

# THE CANYON COUNTRY ZEPHYR

*Moab, Utah*

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*Volume 1 Number 1*

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**50 cents**

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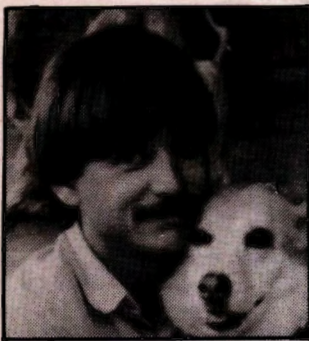
## IN THIS ISSUE:

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P.O. BOX 327  
MOAB, UTAH 84532

**Interviews: The Commissioners and Mayor  
Child Abuse in Grand Co.  
Asbestos Dumping  
A New Story by Edward Abbey  
Opinion: Sleight and Sensenbrenner  
Toots McDougald's History of Moab  
The Zephyr Gallery  
Where Are You Joe Stocks?**





# page two

Jim Stiles

This is the first issue of the Canyon Country Zephyr, a monthly publication of news, opinion, information, and entertainment for Grand County and southern Utah. According to Webster's Dictionary, a zephyr is defined as "any warm, western breeze." As it applies to this newspaper, the definition may vary. To some The Zephyr will represent a breath of fresh air; to others, it may sound like a lot of hot wind. At one time or another, I hope that every reader will reach both conclusions . . . we're not here to cater to and patronize any one constituency, or anger and provoke another. But we would like to stimulate intelligent discussion of the issues that concern the citizens of this county.

I've lived in Moab for most of my "adult life" (whatever that means), and I guess I wouldn't live anywhere else. What brought me here was the sheer beauty of the place. I came from Kentucky, where everything is green and lush and soggy. How I survived for twenty-odd years in that closed-in land of no vistas is beyond me. I need wide openness to survive, and I think a lot of you are the same way. The vast landscape, the limitless blue (clean) skies, and of course, our unique red rock are vital to our lives and make it all worthwhile.

But I have to admit, the people who live in this corner of the Colorado Plateau are as diverse as the land they inhabit. From the first time I sat down at the Westerner Grill for a cup of coffee, I realized there were as many opinions in this town as there are inhabitants. That's why there's never a lack of subject matter for stimulating conversation. And that's the way it should be, and hopefully, always will be. Who would want to live in a community where everybody looked and talked and acted and thought the same? I'm falling asleep, just thinking about it. Terminal boredom.

The Zephyr wants to reflect the diversity of both Grand County's land and people, hopefully in a positive and constructive manner. This newspaper is determined to objectively tell its readers the stories and events that are affecting Southern Utah. But we will also express opinions which in your eyes may or may not be correct. I may find myself disagreeing with commentaries within these pages. If The Zephyr hopes to present a balanced view of the life here, it has to present more than one point of view.

Regular columnists Ken Sleight and John Sensenbrenner will share their thoughts, ruminations and celebrations each month, and I can almost guarantee that each of us will find some part of their wit and wisdom with which to disagree. I have been trying to coax former long-time resident Joe Stocks to make a contribution to this paper; Joe and I have over the years, rarely agreed on anything. But I've learned to appreciate his opinion and think he is sorely needed here.

If anyone can get Joe Stocks to put pen to paper, it may be author, environmentalist and well-known trouble maker, Ed Abbey. Mr. Abbey will hopefully become a dedicated, if irregular, contributor to The Zephyr. This month's entry, "Hard Times In Santa Fe," appears for the first time in any English-speaking periodical . . . figure that one out. There is a message for Moab and its future when Abbey warns that once quaint and quiet Santa Fe has come to resemble any other than "where the blight of our techno-industrial age has laid down its heavy hand."

Joe Stocks are you listening?

## THE CANYON COUNTRY ZEPHYR

P.O. BOX 327  
MOAB, UTAH 84532  
(801) 259-7773  
JIM STILES, PUBLISHER

Trish West  
production manager

contributing writers

Edward Abbey, Jim Mattingly, Steve Mulligan,  
John Sensenbrenner, Ken Sleight, and Grandma Sue

photographers  
Rebecca Knouff, Herb Ringer

very special thanks to  
Louise and Ed Claus

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All this opinion and commentary won't be worth the paper it's printed on, without the participation and feedback of the readers. If you disagree with The Zephyr, don't sit there and grumble - let us know. Tell us why we're wrong. In future issues, a "Zephyr feedback" section will be available for readers to express their opinion. Only through an exchange of ideas and information can anyone hope to learn anything.

In order to learn and grow, that information has to be available. In our society, we have to trust our government enough to let it act on our behalf. We could hardly put every minute decision to a public vote. But at the same time, government must have enough faith in itself and its own good judgment to share those decisions with the public it serves. And it must be ready to respond with an open mind when that public disagrees with those decisions.

The Zephyr hopes it can help provide that information in a number of ways. Each month the Grand County Commission and the Moab City Mayor have agreed to sit down with this paper in an interview-type format and discuss the month's activities, the governments' decisions, and its plans for the future. To be successful, we need your help.

If you have a legitimate question, complaint, or concern for either the Commission or the Mayor, write it down and send it to The Zephyr, P. O. Box 327, Moab, Utah 84532. Hopefully, these interviews can allow the public to feel closer to their elected officials, and will provide the Commission and the Mayor an opportunity to respond directly to their constituents. If we've learned anything from the local history of our recent past, it is that communication between the government and the people is absolutely vital for the democratic process to effectively work.

Another regular feature which we call the Public Lands Watchdog, reviews the activities of the Federal agencies that regulate and control over 70% of the acreage in Grand and San Juan Counties. The National Park Service, U. S. Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management manages millions of acres of public lands in Grand County alone. It's a tremendous responsibility to care for these lands in the public interest, especially when those interests are so varied. With the cooperation of these agencies, The Zephyr hopes it can keep its readers informed on current management practices as they affect our public lands.

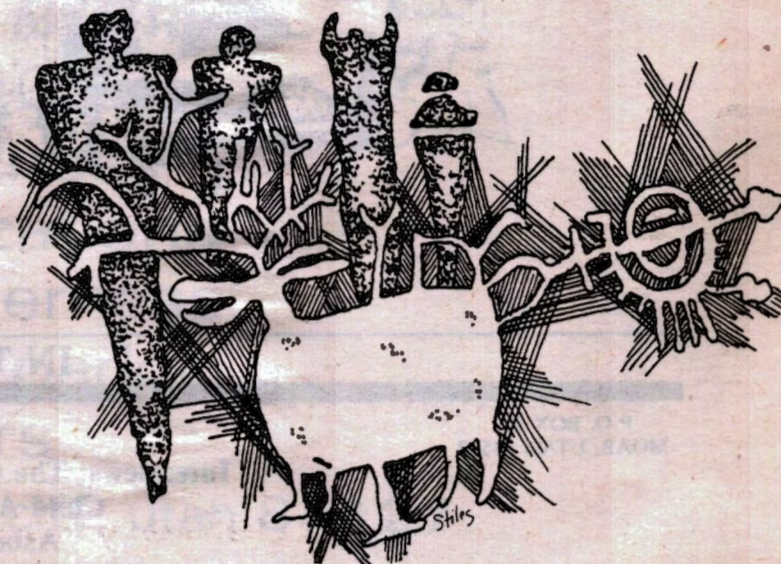
If all this up to now sounds very serious, it is; the future of our town and our county and the canyons and mountains that surround us is important to us all. But at the same time, it's not healthy to take ourselves too seriously; nor does The Zephyr always want to wear a poker face. Humor and satire are vital if we hope to maintain any kind of proper perspective in this crazy world of 1989. (Is it really 1989 already?) The Zephyr hopes it can share the stories, the myths, and the legends that have made this county what it is today. Do you have any idea how many "characters" there are in this redrock desert of ours? We have more than our fair share; their tall tales will grace our pages, as fast as we can write them down.

Well, I guess this all sounds dreadfully serious, and really, it is; the future of our community and the canyons and mountains that surround us is important to us all. But while we may forget at times, there is more to life than political melodramas, controversies, and spitting epithets at government agencies.

Our community has a lot of interesting people with a lot of stories to tell. Tall tales. Short tales. And anything in-between. The history of this area is absolutely fascinating, and The Zephyr hopes it can make that history come alive through the eyes and ears and memories of those who watched it all happen. From the way it was, to the way it is now, we've come a long way; sometimes I'm not sure if we're going backwards or forwards, but life in southern Utah bears little resemblance to the way it was even 40 years ago. We'd like to save those memories, and keep them safe and secure in these pages.

This first issue of The Canyon Country Zephyr is in its embryonic stage. It will change and grow as time passes. We'll try out new ideas, new formats, new regular features and sometimes they'll work and sometimes they won't. If you have ideas for us, let us know; we have an open mind. The Zephyr hopes to be around for a long time, but it depends on your participation and your approval.

Thanks for giving us a try. See you next month.



The Canyon Country Zephyr is dedicated to the spirit and memory of Joan Swanson.



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## an interview with the grand county commission

On February 28, The Zephyr conducted its first interview with the Grand County Commission. Because of a prior commitment, David Knutson was interviewed separately. The responses have been edited for clarity and space; a complete recording of this interview is on file with The Zephyr.

**Zephyr:** There are currently two major road projects proposed for Grand County – the Trough Springs Road and the Book Cliffs highway. Do you support these projects and will economic benefits justify the costs?

**Ferne:** Yes, I support both of them. The Book Cliffs will provide a road from northern Utah and Yellowstone, where they can come directly through the Canyonlands. And the Trough Springs Road, I believe, is the one proposed by the BLM, and I think that'll be a nice loop for people to take to the anticline overlook and then return to Moab. The only thing that will cost Grand County is the improvements on the (Egg Ranch) road that connects with it.

**Merv:** On the Book Cliffs Road, it seems to be a sound scheme. I've been up in the Vernal area and it's been an awful sweat to get down to here. It has good potential for tourism, and there are a lot of oil and gas areas in that region that could benefit Grand County . . . On the Trough Springs, I feel it's a good idea. Right now, we have two dead end roads. Connecting two roads to make a loop sounds like good sense to me.

**Dave:** I do support both of them. First on the Book Cliffs Road, that cost will be borne by the mineral lease monies that are going to the road district. Those monies come from lease monies paid by mineral exploration companies. That money goes to Washington and then 50% comes back to Utah. The state tries to get some of the money back to the areas that were impacted, such as the cost of roads. The taxpayers pay for it, but don't really benefit. Now, with a blacktop road (and the state pays half of the cost) the production costs for the oil field will go down. The tankers can get in there better on a surfaced road, it increases you exploration, that produces more mineral lease money which brings more money to the county, so that's a revolving type of thing.

Also, that will allow the tourists to come right from Flaming Gorge and funnel them right into Moab. So it's good for tourism.

Now the Trough Springs Road, the BLM's going to build that. I support that because it better serves the infrastructure for tourism. Personally, I've got a minor problem because it goes across one of my favorite places to go four wheeling. But if it serves tourism and the BLM builds it, I won't oppose it.

**Zephyr:** Recently, the County hired an assistant building inspector. Does the county need two inspectors in these economically depressed times?

**Merv:** No, we don't. And actually, I'm unaware that an assistant building inspector has been hired.

**Ferne:** I believe the City hired him, because Corky was not able at the time to inspect that.

**Merv:** I don't know anything about that.

**Ferne:** I do know that Tom said that because Corky was tied up with something else, that the City had to hire someone.

**Dave:** As far as I know, the County has not hired an assistant building inspector.

**Note:** The Zephyr has learned that Corky Brewer hired an assistant building inspector to do on-site inspections at the new motel under construction. Part of the salary is paid by the motel's owner and the electrical contractor.

**Zephyr:** What is the justification for prioritizing the Community

Development Block Grant (CDBG) money to Green River City, instead of other projects that have been on the waiting list for years such as the Mill Creek Project?

**Ferne:** I was on the fence and went ahead and voted for this, but it seems Green River had things going that would mean money for the County right away. They have this project and all they needed was the water. And that was the reason – monies into the County, not immediately, but soon. The City, had it received it, would have used it for planning only, for the Mill Creek Project.

**Merv:** Neither Ferne or I was on the Council of Governments and I know there's some discussion as to whether the C.O.G. was legal or not, but all the information we've received from upstate, prior to the forming of C.O.G. was that the Mayor of each municipality or their representative would be present. Dave would be our representative and we supported the Green River project . . . It was a late entry into the race. I think we would have gone with the parkway had it not been for Green River. But here was an immediate generator of funds. The parkway has been on the books for 20 years. What's one more year? Green River offered the greatest rate of return.

**Dave:** My priority is that more good can come to the County out of the Green River project; if they can get that industrial park going, and some businesses out there, it'll generate taxes and jobs. As far as being planned for years, for the last 2 years, I don't know how many bus rides I've taken to Green River while they're trying to sell that piece of property. First, it was the prison; they've always got somebody out there (trying to sell to) and have been for a lot of years.

Also, we have a tendency to forget that Green River, Thompson, Castle Valley are all part of Grand County. The two biggest motels in Grand County are in Green River, the biggest truck stop is in Green River. They give in tax dollars a lot more than they receive in dollars.

Next year, I'll support Moab City's project, whatever it is. And I'll stick by that.

**Zephyr:** In 1986, the County Attorney earned \$24,000.00 a year and hired one secretary. In 1989, the County Attorney receives \$31,000.00 a year, employs a Deputy County Attorney for \$18,000.00 and hires two secretaries. The questioner recognizes that drug monies pay the deputy's salary, but what are the statistics that support the need for such an increase in staff in the last two years?

**Ferne:** I'm not sure how to answer this because we had nothing to do with this. This was done before we came in. I do know there aren't many attorneys in town who can handle that.

**Zephyr:** But in terms of prosecution of cases, has there been a substantial increase that would support the staff increase?

**Ferne:** I believe so. I can't give you statistics, but I have a feeling there has been.

**Merv:** That is what I've heard too. The amount of work that is being done is far greater than what was done before. Now I am not criticizing anyone that was in there before, but previously the man was overloaded and could not get as much done as they are able to do now. I think the standard is satisfactory. I believe my self that with the salary being paid then, that it's hard to believe an attorney was available at the salary that was being paid.

**Ferne:** This is something that I'd like to watchdog.

**Dave:** Part of the reason I pushed for increases in salary for the County Attorney is because when she first came in, the state paid an extra \$5,000.00 to the County Attorney through the URESA program (Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement Support Act which, among other things, obligated county attorneys to collect delinquent child support for other states.) The state did away with that program. That part of her salary was gone. Well, you could say, so was her obligation, but to get it wasn't a whole lot of work, it was mostly a little paperwork.

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And so her responsibilities stayed the same or increased, while her salary went down.

As for the staff increase, I'm not sure what kind of a work load (the former County Attorney, Bill Benge) had. But I've depended on Elaine tremendously. She was always doing something for the previous commission. I could go down there at eight or nine at night and catch her there. As for her workload, I feel personally it has been increasing. She's done an awful good job for the County.

We're going to continue to see increases (in staff and salaries.) As new people come in, they're simply not willing to do the job that people were doing for years and years. Take Arnel Holyoak, the animal control officer. He's doing it for little of nothing. When Arnel goes, we'll be mandated to get a new animal control officer and we'll get a guy who says, if you think I'm doing it for what he was doing it, which is basically depression era wages, you're crazy. And there goes the budget going up. You can't do business at the same amount of money that you did before. so I call it coming up to speed. And I think the County Attorney has served the County well. I know a lot of people don't agree with that; I have a few things we don't agree on, but generally I think she's served the county well.

Note: A review of city and state cases filed with Circuit Court reveals that the number has actually decreased in the last two years: 1985 . . . 440, 1986 . . . 441, 1987 . . . 397, 1988 . . . 381. In addition, before 1987, multiple defendants in an offense were filed as one case; since then, each defendant has been filed as a separate case.

Zephyr: Both the County Attorney and her Deputy have private practices. The County pays the rent for their offices. What percentage of the rent do they refund to the County for private use of the office?

Merv: I have no answer.

Ferne: I don't know. I do know that Mrs. Coates is a part-time person, and has every right to her private practice.

Zephyr: Right, but if for example 40% of this time (an arbitrary number) is spent in private practice, do they have to reimburse the County 40% of the rent?

Ferne: I believe that's something we should investigate.

Dave: I'm not sure, but I don't know that they refund any. The best way to find out is to ask the Clerk.

Zephyr: The Special Road District currently has three members; it can be increased by law to seven. Do you think that would be a good idea?

Merv: I still feel that expanding it will be a good idea, but I have to take advice from people up North in the Association of Counties and Association of Governments and they have advised me not to do it at this stage. I don't want to say anymore about that as to the whys and wherefores. I do not believe that with the three there, they cannot act in a satisfactory manner. I'm not paranoid about this; I believe we can make this work. I believe we can work with the Special Service District and get a good program going where they look after their share and we look after ours.

