNEST



JUDGE PARKER



SHORT RIBS



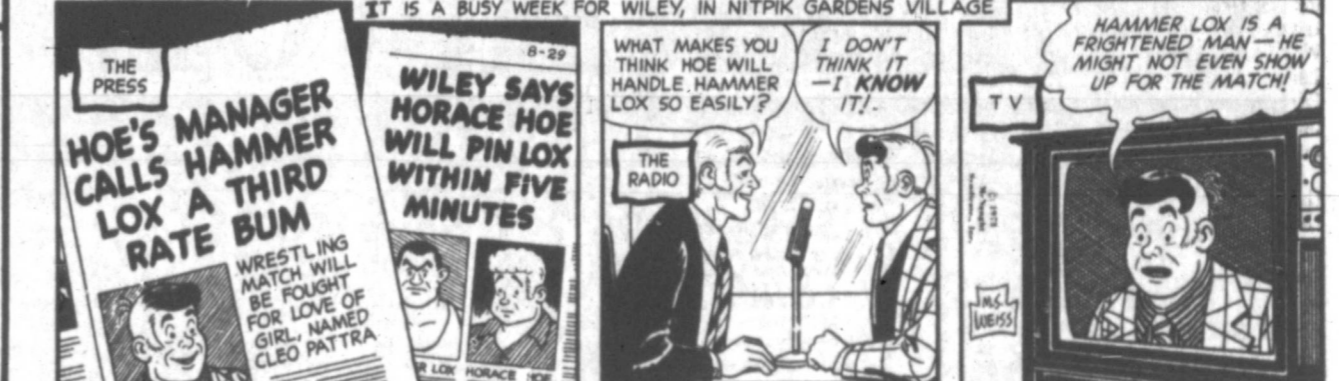
CAPTAIN EASY



PLAIN JANE



MICKY FINN



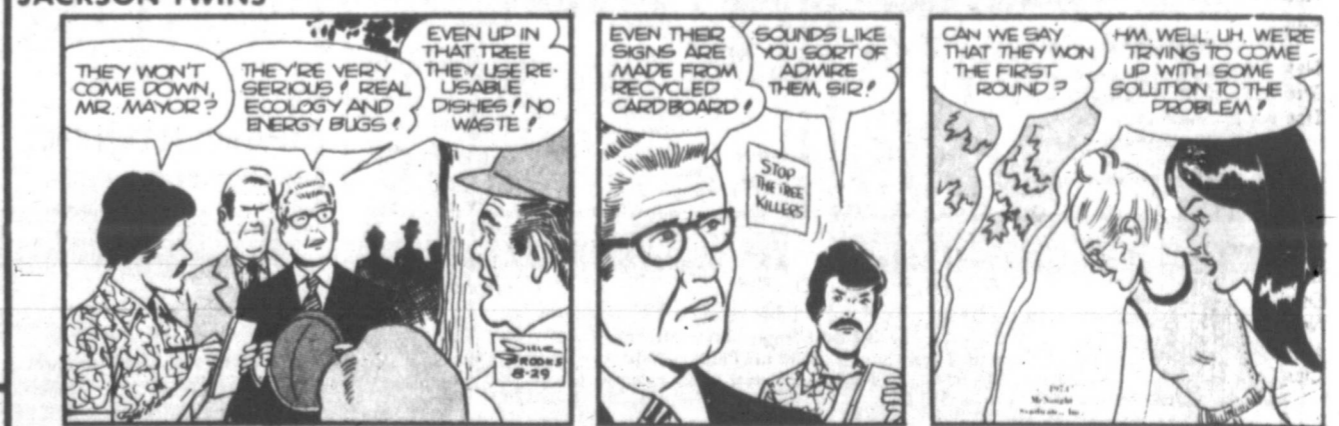
FLINTSTONES



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FUNNY BUSINESS



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Nobody Pampa's Invitational three consecutive years in a row...  
ATLAN Har  
By United 1 Henry Aa step close Tuesday 1 over sha homecom teammate. Returning for the first traded by Winter, 1 League bat Carly drove the Chicago over the Bri Carly's p the Cubs t three-run l  
Ba Sta  
By United 1 Natl  
St. Louis Pittsburgh Chicago Montreal Philadelphia New York  
Los Angeles Cincinnati San Francis Houston Atlanta San Diego  
Tues Los Angeles New York I Philadelpi Chicago 9 / Pittsburgh St. Louis 8  
Today's (All Los Ang Montreal ( San Die New York p.m. San Fran 7:50 p.m. Chicago Atlanta (P. Pittsbu Cincinnati p.m. St. Loui Houston ( p.m. Thur New York Montreal Houston at Only ga Ame  
Baltimore Boston Detroit New York Milwaukee Cleveland  
Oakland Kansas City Chicago Minnesota California Texas  
Tues Cleveland 4 Texas 5 Ba Minnesota 1 Chicago 6 / Oakland 6 / California 1 Today's (All Milwauk Chicago (F Kansas ( Cleveland p.m. Boston ( Blue 15-7 ) New Yo California Minneso Detroit (J. Texas Baltimore p.m. Thu Minnesota, Boston at l Cleveland ( Only ga









### Rodeo Nears For Elk City

Elk City's 35th annual Rodeo of Champions will be held Labor Day weekend, Sept. 1, 2, 3.

The Rodeo Association has contracted with Beutler & Son Producers to provide the rodeo stock with events to include calf roping, bulldogging, saddle bronc riding, Brahma bull riding and barrel racing.

New rodeo acts will feature D.C. Coghurn, nationally famous for his animal acts, using English sheep dogs, monkeys and Brahma bull in three features. Quail Dobbis will battle the bulls and provide specialty acts.

As rodeo clown, Wiley McCray will roll out the barrel with the bulls doing the rolling of the barrel. Hadley Barrett will describe the action as the rodeo announcer.

Again this year a free barbecue will start at 4:30 p.m. on Labor Day.

At 2:30 p.m. the annual parade downtown will be conducted.

Advance tickets can be obtained at the rodeo ticket office at McKesson's Western Store.

Caveman's anniversary  
STANTON, Mo. (UPI) — Lester B. Dill, who operates Meramec Caverns on U.S. 66 here, is marking his 50th year in the cave business. "I started at the top and worked myself down," Dill says.

### Homes

## When, why, how to paint the house

By DOROTHEA M. BROOKS  
NEW YORK (UPI) — What does a bank know about house painting?

You'd be surprised!

First National City Bank of New York, which publishes monthly a "Consumer Views" pamphlet to help its customers manage their finances, devotes an issue to "Home Painting—the Great American Hobby," and packs it full of tips for do-it-yourselfers.

