

# INSIDE JOKE

VOLUME I, ISSUE 4

Yep, another "expanded" edition...

JANUARY 1981

## Old Acquaintance...

*"And so this is New Year's  
Nineteen Eighty-One  
The old year is over  
And a new one's just begun..."—paraphrased*

If 1980 was any indication of where we're headed, this year promises to be the best ever for The Uncle Floyd Show. The cast and crew of WWHT have hardly begun to explore the possibilities of the new studio; stage shows and live appearances are selling out with unbelievable speed; and viewers, especially those who have been around longer, are finding themselves in precarious positions. We are now acquainted with people who are, for all intents and purposes, bonafide "stars". And since, by our nature as viewers, we often represent the show to newcomers, we must be more careful than ever on how we go about our publicity work. The producers of fanzines and newsletters associated with the show should become pickier and pickier regarding integrity, intelligence and taste. Personal appearance goers should visibly (but without going overboard) demonstrate their support for the show and for one another, else why bother going? Letter writers (and phone callers) should be able to express themselves clearly enough so that no misunderstandings (or false rumors) result.

On a personal note, I'd like all the readers of this rag to try and hold me to the following resolutions, made with no intention whatsoever of being broken:

### BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- I will strive to continue maintaining the standard of professionalism, journalistic truth and good (more or less) clean fun which is the purpose of INSIDE JOKE. To that end, it is possible I may become more selective regarding written submissions, but I would hope contributors have enough self-respect not to send me things that are obviously in total bad taste. I will let common sense (and sense of humor) be my guide.
- I will take all personal insults and caustic remarks from whence they come...
- I will cherish important people and things in my life, and discard the trivial.
- I will not jump to answer my phone every time it rings—it is ridiculous to be a slave to a bell. On that subject, I will take life a bit easier, and deal with things as they come, with less impulsivity and more level-headed thinking.
- I will attempt to keep the "Golden Rule" to the letter, and treat with respect and politeness all who treat me so. Moreover, I will give all fellow viewers the same courtesy and attention (particularly in public, where that kind of thing means the most to others) I would wish for myself, nothing more, nothing less.
- I will not lie; neither will I betray confidences entrusted to me.
- I will do my best not to let foot-in-mouth disease get the better of me.
- I'll go on a diet if you will!

Who knows, these kinds of things may make me a helluva lot easier to be with...But getting back to generalities and, as Derek would say, "talking in abstracts", I hope everyone remembers that the things we say and do regarding The Uncle Floyd Show reflect back to the show itself, and the cast deserves our support and consideration. Let's make it a good year for all of us...

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- January 15 - LORI PIASSEK, 15  
 January 19 - Lynn Martin goes to ITALY  
 (return date: Feb. 2nd)  
 January 29 - Stage Show, Bottom Line,  
 in celebration of show's  
 anniversary, 2 shows, \$7.50  
 February 4 - Floyd heads for FLORIDA  
 for a week of R & R  
 February 9 - ADRIANNE PETERPAUL, 15  
 February 13 - PETER TORK, 37  
 February 16 - TERRIE GEHEBE, 19  
 February 20 - OOGIE (?)  
 February 21 - TAMAR ROTHENBERG (?)  
 February 21 - "PUTTING ON THE RITZ"  
 PARTY, my house, 3:30-7pm,  
 in conjunction w/ Stage  
Show, Ritz Theater, Eliza-  
 beth, 8pm, \$6 or \$5,  
 RESERVED SEATING ONLY  
 February 25 - MUGSY (?)

## EXPLANATIONS/ ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/ SUBSCRIPTIONS

I honestly didn't expect another expanded issue (neither did I care to do one!) this soon—believe me, 10 pages a month is a-plenty! But due to this month's generous monetary donations (thanks go to SUE SAPIO, LORI PIASSEK, DEL STANTON, MARGARET KUZYSKI, DIANE DROPPA, and especially JOE TOMASKOVIC), I can afford to print almost all the generous written donations. If all goes as I think it will, next issue should once again be back to normal size.