Dave: No. If you've ever sat on boards, if you want to get something done, the fewer there are to argue about it, the better off you are. If you're interested in making sure all sides are heard, the more you have, the better, but you generally end up not getting too much done. They law said we could set it up with three people, and I think three people can sit down and decide where they want to go and what they want to do with it. Although this road district is another bureaucratic level, they could do anything they want with that money, I suppose. I don't see them doing that.

Zephyr: Do you feel there were any ethics violations when the Road District was established?

Ferne: Yes. I don't like the way it was established. I think I would like to see more people on the board, but I don't think it's good for the County to have this controversy.

Merv: Yes, I believe there was one, but of academic interest. And that was Dutch Zimmerman going on the Special Service District when he was a County Commissioner, but all he had to do was resign to make it legal . . . on the aspect of nepotism, the relationship between Ollie and Dave, I did ask people upstate who were far more conversant

with the law than me, and they said it was in order. I went for advice, I received advice, and I went along with that.

Dave: You mean with putting my dad on? I don't, because I checked with our County Attorney before that happened. She said the only problem was the hurt that would be placed on me, because people would talk about it. I said I could handle that, because in my opinion he's still the best qualified.

Zephyr: On the asbestos issue, have any of you read the E.P.A. guideline on asbestos which is available at health inspector Jim Adamson's office?

Ferne: I haven't read them.

Merv: I haven't read what he's got. (As for the asbestos dumping) it's something that a few years ago, no one thought about. But now the issue has come up, and there is a danger and you must take certain precautions to protect yourself. And this is what's being done. I have no problem with the environmental situation or mechanical situation of handling the asbestos. The philosophical question of how far away do we accept asbestos, was the concern I had. Between the three of us we decided it was alright to accept this material. But I will always have a bit of hesitance in accepting it from far away. I did make this arrangement, and if anyone wants to blame someone, they can blame me.

Dave: No, this asbestos thing, I didn't ever know it was going in the dump at all. In fact, Tim Pogue mentioned it to me and said there would probably be something about it, but said it had been going on for years. In the past, it may have been mentioned in the minutes, but I wasn't conscious of it, let's put it that way. But when they said there was stuff coming out of Denver, this was never brought up at a public meeting, I had no idea what was going on about it. I had to laugh at the Commission meeting the other day, because the same things Merv was saying, the reasons we had to accept asbestos, were the same things I was saying about a hazardous waste incinerator -- we have a moral obligation, we all contribute to it, as long as it's legal, as long as it's safe, it brings money to the County . . . isn't that exactly what we were saying about the incinerator?

Zephyr: Rudy Higgins has requested that the City and County widen and improve 4th North and Apple Lane respectively, to provide commercial access to an RV campground he wants to build. How do you think this issue will be resolved?

Ferne: As far as I'm concerned, it's resolved.

Dave: I don't think it's over yet. If there was a decision made at the last Commission meeting, it was to not make a decision. Not doing it is shortsighted, because once you put something into motion, I think there's an obligation to carry through on that. What we've had is a transition of the Commission, and I don't think it's a smart thing to not carry through.

Zephyr: Do you think it's a good idea to proceed on Apple Lane before the City agrees to improve 4th North?

Dave: I do, because quite frankly, I have a hard time getting along with the City. It's nice to be able to get along, but this town would be a lot better off if everybody minded its own business. That goes for me, and you, and everybody. The County should do what the County can do, and let the City worry about what their problem is.

Merv: This one is hurting me. I've got a head and a heart and there's a fight going on within me over the whole thing. From the practical aspect, I cannot see widening Apple Lane to the trailer park, when you cannot reach it in a satisfactory manner. And that is the City's section -- 4th North. It is not up to standard, and what you're doing is putting in a little island of widened road. If the City were to widen that section, I think my objections would fall away. I also have a "heart" objection, and that is the people down in that area in Apple Lane and River Sands. I sympathize with their objection, but we cannot contain our little city to a certain size, by not allowing anything to happen on the outskirts. We must allow expansion around the perimeters.

I cannot sympathize with people who say, there will be all this traffic running up and down this road. It's not going to be that great.

But I don't want to build a bridge over a river with no road leading to the bridge. But if the City does widen 4th North, then I think we should go with it.

Another problem I have is, how much should the County put into a road to a private enterprise? If you do that to one person, will the County pay for the infrastructure for other enterprises? We must do our best, however, to encourage private enterprise to come in. If that road goes in as a Class B Road, it won't cost the County; the monies will come in from the State to pay for that. So in a way it is not the County putting that road in, it is the State.

We want to support private enterprise. So what do you, the people, want us to do? I heard very loudly (at the Commission meeting) yesterday, the statement about hanging a sign on the Colorado River bridge -- Don't cross the bridge; there's no room for you there.

That hurt. That hurt me. Now, what do you want? What do you people want? Do you want to see private enterprise coming in? Do you want to see a certain amount of growth? Or do you want to lock this place up. What do you, the people, want? Guide me. Help me. Please.

Zephyr: Thank you.

### THE CANYON COUNTRY

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## the mayor speaks an interview with tom stocks

On March 6, 1989, The Zephyr conducted an interview with Mayor Tom Stocks. The responses have been edited for clarity and space; a complete recording of this interview is on file with The Zephyr.

**Zephyr:** Do you feel the Community Development Block Grant money should have gone to the City of Moab instead of Green River?

**Tom:** I'm disturbed over the process that took place to decide that question. The Council of Governments (COG) should be set up by the entities and municipalities within the County. I talked to the County Commission and the State about the way it was set up and they say it's an advisory board. I feel that Moab City and Castle Valley were not informed as to their rights. The County, a number of years ago, said that if they were allowed to have the CDBG funds for 3 or 4 years, then the City would be allowed to make the final determination of their projects, and they didn't do that. I think David Knutson, the Commissioner in charge, made a decision that we were to make as City Council. In December of 1988, I believe, in Monticello, they reminded themselves that it was up to the City to make the decision on the grant funds.

**Zephyr:** What do you mean? What happened in Monticello?

**Tom:** In Monticello, they had a meeting of S. E. Utah Association of Governments telling you how to apply for CDBG funds. Ray Pene and Terry Warner both attended. We were under the impression the City would be allowed to make a decision about the funding at least.

**Zephyr:** Have you appealed that decision?

**Tom:** As of today, I have not. The City Attorney wrote a letter to the S. E. Utah Association of Governments protesting the set-up to make that determination.

**Zephyr:** The money from the CDBG would have gone for planning for the proposed Mill Creek Parkway. What is the justification for building the parkway with its million dollar price tag? And will it benefit the citizens of Moab?

**Tom:** The parkway benefits are twofold. The first cuts down on the flood problems we've had with the creek and getting the vegetation out of there, and the second is to give us access for foot and bike traffic; so they can travel around the community without being on roads and creating traffic hazards. That type of thing is always appealing to out-

of-town people who come here, and I think it will compliment the businesses. It's got to be good for the community. The million dollar price tag has a lot to do with the flood control problem, and we're hoping the Corps of Engineers will carry 75% of the cost.

**Zephyr:** Let's shift to another subject, and a different question. Who has responsibility for the Dump? Has that issue been resolved between Moab City and the County?

**Tom:** The County has total responsibility for the dump. However, the City owns the land which creates some liability problems in the future if it's not properly managed. We have not received a bill since January 1, 1989, so they are honoring the agreement we made last Spring.

**Zephyr:** Until January 1, 1989, as you said, the City and County were sharing responsibility for the dump. Were you ever provided any information about the asbestos dumping, or any other hazardous waste dumping?

**Tom:** No.

**Zephyr:** Does the City have any plan to widen and improve 4th North to provide commercial access to Apple Lane and Rudy Higgins' proposed RV park?

**Tom:** Most of that area is privately owned and it extends practically out to the middle of the oiled road. So it's really not a City issue until such time as the City owns the land. I don't think we have the right to go in and widen someone's personal property. The only way is through the power of eminent domain, and this City Council is one that does not believe it should take anyone's personal property unless there was a dire need from a safety problem. I shouldn't even speak of eminent domain, because people will see that word in your paper and say, oh they're going to take my house away . . . we're not going to do that. My perception is that the Council is not going to do anything to acquire property for a private venture.

**Zephyr:** Speaking of condemnation, there are several questions and concerns about the Redevelopment Agency.

**Tom:** We wish we could drop the Re- in that, and just call it a Development Agency.

**Zephyr:** Ok, First explain what the Redevelopment Agency is, and what its purpose is.

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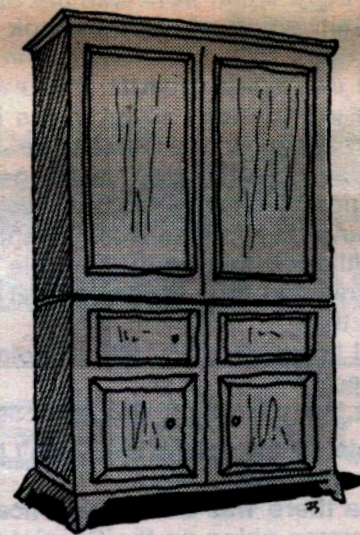
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Tom: We have no intention of going in and taking someone's property for aiding another individual and starting a business for profit. The purpose is to encourage someone to spend their money in Moab to do some real estate development, and we in turn will take the tax increment, the increase in taxes on that development after it's built; the City Council will make the determination on its use.

Zephyr: Some people are concerned because their residential property have been included in these 'blighted areas' as designated by the Redevelopment Agency.

Tom: First, the City has not designated any study area that has a residence on it. There may be study areas in the future with residences on it. However, owners of residences and the City can enter into an agreement that would allow them to rest assured that their home will not be taken or used in that study area. A business can also be exempted.

Zephyr: What will this Redevelopment Agency cost the taxpayers?

Tom: The entities that have taxes to be derived from the improvement will not receive those funds until a period of time has passed. It's a little complicated. The first 5 years after it's been designated a study area, the tax increment goes to the agency. If the money is shortcuted from going to the County, then the County wouldn't have those funds for something else. So that may cost the taxpayers an increment of money to offset that cost. However, all money collected from a study area must be spent on improvements within that area. This City Council has already voiced the opinion that if there is any money shortcuted from the school system, they want to spend at least an equal amount out of that tax increment money that would've normally gone to the school district with the consideration of the School Board's input on school property.

Zephyr: Last question. A couple of weeks ago, the City Council revised the fee schedule for the Golf Course. A membership at the club increased from \$250 to \$350. In addition, after 50 rounds, members would pay \$4 for each additional 18 holes. The next week the Council revised that proposal and dropped the add-on fees. Some people thought the increases were long-overdue; others thought it was grossly unfair. Can you explain the increases, and then the decision to reverse or modify them?

Tom: You want me to be succinct, and that is a very encompassing problem. There should be more communication between the people running the golf course and the Council, and these things ought to be worked out ahead of time; rather than to come to an adverse relationship. We're all working for the same thing — the development of the community, reasonable fees for those who use the services.

We believe that when someone can play 250 rounds of golf for \$175; that works out to 70 cents a game. That's an unreasonable use of the services for the money paid. On the other hand, do we put a tab on the other end of it that makes it come out to \$1300 year? That is an extremely large increase. The problem is, we went after grant money to the tune of \$1,242,000, which includes \$750,000 for the 9 hole addition, \$220,000 for the water line to cut down on the pumping costs for the golf course. Then I see they budgeted \$12,000 to pump the water at the golf course. The water is costing \$9,500 that they just spent.

When the Golf Course Board comes in and shows they're deficit budgeting \$56,000, I feel the Council was prudent in saying raise your fees. The Board has to be prudent in the management of that course themselves; they know who's getting the services that aren't being paid for. All these years there've been people playing for a dollar a round — they haven't been paying their way. It's time that the Board took the reins, raised the fees, and went out and got additional fees for trail fees, use of the golf carts, and charge those people who've been getting those services for a very nominal amount.

The Board did come back and showed they do intend to generate more revenue than the initial budget showing the \$56,000 loss. I think for 1989 they had \$43,000 in the bank. They can use that money up; they don't need to come to the County and the City. If they're going to budget a deficit, they should stand that cost. Next year they'll miss the fees to cover it. Then I think that's prudent action. As long as the Board and the Council agree that they will take care of the costs and not hit the City up for additional funding, then I think it's up to them to set that fee. If they want to let people play for a dollar a round when it gets up to 250 rounds, that's up to them. But they take it out of their pocket, not the City and County coffers. I'm a County taxpayer as well, and I'm offended that they would ask for thirty, and be budgeted for \$25,000. I don't think they had the right to ask for that money in 1989.

At the last meeting, it was decided that if the Board wants to cut back the fees that the Council recommended, then the City felt the Board should take the full responsibility on their shoulders for the Golf Course operation. The City will not budget any funds in 1989. As long as that happens, I'm pleased with that. And I feel the County Commission should do the same. They budgeted \$25,000 anyway, which I totally disagree with. I hope the new Commission will take a look at a number of things that the lame-duck Commission budgeted last December.

Zephyr: Thanks, Mr. Mayor.



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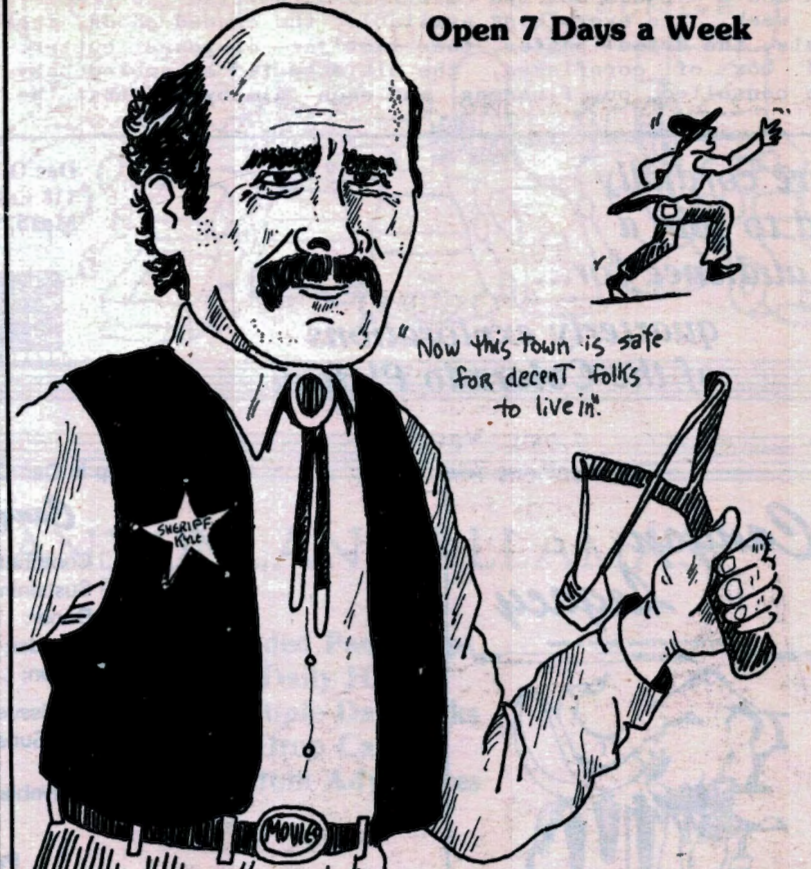
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# Hard Times in Santa Fe

by Edward Abbey

The Chamber of Commerce calls it "The City Different." Different from what? Different from the typical American city, the Chamber means. But more and more Santa Fe comes to resemble every other city, and not only American cities in general, but any town where the blight of our techno-industrial age has laid down its heavy hand.

The core of Santa Fe has been well preserved, a museum piece of adobe palaces and mansions of mud. Height restrictions have saved the city -- so far -- from the usual plague of glass-walled skyscrapers and mainframe metal boxes thirty stories high. But outside of the traditional city, the inner city, the pretty city, the approaches are much the same as anywhere else: strips of commercial sleaze and shopping mall slums lining every highway for miles to the north and south. East and northeast of the arteries of business are the new residential areas, the middle-class or "Anglo" quarter, a neat and tidy reservation filled with overpriced villas of cinderblock, plasterboard, wallboard, tarpaper and chickenwire, the corners rounded and the surfaces sprayed with light brown stucco to give each structure the contemporary Santa Fe look. That is, the simulation of genuine fake adobe. The authentic imitation. Good enough for the forty thousand newcomers from Elsewhere, USA and Europe, who have poured into Santa Fe since the end of World War Two. Nobody seems to mind. Prosperity is irrefutable.