Be they hobbyists who truly enjoy painting, or homeowners or apartment dwellers who've been forced to face the facts of the times, Americans now spend \$3 billion a year as do-it-yourself painters.

Paint, says Citibank, is the homeowner's great preservative, the apartment dweller's room beautifier and a low-cost home-furnishing ally.

For just about every job you might want to tackle there is, today a special paint and know-how that will insure "professional" results and a long-lasting job worth the work and money you will invest, Citibank says.

There are two basic choices, whether for an interior or exterior job: latex (emulsion) paint or oil-base paint. Both come in flat and glossy finishes.

The latexes are thinned with water, easy to apply and you clean up afterwards with soap and water. They include paints with a rubber, vinyl, acrylic or polyvinyl chloride base; they don't drip when you paint a ceiling and can go on outside walls. They are especially recommended for masonry.

The latexes give an unstreaked, uniform appearance, stand up well under industrial fumes. They may be applied during damp weather and even to damp walls. They have little or no odor and dry quickly: a second coat may be applied in two hours.

Oil paints are solvent thinned and are recommended for kitchens, bathrooms, woodwork and places that get the hardest wear.

There are, too, a wide variety of special purpose paints — heat resistant spray paint for outdoor grills and radiators, another spray for wicker furniture, a special durable paint for a cement floor, a high-gloss deck enamel; paints for aluminum, iron even porcelain.

Deal with a reliable store; buy top quality paints; tell your dealer what you plan to cover and take his advice, Citibank recommends. Never economize on the paint except to buy quality materials on legitimate sale. There's no point in wasting your investment of time and money on a botched job because of a poor product.

Paint is cheaper by the gallon — and it's wise to buy that way, also, since if you run out of paint, you cannot always be sure to get a perfect color match with the next batch, Citibank says. To get the right amount, tell your dealer the square footage and kind of surface you plan to cover, and let him tell you how much to get.

No matter what paint you buy, read and follow the instructions — to the letter. Nine times out of 10, Citibank says, it has been found when a householder complains about a paint, he or she has done something wrong — added oil-paint solvent to a water-base or water to an oil-base, or used the wrong primer or wrong brush or roller.

When to paint? Indoors, just about any time. Outdoors, Citibank says, the fall — before the rains — is the best time.

