

Chemical culture backfires

Recent headlines proclaimed that John Wayne's cancer has spread. The Duke, who was always a man to be reckoned with in his films, is being felled by one of the most common diseases of our time. And there isn't much anyone can do for him. I remember when polio was the big disease. Wall posters hung in schools depicting cute young girls and boys wearing leg braces and seated in wheelchairs. I remember a girl in grade school who was stricken. She wore thick steel braces around her thin legs and was confined to a wheelchair. It was before the days of wheelchair ramps and special facilities for the handicapped. Getting around was a real chore for her. So none of us minded much when we stood in long lines to take our polio vaccinations. It was preventive medicine. Today's frightful disease is cancer—often misunderstood, but always looming in a variety of forms. Unfortunately, there are no cancer vaccinations, only an ever growing list of cancer-causing substances, many of them routinely used until government warnings proclaim their danger. Saccharin, red dye in foods, and cyclamates were followed by asbestos fibers, reserpine and methamphetamine. The list keeps growing. A couple of weeks ago, reports warned consumers that most models of popular hand-held hairdryers contain asbestos fibers that could cause cancer. The National Cancer Institute reports that reserpine, an anti-hypertension agent used to fight high blood pressure and also as a key ingredient in an anti-dandruff shampoo (first hairdryers, now shampoo) has been found to cause cancer in rats and mice.

MEANWHILE, AN environmentalist group is lobbying for an immediate ban of methamphetamine, an antihistamine used in such products as Nytil, Excedrin P.M., and Allertest Time Release Capsules. The drug has been found to cause liver tumors in laboratory rats. The environmentalists have asked the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to stop the sale of all over the counter drugs containing methamphetamine and also wants manufacturers to recall products already on the shelf. Why does the FDA allow dangerous chemicals to be doled out to unsuspecting consumers without proper testing? "Because two million new chemicals have been added to the market since World War Two. It would be impossible to keep up with them all. Things have gotten out of hand. We have not kept up with technology," offered Janice Rolnick, who teaches a food awareness course at Oakland Community College. Mrs. Rolnick, also a school board trustee in Farmington, lectures on nutrition and related topics.

THE PINCHED PLEAT
presents
35% OFF
levolors, verticals
& woven wood blinds
INSTALLATIONS • IN HOME SERVICE
624-5503

MAY SPECIAL
PERM
\$25.00 complete
Femme Chic Coiffures
"Styling for Him and Her"
16717 Middlebelt Rd.
Kings Row Plaza
(Between S & E Mile Rds.) 425-2777

Wedding Bells Are Ringing
Brides' Shoes
Have Finally
Arrived. Also Shoes
For Complete Wedding
Party. \$40.00

shoe boo-tek
by Arlene
29229 Northwestern Hwy/Southfield
358-2212
Hours: Monday thru Saturday 10-5



Penalties and Points

by John Bozzo

Love blossoms among the deadlines

Cupid drew back his bow string recently.

An arrow flew through the air.

It landed her in the Observer office.

Arlene VanDerleue, our Westland reporter, and Doug Funke, our sports editor, are engaged to be married.

Doug had a lot of class in the way he popped the question. He waited and waited until he and Arlene were alone at the duck pond in Greenfield Village.

During the previous week he had been bringing flowers to Arlene's desk every day.

(My own personal theory is that Doug, being a practical man, decided it was cheaper to buy a ring once rather than put flowers on Arlene's desk every day.)

However, Doug had waited so long that Arlene was wondering when he was going to propose — or if indeed he was planning to propose at all.

Ah, those sports editors are crafty fellows. He waited until they were in full view of the ducks before he made his way onto the path leading to the state of Holy Deadlock (er, excuse me, Holy Wedlock).

ARLENE WAS just as crafty at work the next day. She didn't tell anyone about the engagement. She just wore her ring nonchalantly.

While on a break, someone finally noticed the ring.

Sneals of glee emanated from every woman in the office, probably some men too, for the next hour.

Douglas, the future bridegroom, sported a red face while shaking hands offering congratulations all day.

Sitting in my corner of the news room I heard the squeals of laughter. However, I did not get up to investigate.

A few moments later, while in the line of duty, Arlene walked near my desk to check our photography schedule.

"I'm hurt you haven't congratulated me," she said. Then she told me of the engagement.

"Well, congrats. . . I started to say, but I caught myself, remembering the old superstition. Arlene was thinking along the same lines.