Sorry the type of my interview is so small, and the layout sideways, but it was the only way I could fit it in. Hope the design and content make up for it. Also, Fan Club Moose will appear in the next ish (so send me any info by the 10th, fan clubs).

Subscriptions are still an SASE, to my address: 418 East 3rd Avenue  
 Roselle, NJ 07203

Same for written and/or monetary contributions.

Lastly, thanks again to Lisa V. for proofreading, approval and patience, and special thanks to ROBBIE WISE and JANET BROWN, who "heard I needed stamps"...



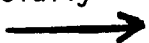
Tickets for the above-mentioned show went on sale officially on January 12th, and I hear the first two rows were already sold out by then through mail order (yes, I was one of "them"—I have seat B-1, in case you want to know where to find me). Yes, the seats are reserved. No rushing, no standing on line, no pushing...

Which is great news as far as the "PUTTING ON THE RITZ" party goes. The set hours for the party (as dictated—uh, suggested—by "parental guidance") are 3:30-7pm. For those of you first hearing or reading of the party (and everyone's invited, by the way), the plan is as follows: Everyone who attends is asked to bring their favorite thing to put on a Ritz ("mm, good cracker!")—remember, though, it must be Kosher (check with me). I will in turn supply the Ritz or reasonable facsimiles thereof, some non-alcoholic beverages (BYOB as well—booze is welcome but too expensive for me to shell out by myself), and the music, which will probably consist of new-wave and comedy stuff. There may or may not be some surprises in honor of Oogie's birthday being the previous day. At 7:00, we invade a local fast-food place (or, if you prefer, you can brown-bag it—ain't no way I can spring for dinner too on my budget!), then head on down to the Ritz Theater 5 minutes away (plenty of municipal, albeit metered, parking). If you plan to attend this gathering, LET ME KNOW BY FEBRUARY 10, so I can plan whether to buy 6 boxes of Ritz or 60. I will also be giving out the February issue of IJ (#5) there, so if you come to the party, you don't have to send me a SASE for next month (but again, TELL ME if you plan to show). If you're attending but don't have directions, I'll tell you when I hear from you. According to gossip Crony Rabbit, this promises to be the U.F.S. party of the year, "the decade, the century..." "Convention '81"? Be there—aloha...

# R·A·T·T·P·A·C·King

MIKE SZORENTINI gets top billing this month—the WSOU-FM disc jockey has become to IJ what Vin Scelsa is to The Uncle Floyd Show. I re-met Mike at the stage show at Montclair State on December 18, which was nice 'cause I finally got a chance to see what he looked like (our first encounter had been at the wonderfully-lit Fast Lane). On Monday, December 22, Mike gave IJ a super plug, and he absolutely raved over TERRIE GEHEBE's 422 Tribune (yes folks, welcome to the Mutual Admiration and Snow Job Society!). He also thought I was being derogatory over my use of a certain term of affection, which I never am, Michael dear...So I called up the station (hi, by the way, to Glen and Marty—who never wrote me like he promised) at 1:15am yet and chatted with Mike for awhile; casually mentioned I'd like to hear "Rock Lobster", if he had time and space for it; and no sooner had we hung up than the song came on! Plus another plug afterwards! Therefore, everyone within listening distance is urged to tune in to Mike's show every Monday night from 11pm-2am on WSOU of Seton Hall, 89.5 FM. "I play every in of song you can think of, and I'm the only one who plays all of Floyd Vivino's records and Netto's single," Mike told me. Floyd stuff is usually around 12:30-1am, but the whole show is worth catching, Mike's a pisser...Sorries to MARGARET "Help-I'm-Being-Held-Hostage-And-Forced-To-Staple-IJ" KUCZYNSKI and MARTIN VAUGHAN for misspelling their names last issue...and apologies to all who got offended that the issue was incorrectly dedicated to "John Winston Lennon" instead of "John Ono Lennon", I guess I remember the old days more...RONNIE APONTE, her dad, her two kids MARILYN and MICHELLE, and me all "carred on up" to the Morris County Mall on 12/14, where I met twins PAT & JANET BROWN (who never got a dinner!) and had another terrific Bergson-like discussion on comedy with David Burd's gal LAURIE RAIMO. A very moving afternoon—it was the day of the vigil, and all the stores around us shut down for 10 minutes of silent observance...BILL-DALE MARCINKO, whose AFTA (#4) zine, complete with my article and pictures

