

STREET SENSE

It's best to leave daughter at camp

Dear readers,
Recently, a young mother of an 8-year-old daughter asked me the question I am going to answer in today's column. The situation she describes is a common one and so I want to share some thoughts about it with you.

Mom relayed the following vignette:
Jane, her daughter is at an overnight camp for two weeks. It is some distance away. As is required of most camps, Jane wrote some letters after she had been there a few days. Two of her letters were to family friends. In those, she reported having a "great time." But in the letter she wrote to her parents, her refrain was less positive. To them, she reported not happiness but loneliness.

Mom and Dad became very worried and called the camp. They were told by the owner that the letter to the friend was the honest one and that Jane was in fact having fun. While Mom felt satisfied with this response, Dad remained concerned and was contemplating rescuing his daughter.

It was at this point that Mom asked for advice.

Before giving any, I investigated the reliability of the counselors and Jane's general mental health. Both were positive. I then told Mom not to worry and to insist on her daughter completing her two-week stay.

There are two questions that need to be answered. First, why would a normal, happy kid report being unhappy when she was not? And what if the situation were not so clear and Jane was homesick, should her parents then rescue her?

Jane reports being unhappy because, like most children, she doesn't



Barbara Schiff

want to be forgotten. She reasons that if her parents think she is "just fine," she will be easily dismissed, so she is not "fine" when communicating with them. While this is immature, Jane is a child and self-centered logic is appropriate.

The next vignette will help explain why Jane's parents shouldn't rescue her, even if she were homesick.

I am seeing an 8-year-old boy as a psychotherapy patient. Last year, he went to overnight camp for eight days. This year his parents wanted him to go for 19 days, but left the decision up to him. He refused to go any longer than the eight days he went last year because, one, he doesn't like being away from home and, two, he said his parents just wanted to get rid of him.

Over a few weeks, he and I discussed this issue. I asked him what

he would think of his Mom and Dad if they still lived with their parents. He laughed at this silly idea. I asked him if he wanted to "go away" to college when he was 18 and he emphatically said yes. Without explanation, he was getting the idea that practice is essential to independence as it is in other endeavors.

In school, the books get harder and the message to our children is that they are expected to meet greater intellectual demands. In sports, the competition gets stiffer and the message to our children is that they must increase their physical strength.

Emotional development needs to be taught, too, not by protecting our kids from any hurt but by helping them to stretch their capacity to work it through.

So, if the price you must pay for sending your child to camp is a sad letter or two, put up with it. You'll be stronger from the experience.

If you have a question or comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

SCREEN SCENE

Continued from Page 2

twilight. Call 855-9090 for information.

"Citizen Kane" (USA - 1941) In what still ranks as the greatest film ever made, Orson Welles charts the rise and fall of a great yellow journalist, based on the life of William Randolph Hearst. Welles, only in his mid-20s at the time, stars, acts, writes, and produces in this 50th anniversary re-release, shown here following a successful run at the Fox.

MICHIGAN THEATRE, 16301 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Call 963-8690 for information. (\$5, \$3.50 students and senior citizens)

"Truly, Madly, Deeply" (Britain - 1990), through July 25 (call for show times). A British turn of "Ghosts" about a widow about to embark on a new romance who is visited by the vision of her dead husband.

"Superstar: The Life and Times of Andy Warhol" (USA - 1980). July 24-28 (call for show times). The documentary look at Andy Warhol is chock full of unusual clips, including evasive nowhere interviews and even his memorable appearance on TV's "The Love Boat."

"Vincent and Theo" (USA - 1991). 7 p.m. July 27 and 6:45 p.m. July 28. Another artist's portrait, this time directed by Robert Altman. The film supposedly brings new insight into the relationship between Van Gogh and his patient brother/benefactor Theo, though it's basically the same old tortured artist story with some distinctly modern twists.

REDFORD THEATRE, 17360 Lahser, Detroit. Call 537-2560 for information. (\$2.50)

"Camelot" (USA - 1967). 8 p.m. July 26-27 (large overture begins at 7:30 p.m.). Richard Harris does his regal best as King Arthur in this clunky film version of Lerner and Loewe's long-running Broadway musical. Popular songs include the title tune and "If Ever I Would Leave You." Presented in 70mm.

— John Monaghan

'Q&A' has problems

Continued from Page 2

As an adult actor, he just leaves a blank in the center of the film made all the more noticeable by good performances around him. He's telling when what pivotal but in effect supporting characters make a stronger impression than the central characters.

"Q & A" ATTEMPTS to look at police corruption, the problems of the police becoming an occupying force in a community and racism without much success. Just about everyone in the film is blatantly racist and at some level corrupt, even if only from the looking the other way.