Don't paint in the summer sun. Sun causes paint to wrinkle and blister. Even if you work early in the morning, the hot sun later may cause blisters. In fact, don't work when its either too hot or too cold — above 90 degrees, or below 40.

Try to paint in dry weather, although latex paints may be used in damp weather.

You've probably heard it before, but Citibank emphasizes: "Spend at least as much time preparing the surface as painting, if not more. The painting itself usually is satisfying while the cleaning, sanding, plastering and puttying are plain grubby. But good results depend on careful preparation of the surface."

Procedure  
From the experts, Citibank offers the following procedure for outdoor painting:

- Cover shrubs, walks, terraces with drop cloths.
- Usually it isn't necessary to wash outside walls. Just brush off the dirt.
- If house is in deep shade and subject to mildew, use paint with antimildew additive. To remove mildew before painting, scrub with a solution of 2/3 cup of trisodium phosphate, 1/3 cup detergent, one quart household bleach, three quarts warm water. Repeat scrubbing as needed. Wear rubber gloves. Do not paint over mildew, which grows in fresh paint.
- Inspect the entire house. Nail down any loose boards. Remove loose or scaling paint by scraping or wirebrushing. Check caulking and putty: Replace as needed.
- Start painting at the top of the house. Paint trim and shutters last. You will need a standard rung-type ladder to paint the high areas. Use it with every safety precaution.
- If you are applying two coats of an oil-base paint, wait three days for the first to dry thoroughly.
- In addition, Citibank suggests the following painting tips:
  - Mix all the paint you will need at one time.
  - Be sure you have enough canvas or plastic drop cloths before you start the job.
  - Glue a paper plate to the bottom of paint cans to control the drips.
  - Use enough paint. Dip your brush halfway, tap it on the side of the can, then apply. Dip the brush again before it resists your sweeping motion. Paint from the dry surface into the wet surface.
  - Don't saturate a roller with paint. Give it a comfortable dip. Too much paint will splatter as you work.
  - Clean spots from clothes and surfaces before they dry.
  - To make a scaffold for painting outside, lean two ladders against the house, attach a jack (you can rent these) to each ladder. Fit planks across from jack to jack. Instant scaffold; quicker, easier painting. But do use care!

### Television In Review

By RICK DU BROW  
HOLLYWOOD (UPI) — Non-commercial television's national network gained attention this summer with its lengthy nighttime broadcasts of the Senate Watergate Hearings.

Now the network—the Public Broadcasting Service—is preparing to launch its regular new fall season. And officials in both PBS and commercial video undoubtedly will be watching closely to see whether the summer's Senate telecasts will have any appreciable effect, one way or the other, on general audience interest in the public network.

Returning PBS children's series include "Sesame Street," "The Electric Company," "Zoom" and "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood."

Among the returning public affairs series are William Buckley's "Firing Line," "Bill Moyers' Journal," "The Advocates," "Washington Week in Review" and "Wall Street Week."

Nine-Part Adaptation  
There is scheduled to be a nine-part adaptation of "War and Peace," produced by the British Broadcasting Corp.

"Also making its debut this fall," says PBS, "will be 'The Men Who Made The Movies,' an

in-depth view into the thinking of major Hollywood directors of the 1920s and 30s, including Alfred Hitchcock, King Vidor, Frank Capra and Howard Hawks.

The periodic but notable "Hollywood Television Theatre" series will be back "with three or four two-hour major productions," according to PBS.

And the "Hollywood Television Theatre" staff will also offer nine shorter works, starting Nov. 7 with George Bernard Shaw's "The Man of Destiny," featuring Stacy Keach and Samantha Eggar, and directed by Joe Hardy.

Another of these shorter plays was written by actor Gardner McKay, is entitled "Me," and is described as concerning "the effect of a mentally retarded boy on other members of his family."

There is a planned PBS special about aging in America, and the network says the program "will explore the mythology of old age using a comedy-variety-musical format." The program is being made possible by a grant from the Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Co.

Another Returning Series  
"Masterpiece Theatre" is another returning PBS series, and this season it will include some well-known mystery tales as a lighter alternative to the normally classical literary fare.

Scheduled also for the upcoming season is a salute to the late Louis Armstrong, "taped at the 1973 Newport Jazz Festival and featuring Ella Fitzgerald, Dave Brubeck and Dizzy Gillespie," says a PBS announcement.

And a 90-minute visit with the American Ballet Theatre is on tap as well.