on Floyd, will surface by the end of this month (or else) send me an extremely amusing flyer from the fictitious trash rag The National Mind, proposing, among other things, a Lennon Second-Gun Theory. I was debating reprinting it in IJ, but as some may consider it a little much even for those of us used to sick humor, I will instead promise to show it in person to anyone who wishes to read it...Speaking of breaching taste, WAYNE HASTRUP reports that JEFF MULLER's father tore up IJ #3, mistaking it for vulgar filth. Seems he assumed that the "Fu" in Maria Vitale's "Fu-ing Around" stood not for "Fu Manchu", which it does, but for "Fuck", which it doesn't. Everybody knows you can't put that word in print. Just another example of "dirty" being in the mind of the beholder...And on the aforementioned Montclair show, won't say too much except it was wonderful meeting DEL STANTON, and the audience—well, let's put it this way. On the one hand, they were so enthusiastic that all my issues of IJ #3 were gone within 10 minutes of sitting down; on the other hand, the rush for the door made the Cincinatti Who concert look like a day in Nome, Alaska. It seems a good thing, therefore, that many future stage shows (like the Ritz) will have reserved seating. We may miss sitting in the front all together, but I for one won't miss the shoving about... I am also crossing my fingers that we won't have any more "reserved seating" a la the Club Bené on 1/4—the best seats there were reserved not for those who came earliest, not even for those who shelled out 20 hard-earned bucks for dinner and a show, but for relatives and folks who slipped some dough under the table ten minutes before show time. Rather disgusting, but nothing could be done, so these are the things with which one must bear at "big time" places—guess we'd better start getting used to it, because there's an excellent likelihood that Floyd will be back again. The audience was phenomenal, especially




# RATS cont'd.

after they warmed up to the whole thing. At least two rather inebriated audience members decided to ad-lib their way onto the stage during bits like Cowboy Charlie and Pot Roast (poor Doreen, I truly thought she was gonna freeze up when a strange woman—who incidentally looked like she could be BABY BONZO's mother, although Bonzo wasn't there to witness—staggered and fell on stage. But "Ellen Foliage" got in some good lines—"Hey lady, this is my bit!"). A couple even decided to start tangoing to Floyd's piano playing at the end. And I say this without hesitation—that stage show was absolutely the best I've ever seen! First-time (and "one-time") live bits included "ringing out the old year and ringing in the new" with Mugsy as Old Man 1980 and Scott as Baby 1981; Sylvester Cavone to introduce Oogie; a new song by Neil Yuck ("It's so hard to make arrangements with my voice"...); and Colonel Corn, who had some great one-liners: CHARLIE: "I hear you're cousin in Ireland's 'queer'." COL.: "Yeah, he's Gaelic"; CHARLIE: "What do girls say when they sit on Pinocchio's face?" COL.: "'Lie, Pinocchio, lie!'" CHARLIE: "What's the difference between a bad hunter and a constipated owl?", whereupon Floyd broke character and asked his brother Jerry, whose gag it apparently was, to do the punch line—"A bad hunter can shoot and shoot but cannot hit; a constipated owl can hoot and hoot but cannot shit" (oops, another one of those words). Traditional favorite Eddie Slobbo was back with the donut bit, and as he said to an audience member, "I ain't David Burd, I ad-lib, lady" (not entirely true, as David even got in a few good ones as Artie). Some choice lines included "Ah, South Amboy—home of the Dutch Boy Paint Sign! I love the smell of the sulfur fields when you go over that bridge...", and, as the 1st American soldier to land in Iran, "I'm gonna run for President, man, I'm gonna have 5 security men—1 to protect me, 4 to carry my radio." Floyd's trip to the piano at the end brought such songs as his old "kiddie show" themes, the Ken Do theme, the two commercial jingles he's done (for Elvis Costello's "Taking Liberties" and for Wild West