Not everyone shares in the new abundance. On the west and south of the city (where the poor always seem to find themselves) live the original inhabitants of this City Different, the native Mexican-Americans, that mestizo mixture of Indian and Spanish who never quite succeed in adapting, who never quite catch up. They brood among their flat-roof slums and junked automobiles, surviving on part-time employment and full-time welfare, breeding too many babies, training too many criminals, dreaming too many bitter dreams.

Indifference on the white people's side, envy and hate on the other. Someday soon the lovely old town of Holy Faith will explode in class warfare, a warfare made even uglier by cultural incompatibility and the racial divide.

Polite people do not talk about such matters. Strolling about the icy streets last November, I too preferred to think of sweeter things. The volcano will erupt soon enough; why spoil the present? Enjoy, enjoy, they cried in Pompei, unto and into the Latter Days.

Down the narrow street called Palace Avenue I passed the high adobe wall of the house where I once lived, for one frigid winter, during my youthful Bohemian days, the carefree 60's. The house belonged then to a friend of mine, the great Southwestern landscape painter John De Puy. "Debris," as we called him, had fled the winter, pursuing a woman to Switzerland, Greece, Crete. He left me and another friend, a Yogi fakir from New Jersey named Frank Wohlfarth, in charge of his fifteen-room palacio.

A serious mistake. John knew better. But love had deranged his mind.

Frank and I cleaned out the pantry and emptied the freezer the first week. Ate everything available, the canned goods, the frozen meats, the dried pastas, the last jar of peanut butter, the final box of cornflakes, the ultimate tin of smoked baby clams. We consulted our finances and each discovered that the

other was broke, penniless, bankrupt. Neither of us had a job or any intention of finding a job. I was a writer, not a bloody employee. Frank was a mystic.

We did not panic, not even when the gas company shut off the gas, the power company turned off the electricity, the city cut off the water. We would do as artists always do -- live by our wits.

Frank lit a joss stick, assumed the lotus posture, closed his eyes, and subsided into a stupor of deep meditation, reducing his metabolism to that of a hibernating lizard. In that elemental state he could survive for weeks, living off body fat and bliss.



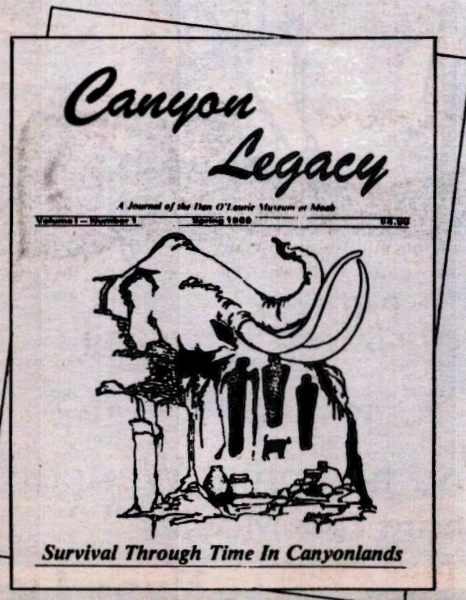
My response was different: I pawned the household furnishings piece by piece.

First to go was the antique canopied four-poster in the master bedroom, a grotesque and superfluous item in a home without the comforts of steady female companionship. I dismantled the massive thing and hauled it in my old pickup truck to a shop dealing in something known as "Distressed Freight." My payment was sufficient to provide us with pinto beans and dried rice for a week. Such a diet, while bleak, supplies the essential protein for cold-weather nutrition.

A few ox-hide tapestries and hand-carved santos from the time of Coronado enabled me to buy such essential delicacies as eggs, coffee, wine, cream, French bread, Danish cheese, Knott's plum jam, even the occasional odd Virginia ham in its burlap sack. We managed. Sri Aurobindo Frank, I must reveal, would descend from his astral world, from time to time, to share these simple pleasures with me. A mere snap of the fingers, accompanied by the aroma of fresh-brewed coffee and the sizzle of frying ham, was usually enough to bring him out of his trance and into the vulgar world of illusion, if only for an hour or so. Om, sweet Om.

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The nights were long though, and the high mountain freeze sank deeper and deeper into our adobe walls, forcing us to close off most of the house and retreat, room by room, to the shelter of the main salon, where a fire of broken kitchen chairs, or splintered tongue-in-groove flooring from an unused back room, was always blazing cheerily in the huge though inefficient fireplace. We endured. The books disappeared. Then the drapes. Then the obscure old paintings in their gilded frames, the oaken table and chairs from the unneeded dining room, the chief kitchen appliances, gas range, freezer, hot water heater, refrigerator - none of them of much use to us in those long months when the temperature never rose above 32 degrees Fahrenheit. The house acquired an austere, bare look appropriate to its monkish inhabitants, an ascetic and medieval ambience, nicely improving the general decor. No one objected. Nobody complained. Our peace remained undisturbed. Frigid December became frozen January, gelid and unrelenting February. I scribbled my stories. Frank contemplated eternity. Herman Rednick covered the bare white walls with his lurid murals of erotic and profane love.

Rednick? He had appeared at midnight on New Year's Eve, announcing himself with a thunderous barrage of blows on the front door. I opened the door. This total stranger stood there, a silly grin on his drunken face. "I'm an artist too," he explained, then buckled to his knees and flopped inside. A blizzard whirled behind him. I dragged him into the house; he stayed for three months.

In late March came the warning telegram from Crete:

ED: DIVORCED AGAIN.

BARBONS APPROACHING SANTA FE. HOUSE FOR SALE. TIDY UP QUICK PLEASE. URGENT. JOHN.

Barbons? Yes, the parents of John's Swiss wife, the actual owners of our magnificent adobe estate, were coming to salvage the debris of an impossible marriage. Heirs to a merchant's fortune, they deplored waste, though a continent away.

I impounded Rednick's brushes, aroused the Yogi from his dogmatic slumbers. We threw our few belongings into my antique Chevrolet pickup, hacked the ice from the windshield, thawed the motor over a low fire, and made a clean escape to Mexico one day before the vengeful Swiss arrived.

Twenty years later my friend John De Puy and I are still good friends. Frank disappeared into India, Rednick into New York, but Debris and I remain, as always, here, now.

Santa Fe also remains where it has been, frozen in its warp of time, surrounded by the besieging armies of 20th Century madness. Just as the old adobe mansion on Palace Avenue survived my earnest care, so will the ancient mud city of the Holy Faith outlast these transient, temporal, illusory barbarians of today.

Edward Abbey is the author of The Fool's Progress, Desert Solitaire, The Journey Home and other books. Hayduke Lives!, the sequel to his classic 1975 novel, The Monkey Wrench Gang, will be published in the Spring of 1990.



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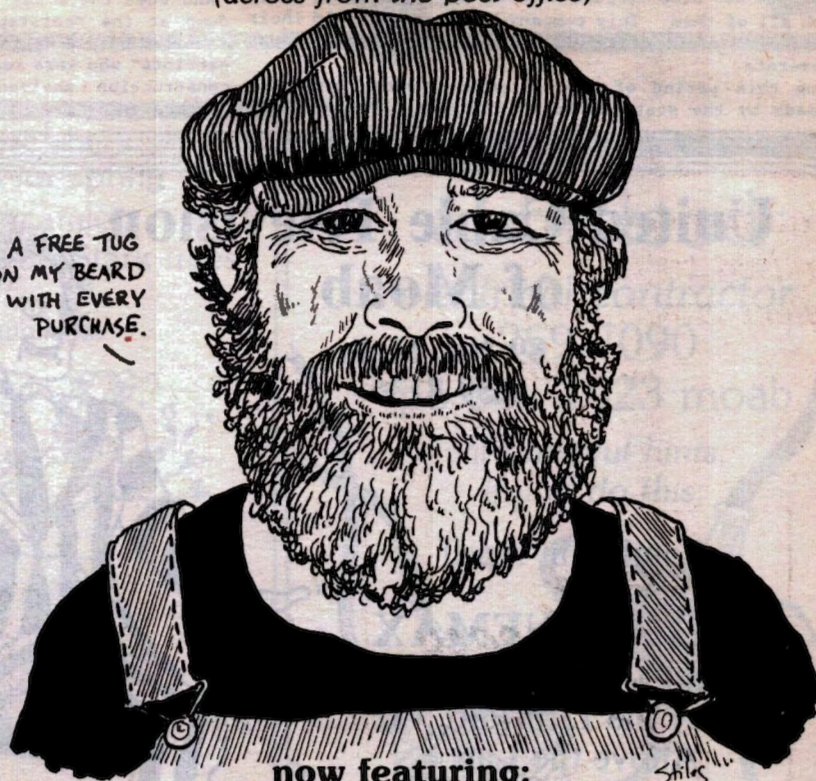
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## around the bend

by ken sleight

With the advent of this column, it's fitting to spell out some thoughts I have concerning our canyon environment and protection. It is with much gratitude that I have been able to spend most of my life in the canyon country. Having gained many experiences, positively and negatively, I wish to draw from them for this column.

Glen Canyon has been especially rewarding to me. I regret that coming generations will never have that opportunity. They will never be able to hike up Forbidding Canyon in route to Rainbow Bridge or enjoy the spirit of Music Temple or Cathedral in the Desert. The construction of Glen Canyon dam took care of that. The free-flowing Colorado River has been stilled for a while.

Kids of the future have been cheated out of a great heritage. My aim now is to keep reminding people of our loss with the hope that there may never again be such a tragedy. One would have thought that there would never have been another Hetch Hetchy. We failed to learn.

It was the environmental community itself that bargained off Glen Canyon. It was a case of not knowing better. And part of the bargain in giving it up was that Rainbow Bridge would be protected from the rising waters of Lake Powell. Also, that Rainbow Bridge National Monument would not be impaired. These provisions were placed into the law. It's there to read.

As the waters rose, it was evident that nothing was to be done to protect the Monument. The Bureau of Reclamation with the concurrence of the National Park Service allowed the desecration. The waters entered Monument in spite of the law and the bargains that had been made. So much for honor, for justice. This great double-cross made me a card-carrying environmentalist. I made up my own card and will continue to carry it. I contribute regularly now to the Advancement of Cynicism.

There are continuing threats to the canyon environment. After the loss of Glen Canyon, a number of marinas were established on the shores of Lake Powell. The concessions were issued on a competitive basis, one marina to a concessionaire. But somehow the original plan was sidetracked and Del Webb Corporation, of Las Vegas fame, ended up with all of them. This company has recently sold their property and interests to ARA Services, an international conglomerate.

During this period of concession expansion, proposals were made by the state to build a highway from Bullfrog

Marina to the Wahweap Marina. This road, dubbed the Trans-Escalante Highway, would have crossed the Escalante River just below the towering Stevens Natural Bridge and the mouth of Coyote Gulch. What an additional tragedy that would have been. Despite gallant opposition, the road was authorized. The funds have yet to be appropriated.

Burr Trail development at that time was accorded a low priority by the state. But as soon as the Boulder Mountain road near by was completed, the Burr Trail was immediately elevated to the top of the list. As a forerunner to this, Bullfrog interests had attempted to wheel a power line up Long Canyon and across the Burr Trail route to service their marina. The project has yet to be authorized.

Many problems are ahead regarding the Burr Trail development. Projected power line development is but one of them. The ease of access will endanger adjoining wilderness qualities. For instance, initial access a number of years ago made possible the wholesale destruction of the petrified forest near the head of Silver Falls Canyon. Huge petrified logs were dynamited into smaller chunks to be hauled away. And now with easier access, the remaining bits and pieces will assuredly disappear.

The state has placed a great emphasis upon Lake Powell. Witness the great efforts it made to construct the Trans-Escalante highway and the Burr Trail. Already staggering amounts have been given or pledged toward the Burr Trail development. This at the expense of educational and other needy projects. The state has used funds to build a ferry boat to be used by the marinas on Lake Powell. This cost them \$900,000. In addition, some \$2 million has been spent in building roads and communities in the "Ticaboo Special Service District" in the Bullfrog area.

And it's just begun. Utah's Governor Bangerter is pushing the National Park Service to exchange state lands that lay within Glen Canyon National Recreation Area for adjoining areas of park lands on the shores of Lake Powell. These would be for Lake Tahoe type of developments.

The tragedy of Lake Powell development is also seen in the demise and neglect of southern Utah's small towns. Rather than available funds being used to build up these towns, the funds are going to Lake Powell interests. It is my contention that the use of any available funds should go to these quaint, small towns to them to become tourist destination points from which residents and visitors may venture out into the canyon areas, to enjoy the canyon experiences, and then to return. The impact to the canyons would be slight. The canyons themselves should be protected at all costs.

Now from many quarters comes a great hue and cry that the environmental community should cease its "radical ways" and once again sit down at the bargaining table. To bargain what? To bargain away our canyon heritage as Glen Canyon was bargained off? To be made fools of once again?

In essence, the opposition is asking us to sit down "in good conscience and in good faith" to draw up the terms of surrender. Issue by issue, we are being asked to give up this and to give up that. It's never enough. Soon there would be no natural or wilderness areas left.

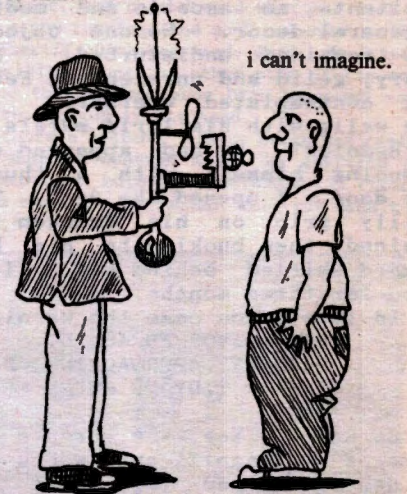
There comes a time, for each of us, that our conscience - our inner soul - rises to say, "I've had enough! No more!" At that point there is no retreat or compromise. We are at the very point on a number of environmental and social issues. It was Teddy Roosevelt that said to leave only tracks in Grand Canyon and to leave it as it is. A no compromise stand. And in more recent days, Grand Canyon was saved from dam construction because the American people said "No more..."

And when there was an attempt to place a nuclear waste dump at the doorstep of Canyonlands National Park, the American people again responded. As a result, the "canyon patriots" who were ready to descend on the site to prevent construction shelved their well-laid plans of civil disobedience.

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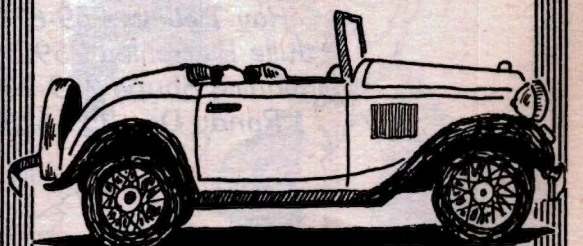
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## over easy

by john sensenbrenner

Jim said I can write anything I want. So I wrote a story on my optimistic and humorous reflections on the economic dilemma in S.E., Utah. But Jim said he'd rather see something on the Jeep Safari since it's only two weeks away. Alright, I wrote a snappy little satire about the characters you see around at Safari time. Uh, uh, Jim said he wants no fiction to confuse the readers particularly satiric fiction to confuse us with other organs of communications (stomach, intestines . . . whoops, gotta watch that).

Then, relaxing a bit and showing a more liberal spirit, perhaps, he says, when the tone of the paper has been settled we can have more latitude to stray into lighter material. O.K. Sure is tough working for a pit nicking editor. What do you think he'll say when he reads that?

Well, here it is, a Jeeping issue straight up, no confusing metaphor, no humor, just the unvarnished poop: Everyone in S.E. Utah has become aware of the large number of bicyclists that have been using our trails. We're glad to see them come on the scene. We welcome them and feel that we share a common bond in our interest in using this beautiful country and seeing to it that it is not degraded in any way that would diminish its magical effect on all who are lucky enough to enjoy it. There is no reason that with careful and responsible use of the trails we should not be able to handle the increased traffic without damaging this resource.

The key is in impressing all users of the area with the importance of respecting its beauty and in seeing to it that when we leave, it is in the same condition as when we entered. Part of the problem is that each year there is a new group of enthusiastic folks ready to go out and enjoy the land unaware of our efforts, thinking that they are the first and the last to want to be out on the

trails.

Sure, we are aware that there are problems in impressing everyone with the importance of being responsible. Unfortunately, there is a certain small number who will not accept our advice. Some of the offenders are local people who think that since it is their backyard, they are exempt from the rules of conscientious behavior.

I'm going to focus on the Slickrock area because I sense that problems may be developing there and I'd like to clear the air about what may be happening. First, I'll spend a couple of paragraphs describing the area and its history as I understand it:

Basically, the Slickrock area is a peninsula of land bounded by the Colorado River, Negro Bill canyon on the east and Moab canyon on the west. The only vehicle accesses are off the Sand Flats road. Lots of room and lots of rocks for everyone. Cattle have always wintered there. Over the years there has been mineral exploration.