In the works, too, says PBS, is a new series entitled "Theatre in America" which will present a number of theatrical productions. One of these will be "Cyano de Bergerac," enacted by the American Conservatory Theatre and taped at the University of California at Berkeley.

The PBS season schedule includes a five-part series about "medical conditions that accounted for three out of four deaths ... in the nation last year." Heart disease is the subject of the first program, Nov. 19. Subsequent broadcasts will deal with inborn genetic defects, Dec. 17; pulmonary disease, Jan. 14; trauma, Feb. 11; and cancer, March 11.

TV Log  
6:30  
4—High Chaparral  
7—I Dream of Jeannie  
10—To Tell the Truth  
7:00  
7—Love Thy Neighbor  
10—Sonny and Cher Comedy Hour  
7:30  
4—Banacek  
7—Movie, "A Great American Tragedy"  
10—Dan August  
9:00  
4—Garner Ted Armstrong  
7—Owen Marshall  
10—Cannon  
10:00  
4, 7, 10—News  
10:30  
4—Johnny Carson  
10—Movie, "The Cruel Sea"  
10:45  
7—Bonanza  
11:45  
7—Movie, Part 3 "War and Peace"  
12:00  
4—News  
12:15  
10—News

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FR 78-14	47 <sup>47</sup>	JR 78-15	55 <sup>92</sup>
GR 78-14	49 <sup>49</sup>	LR 78-15	57 <sup>55</sup>

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C 78-14	22 <sup>40</sup>	J 78-15	29 <sup>98</sup>
E 78-14	24 <sup>19</sup>	L 78-15	31 <sup>09</sup>
F 78-14	25 <sup>77</sup>		
G 78-14	27 <sup>51</sup>		
H 78-14	28 <sup>30</sup>		

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G 60-14	37 <sup>15</sup>
H 60-14	39 <sup>22</sup>
F 60-15	35 <sup>79</sup>
G 60-15	37 <sup>87</sup>
H 60-15	40 <sup>11</sup>

# Immunizations Reducing Disease Effects

AUSTIN — "In the past two years, the incidence of infectious, communicable diseases which are preventable by immunization has been reduced dramatically in Texas," the president of the Texas Medical Association declared in a statement released here.

Charles B. Dryden, M.D., of Wichita Falls, head of the 11,700-member medical organization, said Texans should be proud of the public health gains. Cases of diphtheria, polio, measles (rubeola), and rubella have declined by more than 80 per cent in Texas from 1970 to 1972.

"Mid-year reports from the Texas State Department of Health indicate that 1973 will see an even further reduction in the cases of these preventable diseases," Dr. Dryden said.

Individual physicians, the Texas State Department of Health, local health departments, the Texas Education Agency, and, of course, cooperating parents and patients are to be commended for increasing the protective immunization levels in our state," the TMA president stated.

In 1972, there were four cases of polio in Texas — an 82 per cent decrease from the 22 cases in 1970. By mid-August of this year, not a single case of polio had been confirmed in the state.

Diphtheria has taken an equally significant decrease of 82 per cent. There were 41 cases reported last year, compared to 234 in 1970. Nine cases have been reported so far this year, which is less than half the

number recorded in Texas at the same time in 1972.

Measles (rubeola) and rubella (German measles — also known as "three-day measles") have both decreased by 81 per cent since 1970, and the cases reported so far in 1973 are far below the number recorded by this time in 1972.

Eighty-one cases of pertussis (whooping cough) have been reported so far in Texas this year. This is less than the number reported for the same period in 1972 — and 1972 saw the fewest cases recorded annually in Texas since whooping cough became officially reportable. Last year's 185 cases represented a 58 per cent drop from the 1970 total of 437.

Tow cases of tetanus, or lockjaw, have been confirmed

in Texas so far in 1973, which is less than half the number recorded by this time last year.

"The compulsory immunization law passed by the Texas Legislature in 1971 was aggressively supported by the Texas Medical Association," Dr. Dryden commented, "and has done much to reduce the toll of these serious diseases."

Immunization levels for the state as a whole among students in Texas public schools average approximately 90 per cent for each vaccine (diphtheria-tetanus, polio, measles and rubella).

Dr. Dryden noted that more work must be done to increase the immunization level of pre-school children in Texas.

"No Texas child should have to suffer from the effects of these preventable diseases," he said. "Facilities and medical knowledge are available today to eliminate the threat of anyone getting polio, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, measles, or rubella."

Parents have a responsibility," Dr. Dryden emphasized, "to see that their children are protected."

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L 78-15	26.74

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