City), "Josephina Please No Lean-a On The Bell", "Goofus" (one of my favorites), and "Dixieland Fantasy". A new visitor to the "Crazy House" segment at the very end was Scott's "Don the Drunk"—"My favorite aunt died. She was 105 years old. Thank God they saved the baby..." (I can't figure that one out, but I'm sure it's profound for some reason). And for the first time (after a show that lasted over 2½ hours), Floyd agreed to an encore. He had to—the audience simply wouldn't let them go! For the encore, Skip did some of his best impressions (3 Stooges, etc). Floyd finally left the stage just as some girls ran on to kiss him...like I said, phenomenal...Did anyone see this ad in the Aquarian a couple weeks running?

Seems Ginny—yes, Ginny—couldn't make it to the Bottom Line, and wanted to know what the fuss was about...Baby Bonzo does have other pictures of herself, though—rumor has it she's entering the cheesecake business. That the photos are risqué is putting it mildly. When showing them off to the cast, Bonzo reportedly pointed to one where her head had been cut off and said, "Name that chest!"...Welcome to new Turtles DEREK TAGUE, Margaret, and Martin (initiated after Montclair at the Tick Tock Diner), MARIA VITALE (over lunch by where I work), and especially RANDY PINKHAM. Yes, the time has come for us to say Sarasota—Randy made it back here from Florida for a week or so, and we managed to get together twice, once to go to a party where the hostess made "Julia Stepchild Egg Nog"...As always, MARCI MANN's Floydian Press is well worth waiting for. MapMann has taken to scheduling production of issues around illnesses and relapses, I think (get well soon!)... The Editorial's the funnies thing I've read in awhile. If you'd like to find out if Marci has any extra copies, let me know and I'll pass your queries along...JOE BALITZKI "touched up" my viewer profile on him, and between the article itself and his satirical addendums, we take up over 3/4 of the issue...Joe really went for my Xmas gag





# furtheratts

gift—a bottle of Grey Flannel cologne (to which he can now add an old-time comedy album Derek and I found for him at the Union Marketplace, entitled "The Moth in the"—you guessed it—"Grey Flannel Suit")...if disco is dead, it was turning over in its grave the night Joe and I tripped the light mediocre to recorded pap supplied by a geriatric emcee-deejay (that's MCDJ) at the Chez Lounge in Linden...Lastly, let me just say that the only thing better than Mr. B.'s 2XL is the way he and JOE TOMASKOVIC play obscene Boggle...Congrats to SUE ROSNER for finally receiving her diploma from Queens College, 6 months after graduation (see "Com-Parables"), and Sue wishes a "Mazel Tov to my folks, who said, 'Thank heaven we don't have any more tuition to worry about'."...Sue's sis CINDI has become a regular militant (!) in leading her fan club at Columbus (alias "Son of Sam") High School. It seems a faculty advisor "wasn't too enthused" about an article written on the show which was intended for publication in the school's newspaper. So Cindi and veep RHEA PARSONS "formed a petition to get in the article & it worked...Even though 98% of the people who signed didn't know who Uncle Floyd is they were very kind. Rhea's friends & my friends were there to carry the petition to help us out...By the way we got 225 signatures with a few forgeries by Peter Palazzo." Go, C.H.S.!...Working in the city has advantages and disadvantages. On the good side, I get to have lunch with viewers like CAROL PHILLIPS, LISA BOTTINI (whose address, for those of you who want glossy copies of the back-page calendar for \$1, is 2319 Belmont Ave., Bronx, NY 10458), and The Kid from Brooklyn herself...On the bad side, my new co-worker reminds me an awful lot of Ace Durkins ("Do you like New York bagels better than New Jersey bagels?"..."You're a good sport"—yes, I swear it, he did say that!)...BOB FERGUSEN is starting a new-wave fanzine. If you have any contributions (reviews, etc.), suggestions or questions about it, Bob's address is PO Box 276, Wharton, NJ 07885...It's nice to see that LISA VITALE's wrist has made a speedy recovery from being sprained when it hit her kitchen cabinet (so she says)...Lisa made a brief appearance on the show of 1/13, and her dog CLARK was on the show that Friday, the 16th...thank goodness this column is over!...