There are two main vehicle roads, one that runs along the rim above the town of Moab almost to the Colorado River, and another that leaves this road a little more than a mile from the Sand Flats road and proceeds out to the point of Negro Bill canyon and its junction with the river canyon.

Many of the vehicle recreational trails have been in use since the 50's by individuals and groups such as the Points & Pebbles rock club. Dale Parriot was shown some of the motorcycle trails by Andy Anderson of the club in 1963 and at that time the trails were "painted," not in the sense of the present paint job on the bike trail, but spotted at great intervals and obvious turns and rocks.

Motorcycle recreation was recognized by the BLM in 1979 when the more extensive painting was approved and implemented and the bike trail was christened . . . for motorcycles. Bicycles had not yet made their appearance. The present bike trail is a large loop with a number of spurs that covers much of the slickrock. The 4 wheel trails also take the form of a sunburst with numerous spurs and sub-loops, but there are no painted marks on the course and, because there is so little soft ground, there is little indication that the trail is there.

The first BLM-permitted large group of 4 WD vehicles was the 1982 Hell's Revenge Jeep trail into the area with 75 vehicles that ran the main loop, and the trail had been run with about the same number of vehicle over roughly the same course ever since. The Red Rock 4 Wheelers routinely run all the trails and in the process police any debris and litter that may have been deposited, whatever the source. During the weeks following the Safari the club always performed this task and picked up the nominal amount of trash that had accumulated, and the rocks were returned to the peace and quiet of a few vehicles for the rest of the year.

Last year after the Safari, an ominous dragon reared its head above the Hell's Revenge/Slickrock bike trail and threatened to disturb the calm and peaceful area where there had always been an attitude of camaraderie and cooperation among recreational users. Jeeps and motor-

cycles had always accepted each others presence without question or animosity, frequently helping each other out of trouble. More and more over the past four years bicycles have come like a silent wave on a rocky beach. No problem. Glad to see them discover and use this wonderful place. It's always heartening to find someone who agrees with one's own values. There is plenty of room and no reason to expect conflicts, unless artificially generated.

No one then using the area felt selfish about it. No one felt that it was "ours." No one felt that they wanted to use "theirs" but that "they" weren't welcome to use "ours." During and after the running of the Hell's Revenge Safari trail we were angered by the abuses by a number of the participants, mainly overenthusiastic, in some cases intoxicated, college students who had ignored our admonitions about drinking on the trail.

While we were considering measures to prevent a recurrence of such unacceptable behavior on our Safari trails, it seems that coincidentally an idealistic bicyclist had been surreptitiously auditing our performance and to our embarrassment witnessed the littering and multiple trailing that had occurred, and righteously registered a complaint. The clandestine manner of the "investigation" angered us and we were annoyed that the perceived abuses were exaggerated, but we had to admit that there was merit to the complaint. We were also appalled that the complainant concluded that we, Jeepers, should be banned from the area except by permit, and even though subsequent correspondence established a spirit of cooperation we cannot disregard the fact that such a selfish idea was in the minds of some bicyclists—even though this was the first overt suggestion of such a measure. Permitting by the BLM is a door that I don't think anyone wants to open. There are enough restrictions on the public lands without asking for more. Soon after new restrictions are imposed on Jeepers it won't be long before bikers are included.

It would be foolhardy for any group to subject itself to additional government restrictions, and inconceivable that Jeepers would unilaterally agree to such a proposal.

This dark cloud was followed by the revelation that routing was being finalized on several miles of trail to be painted for bicycles, and has further heightened our apprehensions about the Slickrock area. We are nervous about forfeiting any more of our off road trails. We quietly lost part of the Moab Rim trail to the Behind the Rocks Wilderness Area over our feeble objections when the study failed to recognize the trail because that corner of the area is on slickrock. We lost a favorite trail in Negro Bill Canyon WA.

The Slickrock area of course is not WSA, but now we sense what could be the beginnings of a problem there and our concerns have prompted me to write an open letter to Dave Minor of the BLM for written clarification on our future in the Slickrock area. Next month, I'll share that letter with you, and the BLM's response. Until then, happy recreating.

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"canyonlands is egg-citing"

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for friendly dave's terrible pun; we  
believe he should be placed  
in a penitentiary.



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## grandma sue's country kitchen

Well, have you listened to enough hot air to hold you a page or two? Interviews, controversy, "hard news;" my goodness it's enough to give me a bad case of heartburn.

Anyway, I'm Grandma Sue and I'll be sharing my recipes with all you good people. This morning I got up early and watched our cows out in the pasture, just chewing and chewing in the mist. Og's still upstairs asleep in the four poster. Mercy, that man snores so loud, he rattles the windows. Last night I got so aggravated, I pinned a clothespin on his nose and another on his lips. Og came close to choking to death when he sucked in real fast and downed that wooden clothespin. I got it out with a coat hanger.

This month I'd like to give you folks my recipe for mock turtle soup. Now that's mock turtle soup. Don't go out with a club and beat some poor turtle to death. Turtles are our friends (besides, it takes too many turtles to make a pot of soup). First of all, here are the ingredients.

- 1 lb. lean ground beef
- 1 large onion
- 1 14 oz. bottle ketchup
- 2 qts. water
- 1 can (10 1/2) oz. beef gravy
- 2 tsp. worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup browned flower (low heat for about an hour - stir often)
- 1 tbs. beef stock concentrate
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. brown sugar
- 1 tsp. vinegar
- 10 whole cloves
- 10 whole allspice
- 1 bay leaf
- Generous helping peppercorns
- Dry sherry wine
- Thin lemon slices

Ok, folks. First of all, saute' the beef. Stir occasionally for 2 or 3 minutes. Now add an onion. No, you don't throw a whole onion in there. Cut it up first. Cook it a few minutes more, and then add ketchup, water, beef gravy and worcestershire sauce.

Bring this concoction to a boil, then reduce heat and let it simmer. Slowly add the browned flower (a spoonful at a time and slowly, or you'll get matzah ball). Now add the remaining ingredients and stir well. Next, find a dirty, smelly sweat sock and dip it in the soup seven times.

I'm only kidding about the sock.

If you want, you can use powdered cloves and allspice instead, about a tablespoon of each, to taste. Simmer the whole thing for another two hours. When you're ready to serve, add a lemon slice to each bowl and a little wine (to taste). But watch out with that cooking sherry, especially if your man is like mine. I caught Og in the pantry last week, taking a little nip. It reminded me of Uncle Bill. He always kept a bottle in the trunk under the spare.

"I hear somethin' rattlin' back there," Uncle Bill would say. "I better check it out."

He'd go back there for a nip. So watch these boys. You know how men can be.

Anyway, that's about it. Remember, it's mock turtle soup. Don't hurt a turtle. I hear Og stirring upstairs; I better put on another pot of coffee. Goodbye everybody.



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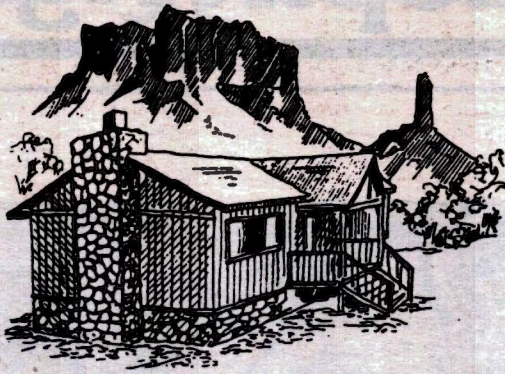
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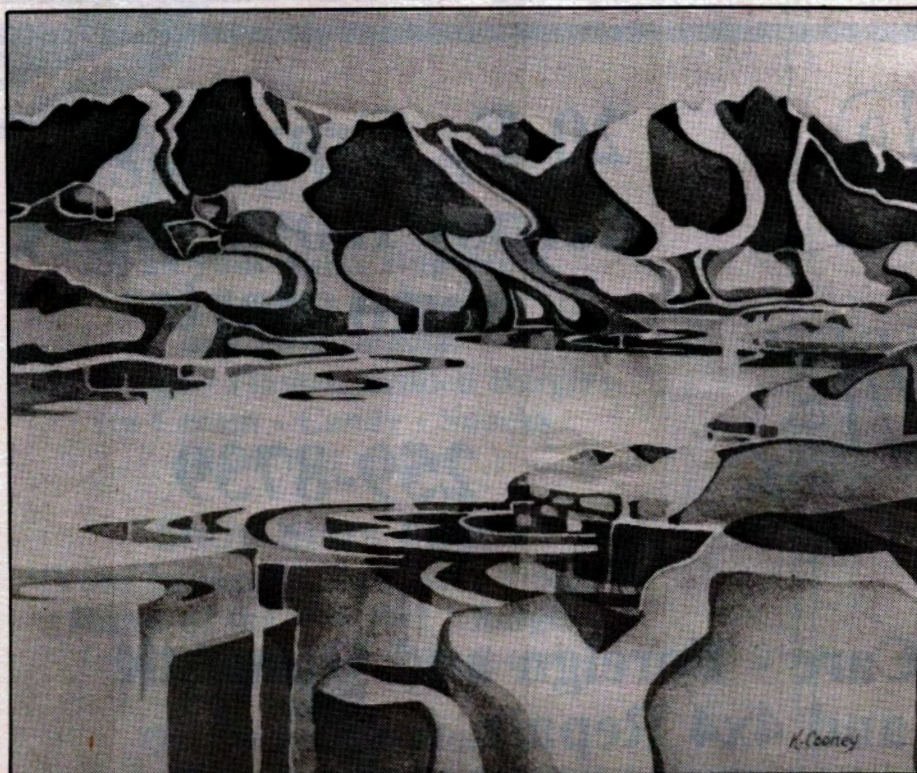
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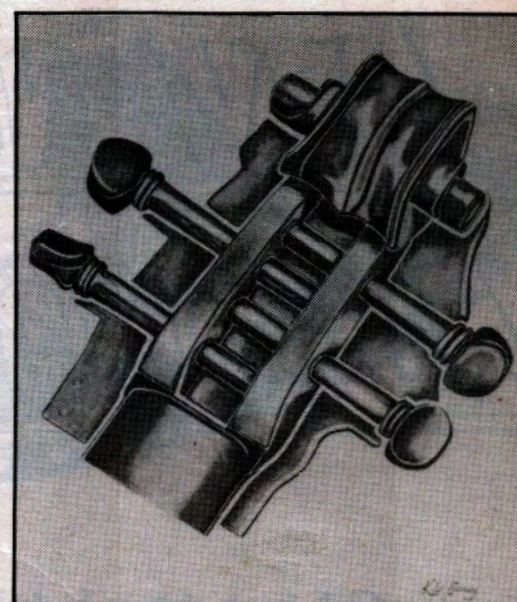
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Dos Boot 10" x 12" Pencil ltd. edition print



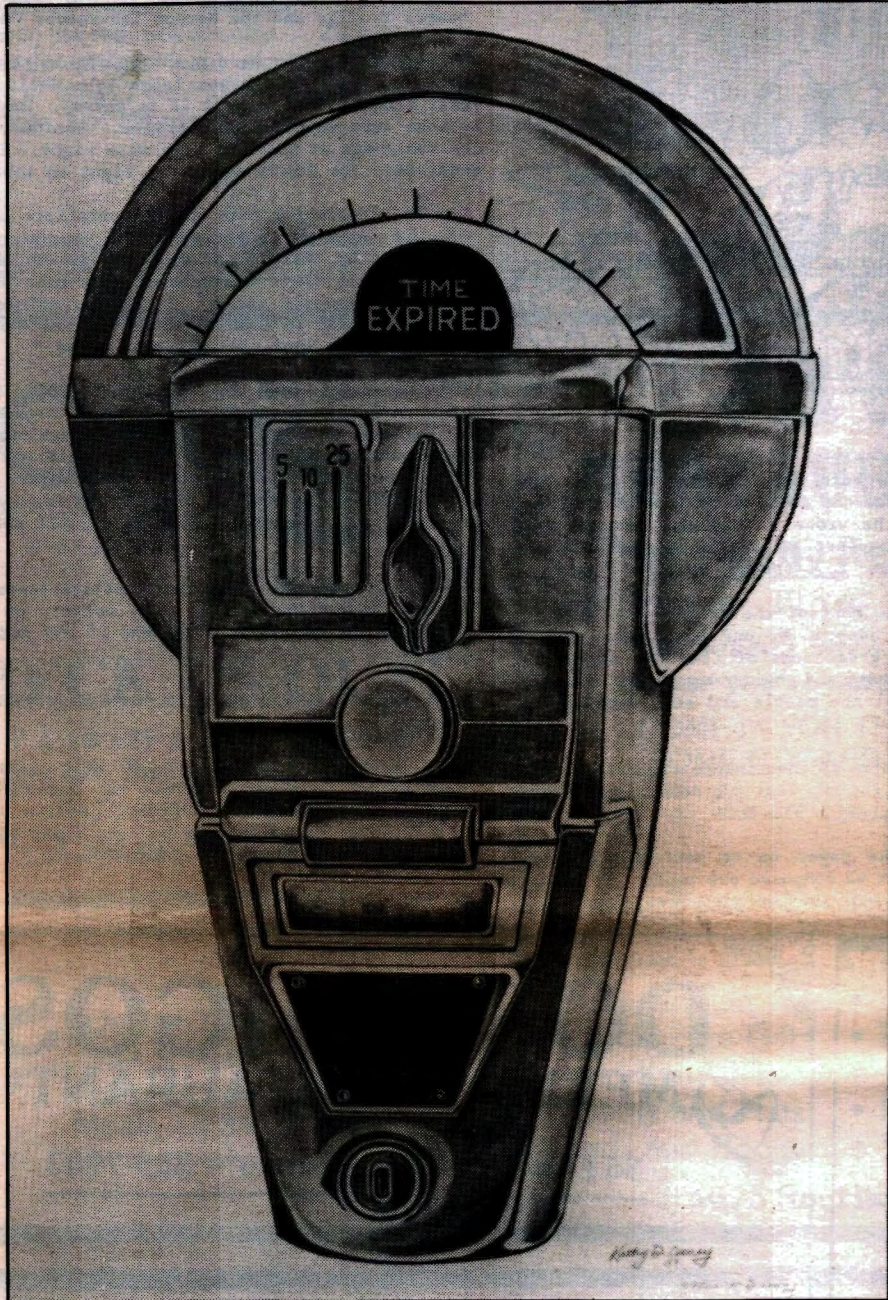
Summit Lake 11" x 13" original watercolor



The Violin 16" x 16" original pencil



# kathy cooney



Time Expired 18" x 24" Pencil ltd. edition print

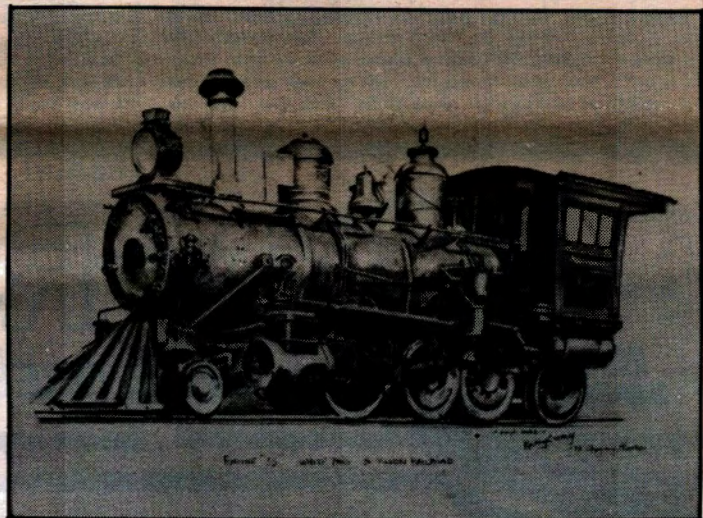
Why does Kathy Cooney find artistic inspiration in a parking meter? What caused her to put pencil to paper to immortalize an old leather shoe? I'm not sure, but I'm awfully glad she did. I'll never take a parking meter for granted again.

Cooney (she prefers to be identified by her last name) has had an interesting life. She majored in agriculture at the University of Illinois, but in 1979 moved to Skagway, Alaska. She spent three seasons taking care of Yukon sled dogs and augmented her living as a sign painter. While in Skagway, she exhibited her work at three art shows. Her detailed pencil drawings of musical instrument parts - pianos, guitars, coronets - were particularly successful.