One thing you have to give the film credit for is not ending with everything in a neat package. It's more like real life in that regard. Things often end badly and the guilty parties don't always get theirs in the end.

The often socially conscious Lammet has certainly had greater success in examining these issues in earlier films such as "Serpico" and "Prince of the City," both substantially better written and in the central role, acted films.



Red C — Stephen Woods, Susan Calloway, Tim Diaz and Guido Milligan — has done some rethinking in the last year and as a result, the role of Christianity in their music is more vague.

Red C aims for record deal

Continued from Page 3

right away. That and (the band had) a clear cut direction.

Billy Brandt is another new face. Brandt was a member of the since disbanded outfit Ash Can VanGogh. He saw Red C perform and promptly offered his services to the fledgling outfit. He's been busy shopping the band around.

One of the top priorities was getting Red C into the studio to record a first-rate demo tape. The band entered Pearl Sound in Canton and came out with a five-song offering that is, if anything, a refinement of Red C's initial musical vision.

Label interest is there, including one record executive who reportedly sat in on one of the band's sessions in Diaz's basement. Red C will have a showcase for art and repertoire representatives 10 p.m. Wednesday, July 24, at Alvin's in Detroit. Admission is free.

This is something the band has worked for in the past year, playing an exhaustive schedule of shows in the area.

"ONCE YOU find out what you do

best, you should put your heart into it totally," Calloway said.

But in this breakneck determination to score a record deal one would not long the band can hold out without being consumed them selves. Calloway and Diaz admit things have grown intense, but add it's still fun.

"Yeah, there's always that chance," Diaz said. "That chance where you wonder at how not can something get before it explodes. If you can't get to that point, how do you refine? We haven't reached that point yet, though. We're burning along."

IN CONCERT

Continued from Page 3

perform with guests, Remains, at Hamtramck Pub, 2048 Caniff, off I-75

● **BROKEN YOYO**
Saturday, July 27 — Broken Yoyo will perform at Lili's 21, 2935 Jacob off Jos Campau, Hamtramck. For information, call 875-6555.

● **REGULAR BOYS**
Saturday, July 27 — Regular Boys will perform on the Doble Moonlight Cruise. The boat departs 11 p.m. and returns 1 a.m. For information, call 843-0708 or 843-8500.

● **K.I. OSLIN**
Saturday, July 27 — K.I. Oslin will perform with guests Exile and Desert Rose Band 8 p.m. at The New Pine Knob

in Clarkston. Tickets are \$12 pavilion and \$14.50 lawn. For information, call 377-8200.

● **HOMEWRECKERS**
Saturday, July 27 — Homewreckers will perform at Cross Street Station 511 W. Cross, Ypsilanti. For information call 485-5050.

● **MOTOR CITY SHAKERS**
Saturday, July 27 — Motor City Shakers will perform at the Station Lounge, 32413 Michigan Ave., west of Meridian Road, Wayne. For information, call 721-3850.

● **MARC FALCONBERRY**
Saturday, July 27 — Marc Falconberry will perform at the Hoyer Hotel Airport Lounge, 31500 Wick, Romulus. For information, call 292-3400.

STREET SEEN

Denise Susan Lucas

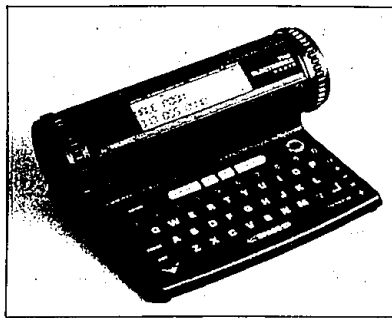
Our intrepid Street Scene reporter is always looking for the unusual and welcomes comments and suggestions from readers and entrepreneurs. Send those to this column in care of this newspaper, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150, or call 953-2131.



Pages of Pleasure

It's never too soon to acquaint your little one to the enjoyment of reading. Making your child's first reading adventures fun will insure their lifelong friendship with books.

The Children's Bookshop in Aggregate Square of Southfield carries delightful storybook tales available with puppets and dolls of each character. Once read, the child can create his own storytime adventure or act out the original plot with their soft, cuddly puppet or doll. Pictured are "The Real Mother Goose," "Ladybug, Ladybug" and "The Babushka's Doll."



Phone number frenzy

Suffering from "phone number frenzy," well, fret no more... you will never have to look for those little scraps of paper (with old phone numbers) again. The Electronic Rolodex (by Rolodex) will store more than 1,000 personal and business phone numbers and addresses at your fingertips. Sparing those delicate fingertips the strain of dialing, the office and home phone and address organizer also has a clock, day and date display. Priced at \$99.95 from The Male Room on the Boardwalk, West Bloomfield (But not for men only.)

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