"You know you're not supposed to say congratulations to the woman," Arlene said. "That's bad luck. You're supposed to say 'Best wishes.'"

"Best wishes," I said, before taking a look at her engagement ring.

THEN I WALKED across the news room and offered congratulations to Doug. He shook my hand and then asked for an extra week off.

"You'll have to work twice as hard now," I said.

Doug and Arlene have taken a lot of good-natured kidding.

Our most inventive jokester has been copy editor Philip Sherman. Immediately after hearing of the engagement, Philip sent out a poll to determine if Arlene should change her name, if Doug should change his name, if they should hyphenate the names, or choose a new name altogether.

Suggestions ranged from Mr. and Mrs. Doug Funke to Mr. and Mrs. Fug Dunke, to Mr. and Mrs. Doug VanDerleue. The winner, by the way, the Fug Dunks.

After posting those results, another wag, copy editor Tom Panzenhagen, started another contest — to decide where the couple should go on a honeymoon. Suggestions included: Lakeland, Fla., Detroit, Niagara Falls and Joe Falls.

Polls close May 15 on this latest subject, but never fear. The copy desk has another election planned — this one will decide what Arlene and Doug will name their dog.

All this is in fun. They are taking it that way. But, what I'm wondering is if Arlene will let Doug go on his annual fall golfing vacation in South Carolina.

He's getting away with a trip to Las Vegas with some buddies over Memorial Day, but, of course he's not hitched yet.

ALL THIS romance has made matchmakers of people in our office — especially executive editor Tom Rioridan.

Rumours are making the rounds about future Observer & Eccentric-spawned marriages.

Tom keeps making suggestions to me. Who knows, maybe Cupid will sling another arrow this way. In any event, best wishes Doug and Arlene.

mirrors

perfect for your image!

- largest selection of framed mirrors anywhere
- framed mirrors
- full wall mirrors
- mirrored furniture
- bi-fold mirrored doors
- mirrored screens
- leviors
- custom mirrored and formica furniture



Professional advice and ideas! Call: 476-8410

reflections reflected

33491 Seven Mile at Farmington Rd.

PROFESSIONAL Carpet Cleaning



SHAMPOO ANY LIVING ROOM & HALL Regardless of Size
STEAM CLEANING ALSO AVAILABLE (At reduced Rates)

\$14.95

We specialize in carpet tinting, dyeing and laying

REID

CARPET, UPHOLSTERY, DRAPERY CLEANERS
533-0665

EACH ADDITIONAL ROOM SHAMPOOED \$10.95
UPHOLSTERY CLEANING SPECIALS
COUCH \$30.00
LOVE SEAT \$20.00
CHAIR \$15.00

if you can dream it . . . we can make it!

Custom Made Drapes at 30% OFF

Choose from a select group of designer fabrics made to your exact specifications

30% Savings
FABRIC • LABOR • LINING
Now through May 30th

The Bedsread Place



341 E. Main St.
Norrliville
349-0030 - 349-5830
Mon.-Sat. 9:30-5:30

P.S. Pardon Our Dust While We Renovate

Jeans Ville

Fashion Centers SPECIAL!

May 17, 18, 19, and 20th

\$300 OFF

LEVI and WESTERN SHIRTS

Button and Snap Fronts - Plaids and Checks
100 Units per store

Also
LEVI'S JACKETS
24 Units per store

Jeans Ville
Fashion Centers

PINE LAKE MALL
Orchard Lake Road
at Lone Pine Road
10-9 Fri., 10-7 Sat.
Closed Sunday

MELODY PLAZA
Dequindre at
14th Mile Road
10-9 Mon.-Sat.
10-5 Sun.



LEVI'S

Friendly FAMILY RESTAURANTS



Don't let this one get away. We call it our Seafarer Special and you can catch it any time from 11am till closing for just \$4.29. Haddock... delicious deep fried haddock... and crisp, tender fried shrimp plus scallops and tartar sauce.

You'll get it all

when you order our Seafarer Special. But that's not all you'll get. Take your choice of soup or salad, throw in a boat load of French fries or a baked potato, plus a roll and butter and you've got it all: the best tasting, best priced seafood dinner this side of the Atlantic Ocean.

So come and get it! You're in for a nice surprise.

Try our new Salad Bar.



Our Seafarer Special \$4.29

Plymouth
42370 Ann Arbor
(corner of Lily)

Farmington Township
24234 Orchard Lake Road
(corner of Ten-Mile)