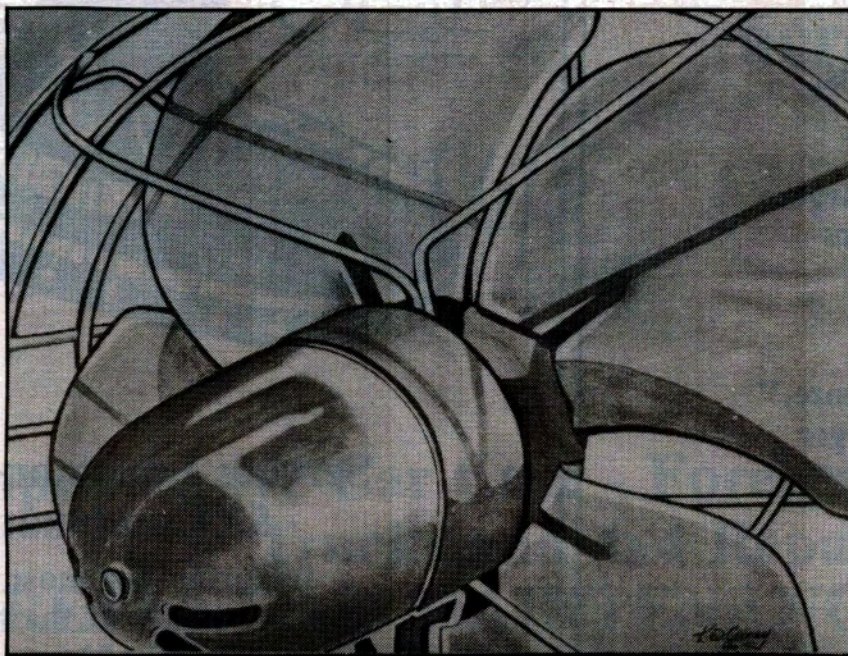
In 1982, she moved to a cabin in Dyer, Alaska. Since the cabin lacked electricity, and since the sun barely shows itself in Alaska during the winter months, she spent a lot of time in the dark. She more than made up for her restricted watercolor painting time in the summer when the sun barely goes down.

In 1987, Kathy Cooney came to Moab, which she points out is much drier than the Arctic Circle. Cooney and her husband Chuck Schildt are the owners of the new Moab Mercantile and Gallery of Fine Art, located at the Grand Emporium.

-J.S.



Engine "55" 12" x 16" Pencil-print



Fan Club 10" x 12" Pencil ltd. edition print

photographic reproductions  
by rebecca knouff



# WHERE ARE YOU JOE STOCKS?

(now that we really need you)

By Jim Stiles

With all the turmoil of the last six months - toxic waste incinerators, volatile local elections, new road proposals, environmental crises - through it all, there seemed to be something missing. There was a certain passion generally accompanying these great controversies that was sorely lacking. One day, as I perused the pro and con incinerator letters in the *Times Independent*, I was struck again by that nagging sense of emptiness. What was it? What was I searching for? What had I found before that now created such a void in my need to be stimulated and aroused?

And then suddenly, it came to me. How could I have forgotten? All these letters, all this glorious rhetoric was well and good. But somehow, it wasn't quite the same without the wit, wisdom and political moxie of Joe Stocks. At once, I realized: I missed Joe Stocks.

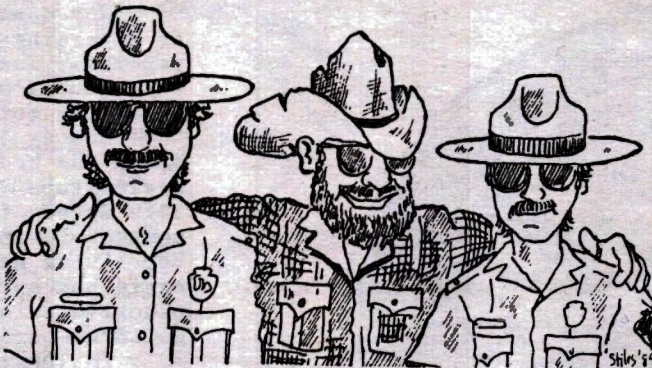
Now to be honest, Joe Stocks and I have rarely agreed about anything, although I sensed something different about his contrariness to my point of view. I was always the ardent environmentalist; Joe was the miner, the developer, the multiple-user of the public lands. And yet, in spite of his insistent concern that tree huggers and Feds represented an inherent threat to the freedom and well-being to rural Utahans, I always had the strange feeling that he loved the desert and the blue skies as much as I, but maybe in a different way.

For years Joe's letters to the Editor and public statements entertained, intrigued and aggravated me. The first Stocks letter to pass my way was in the February 12, 1976 issue of the *T.I.* - "Loss of freedom and rights, due to environmentalist resistance," was the thrust of his letter. "Isn't it time," Joe asked, "we informed environmentalists, with roots in distant places, that we are much more concerned with our environment than they could possibly be?" He was primarily occupied with the perceived threat of "outsiders" dictating the future of Grand County.

In 1977, when a major controversy arose over the debate to pave, or not to pave Canyonlands National Park, Joe was at the public meeting to express his opinion. Joe was a Vietnam veteran and his reasons for wanting the roads paved were simple. While in the Service, Joe Stocks had spent two years lugging an eighty pound pack on his back; he had to carry the damn thing for miles and miles, day after day, week after week. Now back from the war, he

simply asked, why would anyone in their right minds want to carry an eighty pound pack on their back, "for fun"? I had to admit, I was impressed. Of course, I still thought he was wrong, but I was still impressed.

By 1982, I'd come to look forward to Joe's letters. My



buddy Salamacha and I, both seasonal Rangers at Arches, considered ourselves (at the time) to be the antithesis of Joe. One day, when he wrote a wonderful letter about Governor Matheson's support of wilderness in Southern Utah, Mike and I decided to respond. First Joe said:

"It appears that the 'control the people - no growth' philosophy has been adopted by our State government. It is shameful that great sums of time and money are being wasted by the State and environmentalists in order that they can control the people and stop development of this country.

"Where would the West be if that insane criterion would have been applied during the last two centuries? Where would the human race be?"

Salamacha brought the paper up to the Devils Garden trailer, and that night we composed our reply. We thought it was brilliant, if we did say so ourselves. But admit-

tedly, a bottle of Jim Beam had loosened our minds and ball-point pens. We put it to paper and let the words flow:

"Joe Stocks asks, 'Where would the human race be today?' without (we presume) the likes of Salt Lake City. Where indeed, Joe? Just look at all it has to offer - foul air, urban sprawl, drug abuse, runaway crime, bumper to bumper traffic and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir."

We didn't know why we'd put that dig in there about the Choir. I like the Mormon Tabernacle Choir (I have all their albums), but we left it in anyway. Maybe we wanted to make sure we offended everyone. Besides, we figured, Joe would set us straight - we were right. The following Wednesday, Joe Stocks was back, right on schedule.

"It is astonishing that environmentalists can make fun of the economic suppression of southern Utah, as evidenced by their stand opposing growth and progress . . . and by their ridicule of Salt Lake City and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. It is incredible that they have succeeded in imposing totalitarian - police state rule upon our wonderful national parks."

Mike raced into town that Wednesday evening to read Joe's letter. The next day, we put our heads together for round 2. The real question that danced through our minds as we composed our first draft was, "What would Joe Stocks think if he knew that we police-state park rangers were writing this letter on government time?" On Monday morning, we submitted our response to Sam Taylor. It read in part:

"We were shocked to learn that a police state now exists in all 39 national parks. Why weren't we told about this? Isn't this still the land of the red, white and blue?"

We were awfully sarcastic in those days; but it got even worse:

"The most shocking aspect of this latest 'Stocks Revelation' is that if indeed our National Parks are administered by a 'totalitarian - police state,' then its sinister commander can be none other than that old sagebrush rebel himself - James G. Watt."

Ok Joe. What possibly could you say in response to that?



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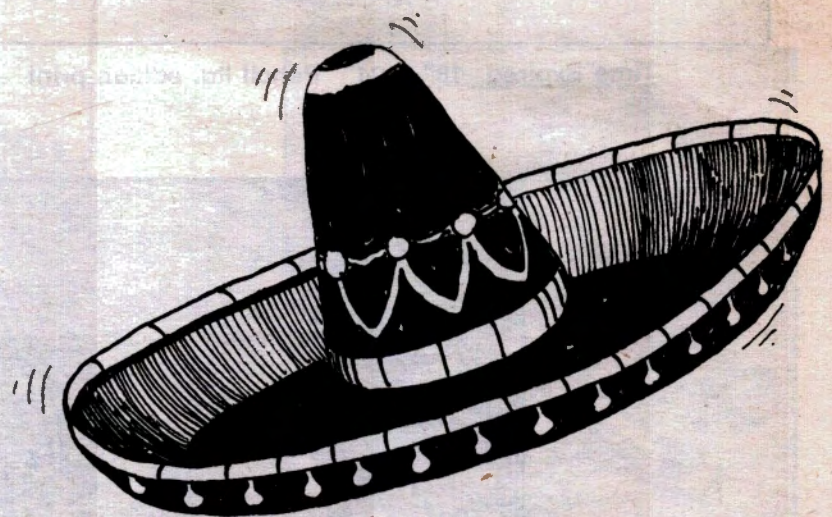
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We really thought we had the guy (although to be honest, had Joe failed to reply, we would have been crushed.) Mike's life and mine were beginning to revolve around our literary volleys. Joe's next letter was his best, in terms of its imagery, its poetic description, its feeling. In it he printed a picture of the future and the forks in the road we faced. Traveling down the road of environmentalism we find:

"... potholes, weeds, washouts and disrepair, infested with highwaymen working for bureaucracies rudely stopping our progress in the name of the environment. We lose all personal rights and possessions to them."

"We creep past a stinking polluted river below a starving diseased city. Filthy smoke obscures the landscape."

"Environmentalists have started us down the wrong road. Common sense will get us back on the right road."

Well, that did it; we threw in the towel. Joe's grim vision of the future even depressed me. Besides, Sam Taylor was about to suggest we take out ad space if we wanted to continue our jousting match. Things were quiet for almost a year. Both Joe and I took to the sidelines, but one day, Jerry Stocks, Joe's brother, stepped in to fill the void. He came out swinging:

"The organized environmental community is trying to cram their lifestyle down my throat . . . their idea of wildlands is a bunch of 'no trespassing' signs on land teeming with backpackers and uniformed regulators."

Salamacha couldn't resist, the next week he dutifully wrote a response and stepped back to see what would happen next. Jerry didn't let him down:

"I don't know Mr. Salamacha, but my guess is that he is a functionary of some government agency, probably the National Park Service."

CAZART! POW! Hit him where it hurts! Salamacha had been zapped. "Stiles," Mike exclaimed. "Did you see what this guy called me? I'm not even sure what it means."

"Well," I said, "What are you going to do?"

"What else?" he replied.

The next week, Mike expressed his pain and anguish:

"I've been called a lot of things in my life, but never before a 'functionary.' Because of this, I have to step back and look my life over . . . Here I thought I was

a somewhat free-spirited, liberal environmentalist, and find instead that I'm construed to be an integral cog of big government . . . You've really done it this time Mr. Stocks."

Neither Jerry Nor Joe responded, and Mike was devastated. "Geez," he wondered. "How could they pass up a great letter like that?" We didn't realize it at the time, but an era had passed into history. Never again did the four of us trade blows in the Times Independent. A couple weeks later, Sam proposed in his editorial that he take us all out to lunch. "There's a whole lot more to these guys," he said, "than one might think when reading their polarized position statements." But the get-together never happened, and to this day, I've never met Joe or Jerry Stocks.

I hear Joe Stocks lives in Arizona now. His sister spilled the beans once, and told me that Joe took just as much pleasure annoying me as I did in getting under his skin.

Wherever you are Joe Stocks, nobody can aggravate me like you can. That's why I miss you so much. So if you get a chance, let us know what's on your mind.

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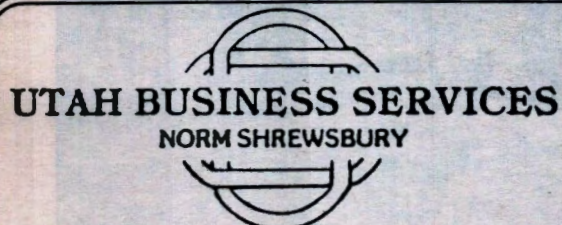
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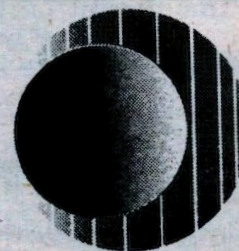
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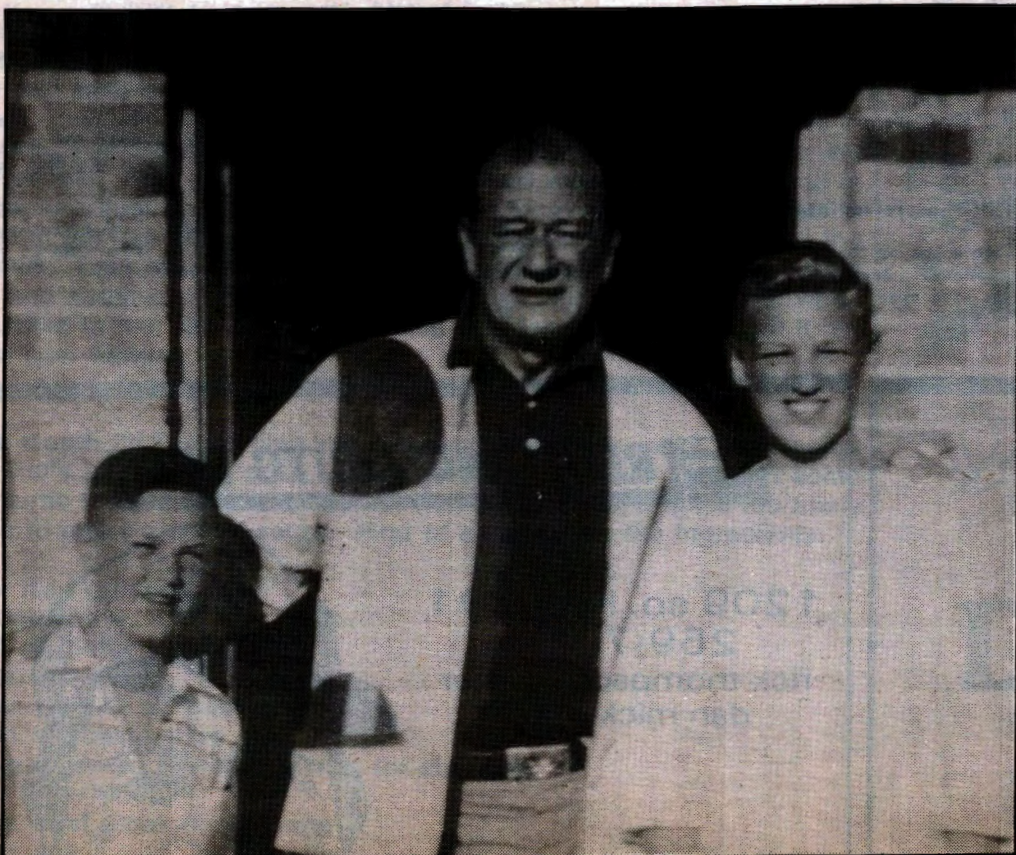
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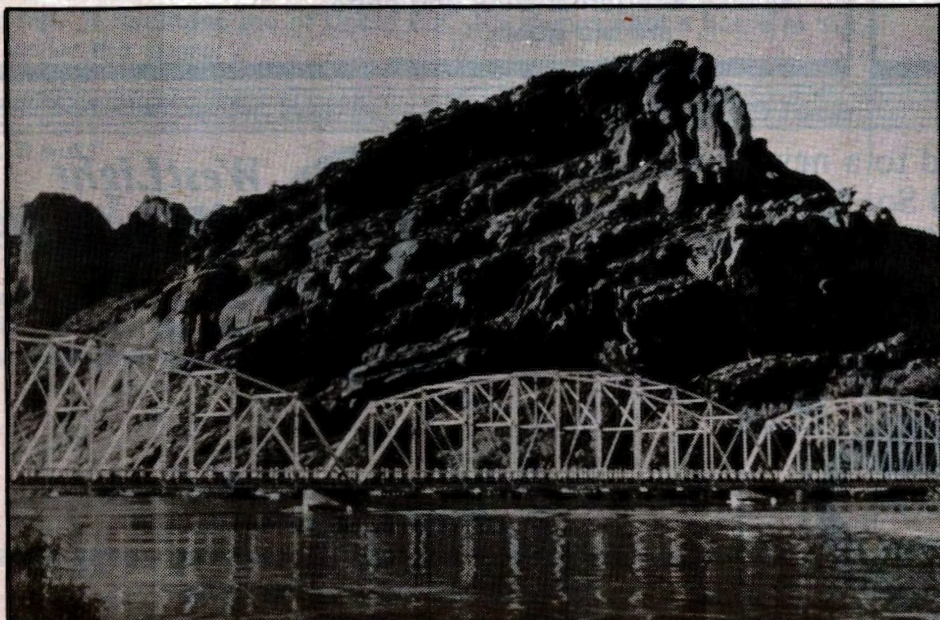
## a moab album



If you think this is an old photograph of Ricky Nelson, John Wayne and Eddy Haskell, you're only partially correct. The guy in the middle is definitely the Duke. The other two are Carl Rappe (L) and Dave Sakrison.



Melba Stewart, Marge Turnbow, Helen Murphy, Elsie May Knight and Arba Day.



The old Colorado River Bridge at high water, 1948.



Helen M. Knight at the Thompson depot.



The movie stockade fort at Tommy White's ranch.



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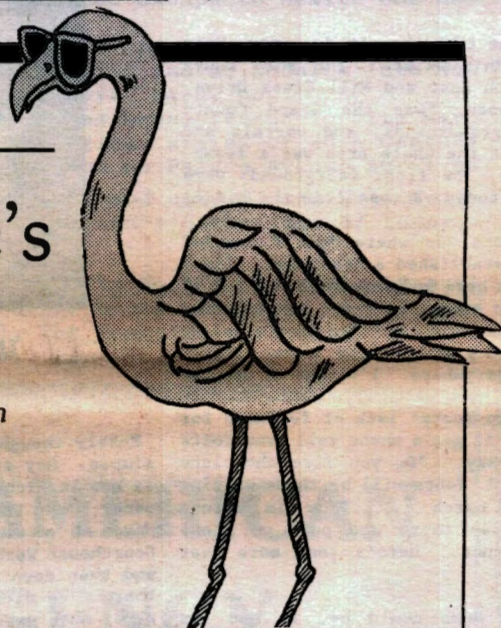
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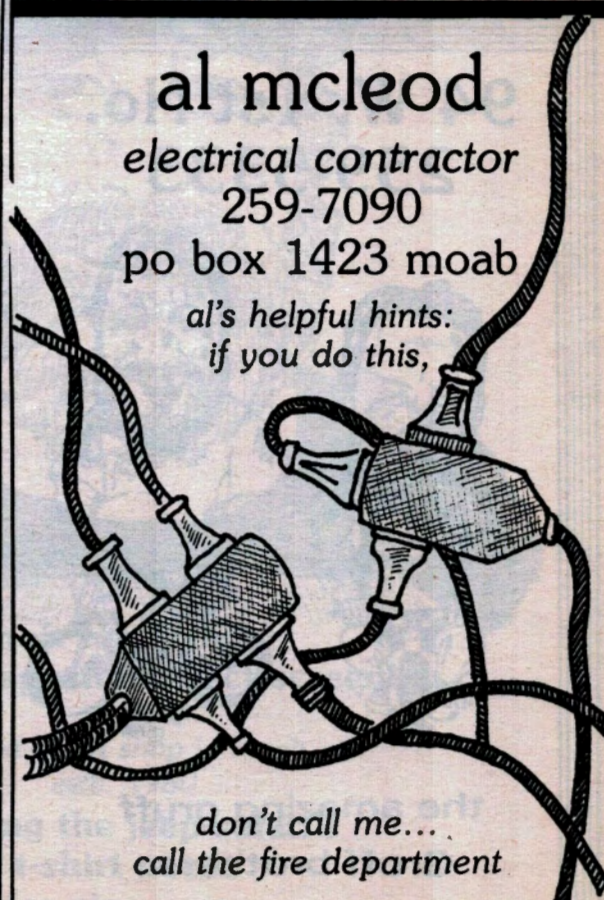


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# Toots McDougald's HISTORY OF MOAB

JIM STILES

For the last four years, I've been Toots McDougald's next door neighbor. On the day I signed away my life to First Security Bank, I drove over to Locust Lane to survey the ruins. As I walked around my dilapidated house, wondering if I'd truly lost my mind, a gravelly voice interrupted my doubting thoughts.

"Are you buying this place, or just renting it?"

"It was Toots McDougald, standing shirtsleeved in the March weather, a cigarette dangling from the corner of her mouth.

"Well," I replied, "I may be crazy but I just bought it."

"I hope you paint that roof," she replied, pointing to the bare aluminum shingles. "The glare off that thing into my kitchen in the late afternoon is terrible."

The next week I bought five gallons of aluminum paint and covered all that glaring aluminum. Toots and I have been good friends ever since.



Toots at the corner of First North and Main.

Toots knows a lot about Moab, she should; she was born here in 1915, in the same house on First North that Ron Pierce lives in today. Her grandfather, M. R. Walker, built that house around the turn of the century. She grew up in and around Moab, spending some time in Thompson and Cisco, where her mother cooked at the hotel.

For all those who have wondered why my neighbor is called Toots, here at last is the explanation. Born Marilee, a man by the name of Albert "Ab" Wats, whose sister was

married to Bish Taylor (Sam's dad), said for some unknown reason to little Marilee, "You'll always be my little tootsie-wootsie." The first part stayed with her, and by the time Toots was in school, nobody knew who Marilee was anymore. In fact, two teachers at her grad school, Miss Penfield and Miss Peterson, insisted on calling her by her proper name.

She sometimes got in trouble for failing to respond to the teacher, but like Toots says now, "Hell, I didn't know they were calling me - I only responded to Toots." Even today, the Grand County phone book lists: Marilee Toots McDougald. "Without the 'Toots' in there," she explains, "I'd never get any calls."

So, what was it like to grow up in Moab in the 1920's?

"It was wonderful. We went on picnics, and hikes and chicken fries. And after we got older, we stole chickens and had chicken fries. We had great watermelon busts; in fact, a man named Olie Reardon planted a field of watermelons, just for us kids to steal. He said we could steal from that patch all we wanted, if we left his patch alone."

"We'd go up and over the Lion's Back, clear to the river. We jumped a crack once, and we decided to come back the same way. When we got to the crack, it had become twice as wide as before. Some fisherman across the river kept yelling, 'Don't jump,' but we did it anyway. That was Madge Duncan and Maxine Foster and me."

"Everything was so free and easy, no pressures, no traffic. We didn't know anything about drugs. We thought we were pretty wild if we got us a sip of homemade beer. My friend's father was a bootlegger."

And who was that?

"I'm not saying."

Moab looked a lot different then than it does now, Main Street, beyond Center, didn't exist. The road south turned left on Center to 4th East and Mill Creek Drive. "City Park," remembers Toots, "was the Grand County Fairgrounds. There were grandstands, and corrals and bucking shoots. Before that the whole area was a swamp. Just a grassy, murky area. The first fairgrounds were where the baseball park is today, across from the Middle School."

And here according to Toots, is where Moab's dreaded plague of goatheads first established a beachhead. "As I recall, we'd get circuses in here and rodeos, and a lot of the time, these people would bring their own hay and feed for their animals. Well, that stuff must've been mixed up with the hay, because pretty soon those nasty little goatheads were popping up everywhere. I've got no use for goatheads at all."

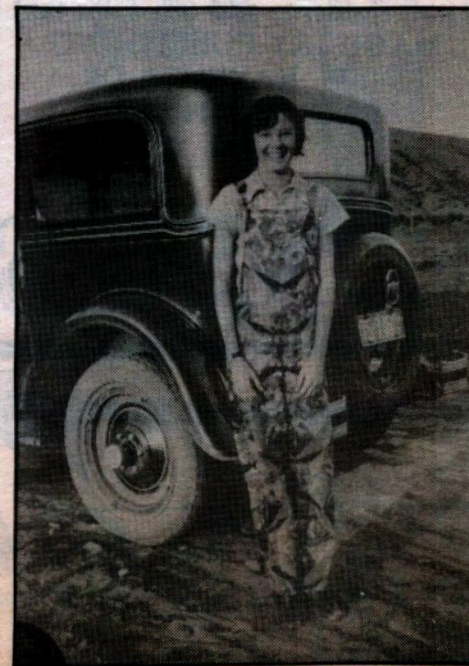
(I can personally attest to Toots' lack of fondness for goatheads. Periodically, I'll get a phone call from Toots in the afternoon. She'll say, "Do you like chocolate cake? Meet me at the fence." Toots will be there waiting with the cake, but there's a catch . . . "Now Jim, before I give you this, reach down there and pull up those goatheads, there by the fence. Here's some more over there. . . ."

But it's worth the cake.)

As slow and peaceful as Moab could be, it had its traumatic moments as well. Toots got caught in the middle of a particularly dangerous situation when she was just ten or twelve.

"I was living on Center Street then, across from Starr Hall. One day, I was out on the front porch, when I heard these shots coming from the jail. I thought for sure that it was a breakout, and that they'd shot the lock off the door. I saw a guy running, and so I ran over to the jail. I found the Sheriff, Dick Westwood, dead. My friend Helen Foster was walking along the other side of the street at the time, and the man who shot Dick Westwood ran right past her, with the gun in his hand."

"There was quite a search. Albert Beech was coming from Monticello, when he spotted him. He captured him and hauled him into town, holding an unloaded .22 rifle on the guy the whole time. . . of course, that guy didn't know it was unloaded."



The Cretone coveralls.

Mostly though, life in Moab was peaceful, beautiful and simple. Her stepfather, Marv Turnbow, ran the ranch that is now in Arches National Park and named for its original owner, John Wesley Wolfe. She would spend a week to ten days at a time up there. "We'd ride our horses up Courthouse Wash and then along the cliffs to Balanced Rock and then down to Turnbow Cabin. We had a great time up there. We did some riding, a little branding . . . I never much cared for that. I just couldn't stand to hear those little calves cry."

She spent summers at the ranch until she decided she "was

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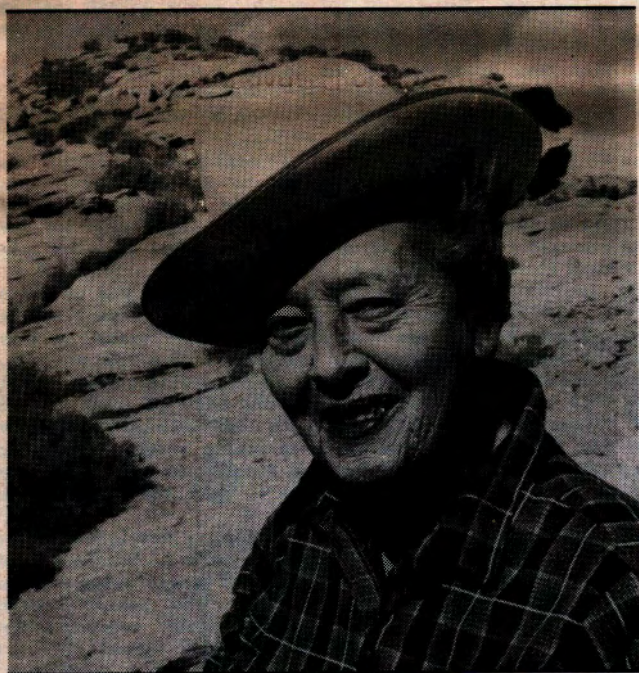
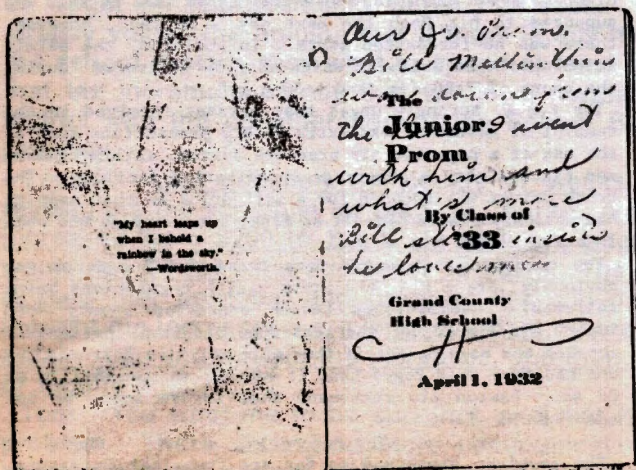
too big to be cowboyin' anymore." Toots still vividly recalls her Junior Prom of 1932. "We decorated a hall where the Energy Building is now. It burned down a long time ago. But back then, they had movies in there, and after the movie was over, we'd push back the benches and have a dance."

For the Prom, and other dances too, we'd have a band. They'd play jazz and waltzes. We had great Charleston contests. I still remember the parade of the Junior Class . . . the promenade of the juniors. I marched with Jim Winbourn. It was really something to get dressed up in a prom dress. In fact, we thought we were really something if we had store bought clothes. My Aunt Ida made most of my clothes. I had one pair of overalls made out of Cretone, a drapery material."

How do you spell that, Toots?

"C-r-e-t-o-n-e; I think. I haven't had to spell that in about a hundred and fifty years."

That was 57 years ago and Toots remembers every detail and a few more she won't reveal. I still can't get her to tell me who the bootlegger was, and she refuses to admit whose chickens she stole. I've advised her that the statute of limitations has run out on a chick theft in 1925, but Toots is not convinced. Maybe someday I'll get the details along the backyard fence line - Toots telling the story, while I pull goatheads. The truth always comes at a price.



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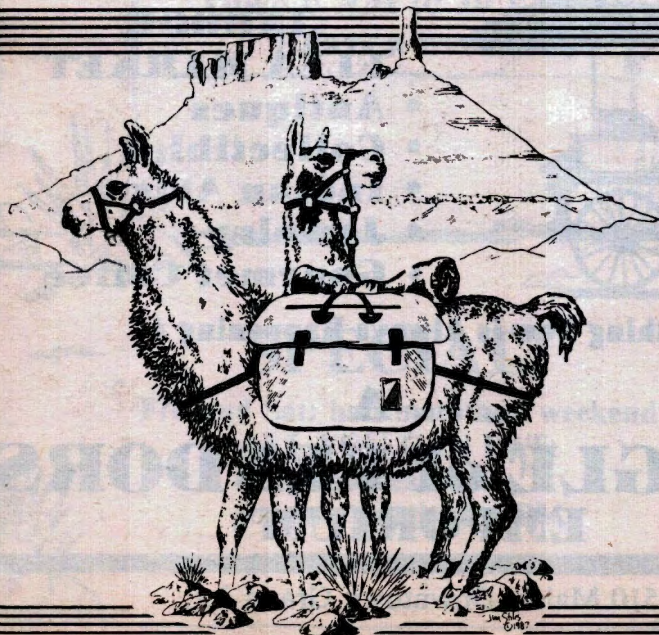
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# Asbestos Dumping — Is It Safe?

Since mid-January, citizens of Grand County have been increasingly concerned by reports that the county government has been accepting out-of-state loads of asbestos which are being buried at our dump. Apparently the practice has been going on for years.

It first came to the attention of new County Commissioner Merv Lawton on January 17, when County Clerk Fran Townsend informed him that several truckloads of asbestos were scheduled for dumping between January 18 and March 31. The Rocmont Industrial Corporation of Salt Lake City was contracted to remove sixty tons of asbestos from Coors Biotech in Johnstown, Colorado.

Lawton contacted health inspector Jim Adamson, who was aware of previous shipments. Adamson stated that the Grand County landfill was approved by the Environmental Protection Agency for the containment of asbestos. State regulations required that asbestos be double-bagged and wet when shipped. As long as those rules were followed, there was, according to the health inspector, no problem. Lawton then approved the operation. According to the contract with Rocmont, the fee for the permit is \$1200.00 per trailer load. According to Commissioner Lawton, the fee goes into the general fund.

## What is Asbestos?

In order to determine if asbestos is a threat to the health and safety of Grand County, it's important to understand just what asbestos is, and how it affects the human body. According to the EPA, "Asbestos is a naturally occurring family of fibrous mineral substance." The typical size of an asbestos fiber is so small, it is not generally visible to the human eye. When disturbed, asbestos fibers may become suspended in the air for many hours, thus increasing the extent of asbestos exposure for individuals within the area. Asbestos became a popular commercial product because it is noncombustible and resistant to corrosion. Asbestos fibers have been mixed with various types of binding materials to create an estimated 3,000 different commercial products, including brake linings, floor tile, sealants, plastics, textile products and insulation.

In the last two decades, medical studies of asbestos-related diseases have revealed that the primary exposure route is inhalation. And of particular concern, is the fact that studies suggest there is no safe minimum level of exposure, below which there would be no chance of disease.

The Grand County Health Inspector had believed that health concerns related to asbestos inhalation are mostly limited to "asbestosis" (a noncancerous respiratory disease that consists of scarring of lung tissues.) However, according to the E.P.A., asbestos exposure can cause various forms of cancer. The incidence of lung cancer is four times higher for persons exposed to asbestos. And the risk of mesothelioma, a rare cancer of the thin membrane lining of the chest, is almost ten times as great. Other medical studies suggest a link between asbestos and cancer of the esophagus, larynx, oral cavity, stomach, colon and kidney.

In addition, because of concern that there may be potential health impacts not yet identified, there are federal regulations specifying asbestos limitations in ambient water and in products such as food processing filters.

## Asbestos Waste Transport and Disposal

When asbestos materials are prepared for removal, they are wetted with water sprayed in a fine mist, allowing time between sprayings for complete penetration of the material. Once thoroughly soaked, the E.P.A. requires that the waste be containerized to avoid creating dust. The generally recommended containers are 6-mil thick plastic bags, sealed to be leak-tight. In Utah, regulations require that the asbestos be double bagged, in Colorado, the waste must also be sealed in steel drums, an additional expense that makes transporting asbestos from

Colorado less costly than disposing of it there. The E.P.A. specifies that all containers must be tagged with a warning label.

A land fill approved for receipt of asbestos waste should require advance notification from the waste hauler (in Grand County, 48 hours advance notification is required). The landfill operator should inspect the loads to verify that the asbestos is properly contained and warning tags affixed.

In burying the waste, the E.P.A. recommends that a separate area for asbestos disposal be designated. A record should be provided that identifies the specific site location. If the burial site is not going to be used again, it must be covered within at least 36 inches of compacted material. To control erosion in desert areas where vegetation is sparse, 3 - 6 inches of well graded crushed rock is recommended for placement on top of the final cover.



Finally, the E.P.A. requires that access be controlled to prevent exposure of the public to potential health and safety hazards at the disposal site. So, for liability protection of landfill operators, fencing and warning signs are recommended to control public access. Warning signs should be displayed at landfill entrances and at intervals of 330 feet or less along the landfill perimeter. The sign should read:

ASBESTOS WASTE DISPOSAL SITE  
BREATHING ASBESTOS DUST  
MAY CAUSE LUNG DISEASE OR CANCER

## The Situation In Grand County

To a county that just survived a year of political controversy over a toxic waste incinerator, the public has grown especially sensitive to the dumping or disposal of any hazardous material in Grand County. Commissioner Lawton is correct when he points out that the health risks of burying asbestos don't even compare to the threat we faced from possible dioxin contamination and the incinerator. In addition, the E.P.A. provides some assurance that if its regulations and recommendations are closely followed, the disposal of asbestos can be done

safely and without threat to the public health.

But are those risks and recommendations being adhered to in Grand County? On February 7, a trailer load of corrugated asbestos board was hauled to the landfill. TV 6 producer Jim Mattingly attempted to film the unloading. The driver of the truck was quite upset by Mattingly's presence and refused to discuss the operation. But the other employee did speak to Mattingly, and stated that while the asbestos was bagged, he did not believe that the material was wet.

Another incident, several days later, raised more questions and concern. At 7:30 p.m. a large truck-trailer stopped in the parking lot at Dave's Corner Market on Mill Creek Drive. The logo on the side of the truck read "Transport International Pools." Anitra Lynn, an employee at the Corner Market, watched the truck driver come into the store. According to Ms. Lynn, "the man was covered with some type of blackish material from head to toe. His hands, his face, his clothes were filthy." Apparently embarrassed by his appearance, the driver said, "Don't look at me; I haven't taken a shower yet."

When Ms. Lynn asked what he was hauling, he said, "Actually it's asbestos. We're dumping it in your landfill." He further explained that they were dumping at night to avoid the threat of a snow storm that he said was supposed to hit Moab the next day. In fact, however, there was no forecasted storm. In addition, the permit stipulates that asbestos waste must be delivered "during the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m."

The E.P.A. strongly urges that persons involved in the removal of asbestos take extra safety precautions such as the use of a negative air pressure system, utilizing fans and filters, and a shower/decontamination facility. The truck driver who stopped for a soft drink on that evening had not only placed himself at risk, but everyone who came in contact with him as well.

The question that arose from these two incidents was obviously, are E.P.A. and State health regulations being followed? Commissioner Lawton contacted County Road Supervisor Tim Pogue, who stated he had never personally checked the bags to see if they were wet. In fairness, no one had ever told Pogue that it was his responsibility to do so. Lawton did recommend that future loads be inspected.

## The Perception

The problems discussed so far are technical in nature, they are concerns that with some effort can be corrected. But there is another more subjective problem of public perception. Sam Taylor raised that concern last year as it applied to the incinerator. No matter how safe the disposal of this material might be, there is the perception that Grand County has become a dumping ground for someone else's problems. If asbestos waste is so safe people ask, why is it being trucked 500 miles over 10,000 foot mountain passes to a landfill in a small Utah town? As has been stated already, economics seems to be the answer. It's cheaper to haul the material here, than follow state regulations in Colorado. But that in turn, raises another question: Are we charging enough for the presumed risk we are accepting? Does anyone know just how much it costs to dispose of asbestos in other states?

Finally, there is the perception that this has been one of the county government's best kept secrets. While asbestos dumping has been going on for years, it does not appear it has ever been discussed at a public meeting, a county commission meeting or in any public forum. Until this year, Grand County and the City of Moab shared financial responsibility for the landfill. Yet, the City did not share in the decision-making process regarding asbestos. In fact, Mayor Tom Stocks was unaware of any asbestos dumping until February, when the story first broke.

The problems rising from this issue are not irreversible or insurmountable - they can be resolved. What's needed more than anything is a spirit of cooperation within county government to assure that the public's best interests are represented, and better communication between our government and the public it serves.

-Jim Stiles

"When in Grand Junction..."



## INDOOR FLEA MARKET

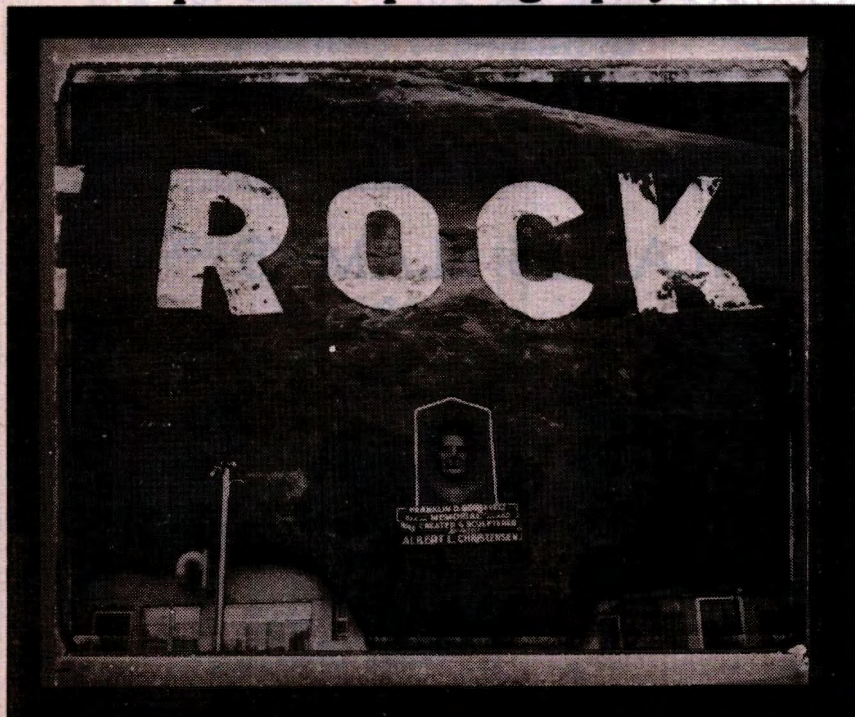
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# Child Abuse in Grand County

## identifying the problem and prosecuting the offender

In the last several years, increased attention has been given to the problem of child abuse - both physical and sexual. It is a problem so unsettling and disturbing that ironically, over the years, it has been hidden behind a wall of silence and denial. But now, it is being discussed more openly, and as a result more incidents of abuse are being revealed regularly.

According to Tom Kuehne, Unit Supervisor for S E Utah Social Services, one in twenty children nationally becomes a victim of sexual child abuse; in Utah, it is believed the ratio is closer to one in ten. And yet, at the same time, incidents of physical child abuse are much lower in this state.

Whether child abuse is on the rise, or whether they are now being reported more is a question of debate. Kuehne believes both answers are probably correct. "Because of increased media coverage, the public is more aware of the possibility it can happen. Also doctors, mental health, nurses and the police recognize the existence of the problem. As a result it's reported more frequently."

According to Kuehne, "child abuse is consistently associated with many social ills: high (male) unemployment, alcoholism and substance abuse, and unwanted pregnancies. That tells us that the people doing the abusing are in great distress themselves, and this tends to be true in our experience: abusing adults are remarkably unhappy, suffering people. Oftentimes while actually abusing their children, they are temporarily incapacitated by any number of things: anger, fear, panic, depression, alcohol, drugs and so on. Only about 15% of abusing adults are incapacitated by severe mental retardation or psychosis."

In Utah, Social Services investigates about 10,000 complaints of child abuse per year. It would be fair to say, according to Kuehne "that Utah has an average incidence of emotional abuse, a low to medium incidence of physical abuse, and an extremely high incidence of sexual abuse." About 85% of all sexual child abuse is committed by a friend or a family member entrusted to the child; 96% of all abuse is perpetrated by males.

The prosecution of child abuse offenders is beginning to focus its concerns on the well-being and assistance of victims and witnesses as well as the prosecution and punishment of the offender. Courts are beginning to adopt special rules and procedures for child victims, such as permitting hearsay evidence at preliminary hearings, accepting the presumption that children are competent to testify, allowing children's testimony to be videotaped, and permitting more flexible courtroom settings and procedures.

How does all this affect Grand County. Here as elsewhere, incidents of physical and sexual abuse are on the rise. Social Services regularly handles requests for assistance from persons concerned about possible child abuse. In addition, the "You're In Charge" program, intended to educate children about physical and sexual child abuse, and prepared by Four Corners Mental Health, has resulted in increased reporting by the children themselves.

Since 1986, felony child abuse charges have been filed against at least six persons in Grand County. The State, as represented by the County Attorney, has been relatively lenient in the prosecution of these crimes:

In 1985, Robert C. Waltz of St. Louis, Missouri was apprehended on the Amtrak train for assaulting a five year old child. He was removed from the train at Price, and charged with Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Child, a first degree felony, by former prosecutor William Bengt. The trial was delayed several times at the request of the defense and was finally scheduled for March, 1987.

But on February 26, 1987, the new County Attorney, Elaine Coates, moved the charges "be dismissed on the grounds that Defendant had plead to another charge in the same offense." Mr. Waltz was allowed to plead no contest to "Attempted Aggravated Assault," a misdemeanor; he was sentenced to six months in jail and fined \$1,000.00. Both were suspended on the condition he enter an alcohol and drug rehabilitation program, abstain from using drugs and alcohol for a year and attend weekly AA meetings. The discharge summary report described his prognosis as "guarded." Today, Mr. Waltz is self-employed, "performing magic shows for schools and private parties."

On March 13, 1987, Angelo Melo "pled guilty to Rape of a Child." Prior to sentencing, Mr. Melo underwent a 90-day diagnostic evaluation under the supervision of the Board of Corrections. And on September 8, 1987, the State recommended a stay of execution of the mandatory sentence in such cases, and recommended 18 months probation.

Five months later, Melo was ordered back into court for violation of his probation. But at a hearing on February 24, 1988, it was ordered that the "Defendant's release on probation be continued according to the terms and conditions set forth." However, by November, Melo again violated his probation on several counts. Finally, on February 13, 1989, a warrant was issued for the arrest of Angelo Melo. His whereabouts are unknown at this time.

The death of three year old Michael Barrie in 1986 has received nationwide attention (this crime was re-enacted for "America's Most Wanted" series on Fox TV recently). He died on December 16, 1986 while in the company of Steven Ray Allen. The boy was buried in Idaho without an autopsy. But within a month, the mother, Deborah Barrie, suspected foul-play.

On May 13, the Moab Police in conjunction with Idaho authorities requested an exhumation and autopsy. The medical examination revealed that Michael Barrie had sustained eleven broken ribs, bruises to his right and left temple, as well as bruises and abrasions to his face and body. The autopsy indicated that the injuries were sustained over a period of time. Utah Medical Examiner Sweeney concluded on June 9, 1987: "Except for his injuries, Michael Barrie appeared to be a healthy and normal child with no reason to die . . . (he) was a victim of child abuse."

In a telephone interview, Deborah Barrie stated that on "at least 30 occasions" she contacted the County Attorney, pleading that action be taken against Allen, who by now

had left Barrie and disappeared. But on November 25, the police file records indicate "County Attorney lacks probably cause to pursue prosecution," and the Moab Police was forced to suspend its investigation.

Finally, Ms. Barrie retained the services of attorney Myrna South. She presented a case file, comprised mostly of evidence gathered by Moab Police Department and medical and law enforcement authorities in Idaho, to the Utah Office of the Attorney General. The Attorney General's office concluded there was ample evidence to pursue prosecution and notified Mrs. Coates of their intentions. On May 10, 1988, a complaint was filed in Seventh Circuit Court of Grand County by Assistant Attorney General Rob Parish, charging Steven Ray Allen with three counts of child abuse and criminal homicide. Mr. Allen is still at large.

On January 18, 1989, Ernest Steele pleaded guilty to two counts of second degree sexual child abuse and two counts of first degree sexual child abuse. In a plea bargain attachment, the County Attorney stated that the prosecution "will recommend that if the Defendant meets the requirements for the minimum mandatory prison sentence to be waived, the State will recommend probation instead of prison. The State will fully cooperate to assist the Defendant to meet the requirements for probation in order to avoid the mandatory sentence."

This statement has been a point of confusion, since Mrs. Coates has said recently she did not recommend probation for Mr. Steele. In an on-camera interview with TV 6 producer Jim Mattingly, Mrs. Coates was shown a copy of the plea bargain. After reviewing it, she stated it was not the copy she signed, with her own handwritten corrections and signature. A copy of that version was obtained from the District Court and proved to be identical in content to the one she reviewed for Mattingly; it was merely retyped for her corrections and changes. Both copies are reprinted with this story.

Dr. Cap Tibbitts, formerly of Four Corners Mental Health, once described the effects of child abuse on the victim . . . the child. "One effect, of course, is that the pattern is passed on from generation to generation, so over a period of years, the cumulative effects in the society are pervasive and devastating. The other is the effect on the individual. By its definition, child abuse is unpredictable and doesn't make sense. Here is an adult, whom the child is totally dependent on, doing this and the child tries to make some sense of it, and in so doing makes himself crazy. Or makes himself a very limited human being."

More than anything, the problem needs to be recognized and dealt with. It can no longer be concealed behind a curtain of silence. If Dr. Tibbitts' assertion is correct, not only do abused children suffer greatly today, they may well grow up to be the abusers of children a generation from now.

by Jim Stiles and Jim Mattingly

SEVENTH DISTRICT COURT  
Grand County  
JAN 18 1989

PLEA BARGAIN

BY

CLERK OF THE COURT

Deputy

The plea bargain in this case is:

1. On Counts I and II the Defendant will be allowed to plead to lesser included offenses of Sexual Abuse of a Child, second degree felonies which do not allege that the victims were abused at the same time.
2. Defendant will plead guilty to Counts III and IV, Sodomy on a Child, First Degree Felonies, as charged.
3. Count V, Rape of A Child will be dismissed.

4. The State will recommend that the Defendant not be sentenced to prison. *with the* *State will* *fully* *cooperate* *to* *assist* *the* *Defendant* *to* *meet* *the* *requirements* *for* *probation* *in* *order* *to* *avoid* *the* *mandatory* *sentence* *on* *counts* *III* *and* *IV*. *The* *Defendant* *understands* *that* *the* *State* *is* *cooperating* *with* *him* *to* *assist* *him* *to* *obtain* *probation* *but* *that* *the* *State* *cannot* *guarantee* *what* *the* *sentence* *of* *the* *Court* *will* *be*, *as* *such* *is* *in* *the* *sole* *discretion* *of* *the* *Court*.

*The minimum mandatory prison sentence to be waived, the State will recommend probation instead of prison.*

Elaine M. Coates  
Ernest V. Steele

PLEA BARGAIN

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2. Defendant will plead guilty to Counts III and IV, Sodomy on a Child, First Degree Felonies, as charged.
3. Count V, Rape of A Child will be dismissed.

4. The State will recommend if that the Defendant meets the requirements for the minimum mandatory prison sentence to be waived, the State will recommend probation instead of prison. The State will fully cooperate to assist the Defendant to meet the requirements for probation in order to avoid the mandatory sentence on counts III and IV. The Defendant understands that the State is agreeable and will cooperate with him to assist him to obtain probation but that the State cannot guarantee what the sentence of the Court will be, as such is in the sole discretion of the Court.

These documents were obtained from the Clerk of the Seventh Judicial District Court.



## Hank Schmidt's JOURNAL

In the Autumn of 1939, Ranger Hank Schmidt reported for duty at Arches National Monument. In a simple time, before computers and standardized forms, parks kept their regional superintendents informed through narrative monthly reports.

Hank Schmidt's comments always contained a witty, personal touch that are worth recalling and re-reading. They are reproduced here, exactly as they typed by Mr. Schmidt, almost fifty years ago.

(Thanks to Superintendent Paul Guraedy for allowing The Zephyr to reprint these historic records.)

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ARCHES NATIONAL MONUMENT

Moab, Utah

March 23rd 1940

Mr. Hugh M. Miller, Superintendent  
Southwestern National Monuments  
Coolidge, Arizona

Dear Hugh:

We are about to get settled after moving for the second time in a week and hope we can stay put for awhile. As you know our former residence is now the location of a new ante court, which is well on its way toward completion. Upon vacating that place we moved into one of "Bowman's Bathless Bungalows" (not so good!). You will remember how you almost froze in one of them, and we found they are just as uncomfortable in warm weather. The day we moved the heirs in the Goodman Estate asked us if we would consider renting the family home, partially furnished, so here we are awaiting the arrival of the Moab Garage truck and Boyd Jorgensen and Burt Redd to help us with our "weekly" moving. The Goodman house is the two-story house just east of the High School.

The maintenance crew has started work on the Windows section road again and we have made some fine progress in the past three weeks. Travel has picked up considerably over last month and is ahead of March of 1940.

ARCHES

By Henry G. Schmidt, Custodian  
Moab, Utah

Travel this month, 197; travel to date, 901.

### Roads

After months of howling about the condition of the road leading to the Windows section, it will be a relief to hear that our 9 miles of low-grade desert road has been changed to 9 miles of high-grade desert road. The CCC maintenance crew is on the job again and progress made in improving this road is more than I had ever anticipated. The roughest hills and worst dips have been re-shaled and the mud holes are now non-existent.

### Notes of Interest

Eagle Rock, one of the interesting formations in the Windows section, fell sometime between March 1st and 3rd. The pedestal upon which the sandstone likeness of our national bird was resting, still remains. The Eagle fell to the base of the pinnacle and was reduced to fragments.

A large boulder slipped from the north end of Landscape Arch sometime during the winter months, making the arch approximately 305 feet in length instead of 291 feet.

Lion tracks were noted in both the Windows section and in Devil's Garden. Lions are numerous in the La Sal mountains, but are quite rare on the monument.

Deer sign is abundant in the Windows and Devil's Garden sections and several deer were seen during the month.

Respectfully submitted,

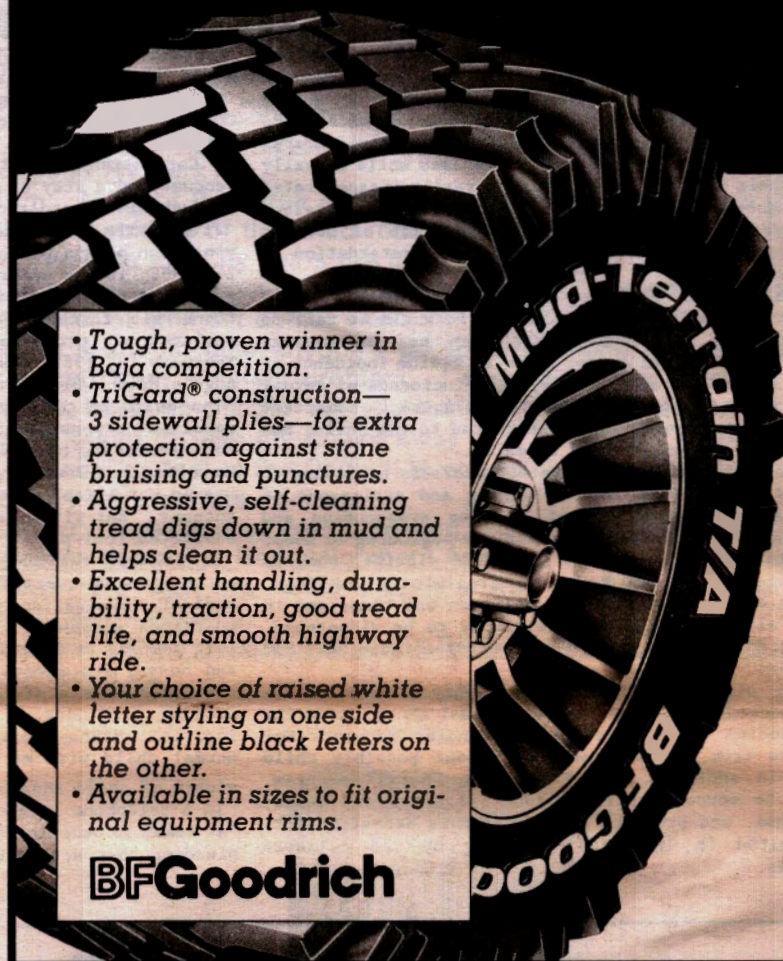
Henry G. Schmidt,  
Custodian

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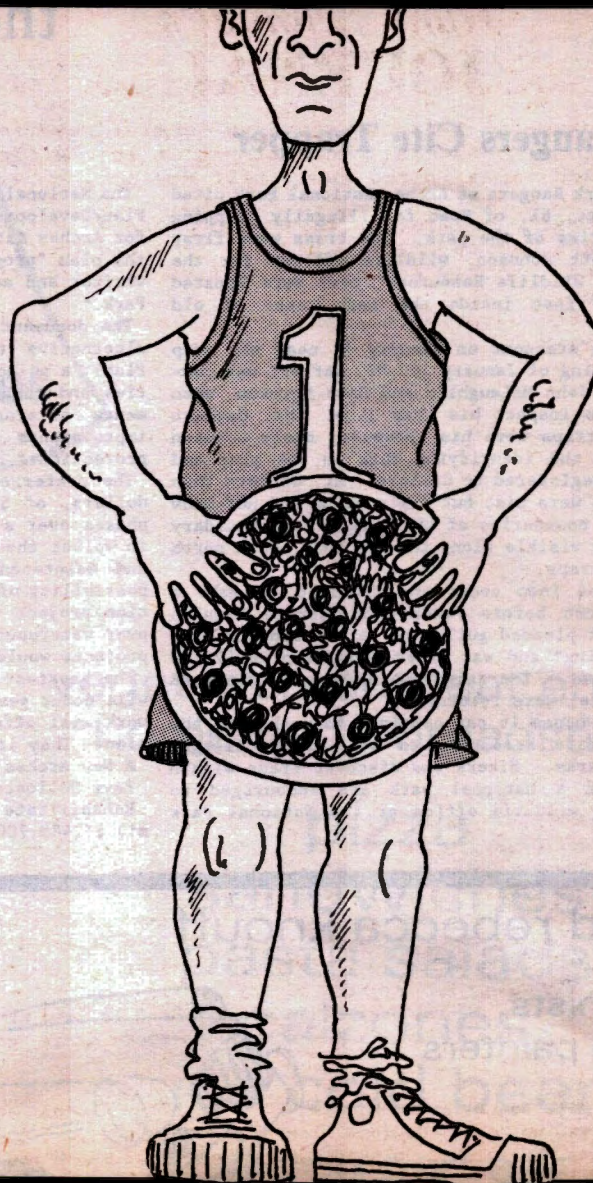
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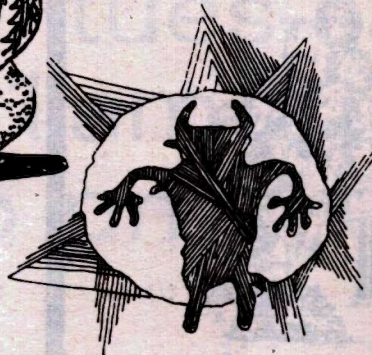
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## the public lands watchdog

### Park Rangers Cite Trapper

On January 20, Park Rangers at Arches National Park cited Mr. Charles Garlett, 61, of Moab for illegally trapping within the boundaries of the park. The traps were first discovered by Brett Johnson, wildlife officer for the State Division of Wildlife Resources; they were located approximately 120 feet inside the park, east of old highway 160.

Rangers set up a stakeout on January 18 near the trap sets. On the morning of January 20, Mr. Garlett was contacted by Rangers John McLaughlin and Dave Stimson, when Garlett stopped to inspect his trap line. Mr. Garlett first denied the traps were his; however, Brett Johnson had already noted the identifying mark on the trap and found the number registered to Garlett. Mr. Garlett then conceded the traps were his, but insisted he did not know he was within the boundaries of the park. Park boundary signs were clearly visible along the old road, both north and south of the traps.

Garlett was cited into court and required to make a mandatory appearance before Federal Magistrate Bennion Redd. Mr. Garlett pleaded guilty to "Attempting to Take Wildlife By Trapping" and was fined \$400.00 plus \$25.00 for court assessment. The traps, which were confiscated by the Park Service, were returned.

The Park Service hopes it can continue to work with the Division of Wildlife Resources to stop other illegal trapping in the parks. Hikers who discover traps within the boundaries of a national park are encouraged to contact the state wildlife office or the National Park Service.

The National Park Service released its General Management Plan/Development Concept Plan and Environmental Assessment for Arches National Park this month. The main purpose of the plan "proposes the improvement and expansion of some visitor and administrative facilities at Arches National Park."

The document offers three alternatives: the preferred alternative (the proposed action in the General Management Plan); a no-action alternative, which would leave facilities and management as they are, and a minimum requirements alternative, which would include "only those improvements necessary for life safety and resource protection."

The preferred alternative carries a price tag in 1988 dollars, of \$14,056,000, and would be completed in six phases over a number of years. A high priority concern involves the protection of head-quarters administrative and maintenance facilities and park housing from the possibility of severe flooding. Another Phase I construction project includes the construction of three bridges over watercourses along the Delicate Arch road. The two projects would cost one million dollars.

The greatest expenditure of funds for park improvements will occur several years from now when major construction work will affect almost all phases of the Arches operation. They include the following:

A New Arches Visitor Center \$3,671,400;  
Pave Delicate Arch Road \$1,078,200;  
Rehabilitate and re-pave the main road and pullouts (21 mi) \$5,489,700;

### Arches Management Plan

Pave and rehabilitate parking and trailhead at Wolfe Ranch \$238,100;

Trailhead parking improvements, new entrance station, redesign campground, new comfort stations \$492,100;

These are the major expenditures in Phase IV improvements. The total bill for the part of the G.M.P. implementation is \$11,516,000.

An encouraging and sorely needed additional expenditure is the proposed addition of at least six seasonal or part-time park interpreters or naturalists. While staffing at Arches and administrative positions at Complex headquarters has grown dramatically in the last 10 years, seasonal interpretation has suffered at Arches. Its staff has actually shrunk since 1976 when visitation barely exceeded 300,000; In 1988 visitation at Arches passed the half million mark. Cost for the increased staffing represents a \$74,000 expenditure or .5% of the proposed total cost of the General Management Plan.

According to Chief Ranger John McLaughlin, major improvements are "many years away," and will no doubt receive intense scrutiny, rising not only from environmental concerns, but from economic concerns as well, in this era of massive federal deficits.

For more information contact:

Paul Curady  
Arches National Park  
P. O. Box 907  
Moab, Utah 84532  
(801) 259-8161

tim and rebecca knouff

illusionists  
house painters

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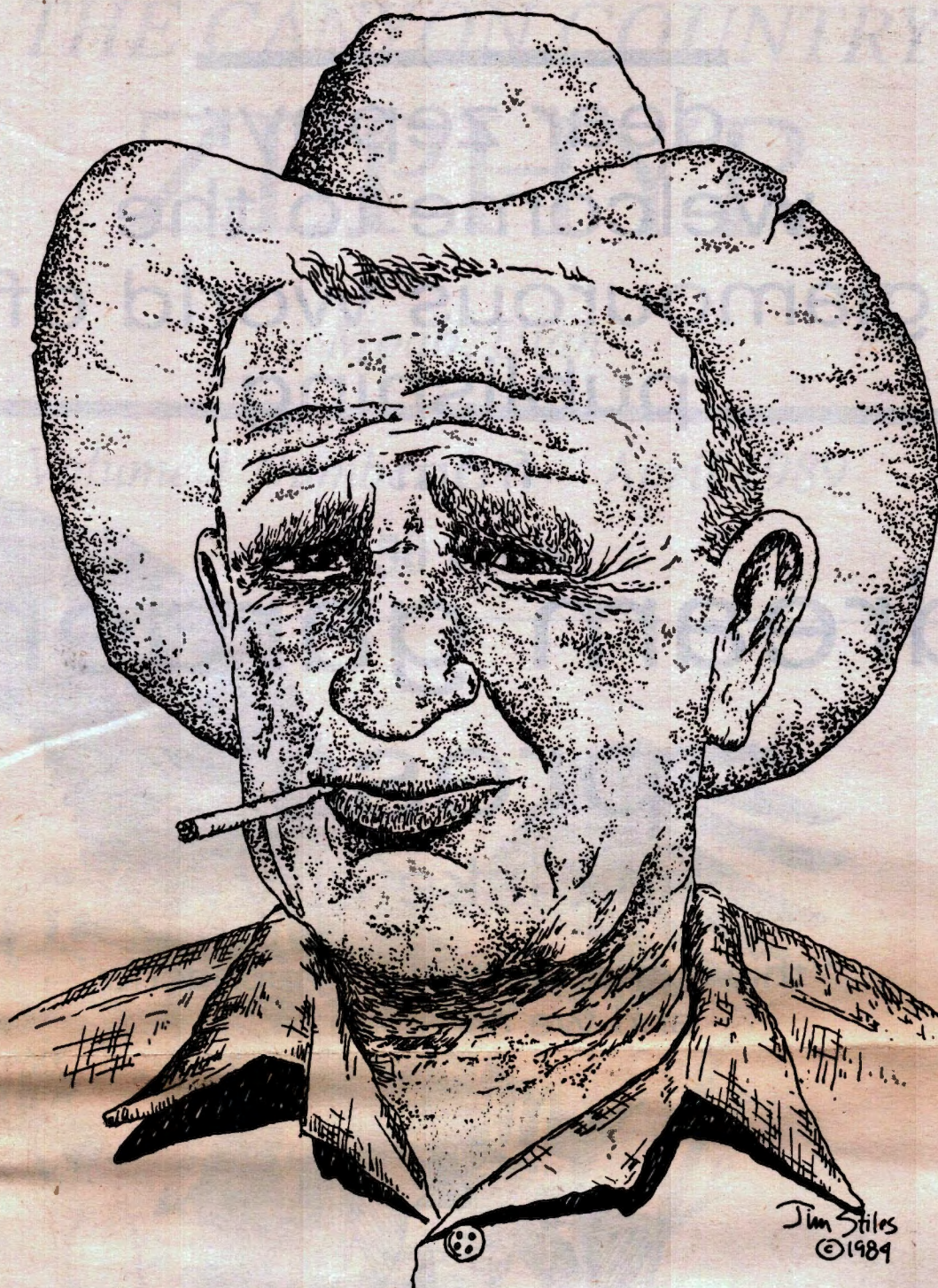
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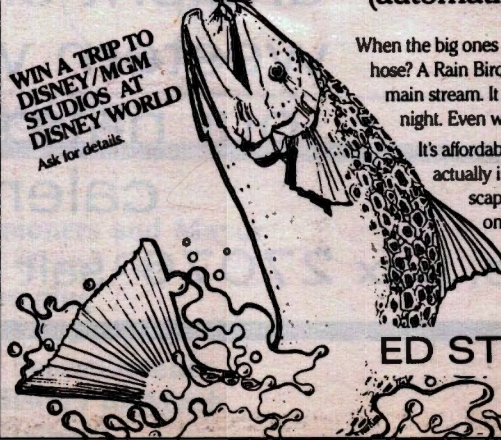
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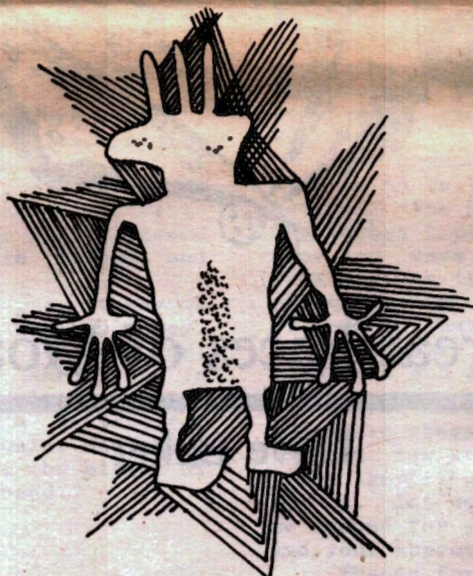


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