## BANDING TOGETHER



If you remember as far back as the November 24th show, you may have recognized the drummer on the band THE ROYALS as PAUL FERGUSEN, who had been on the show three or so weeks prior with his own band. Paul and his brother BOB, who are both avid viewers, have a 45 out on Regal Records, Paul's own label, which you might like to hear. Paul, on Side A, plays all instruments and sings a song he wrote called "Wondering if Love is Ever There"—on the mellow side. On Side B, Bob performs a tune(?) entitled "Walking Through the Store", very punk. If you'd like a copy of this 45, send \$1.50 to Bob at PO Box 276, Wharton, NJ 07885. For your trouble, while supplies last, he'll also send you a free bumper sticker...ROBBIE WISE is now drummer for the (formerly) Indiana-based "progressive rock" band THE GIZMOS. He sent me their first album, Hoosier Madness, recorded before he joined. It was done "live in Indiana where men are dullards and reptiles are what you make of them", on Gulcher Records; the Gizmos are on Side A (Side B contains a group called "Dow Jones and the Industrials"). I also received from Rob a hysterical Gizmos press kit, which I'm sure he'd be happy to send to anyone interested. Rob lives at 245 Vermont Ave. in Oceanside, NY 11572. Look for the group to be featured in the February issue of Creem...LAURIE RAIMO and DAVID BURD are writing for and managing, respectively, a Lyndhurst-based group called AURAL SENSE (formerly ATROPHY). Laurie has combined her lyrics with JOHN HAMILTON's music, and it's been working very well. For more info, talk to Laurie at Dave's concession stand before or after stage shows...oh yes, lead singer of Aural Sense is Laurie's friend Donna, I hear she has a sensational voice...if you know of, or are in, a band which would like free publicity, lemme no..

## Gazette

Have you subscribed to THE UNCLE FLOYD SHOW GAZETTE, the show's official newsletter, yet? Please show your support for the show--send check for \$6 to Floyd Vivino c/o the show...

**IJ EXCLUSIVE-**

## **Interview With Lisa Vitale:** *"The Woman Beside The Man"*

(INTRO: I first met Lisa Vitale at the Nutley carnival back in July. Even then, she impressed me as a very charming, caring woman. To give you an example of her nature, my pint-sized companion Susie wanted a picture of Floyd and herself, but couldn't manage it with the barricade, so Lisa helped out, got Susie under the canopy, and snapped the picture herself, being quite an excellent photographer in her own right. Given, a small favor, but a noteworthy gesture nevertheless.)

As our friendship developed, I thought it might be nice to give IJ readers an insight into the wit and personality of Floyd's lady and love. The interview excerpted below was done back in late September or early October, in my car in front of the Roy Rogers in West Orange (the show still taped from the old studio). Although it was awhile ago, most of the interview is neither outdated nor irrelevant. Lisa's friend Athena Zois sat in, most likely chuckling in the back seat the whole time, but who knows...)

IJ: How did you and Floyd meet?

LV: I went up to Looney Tunes (record shop) when I saw they were a sponsor for the show, and I says, "Chris (Carter), look, I have pictures from the Bottom Line," and he says, "Oh, Floyd would like to meet you, see some of the pictures"—it was all very innocent back then—so he says, "Well listen, Floyd'll be here next week for a personal appearance, why don't you come up?" I says, "Well, I don't know, I don't want to appear to be like, you know, like that, that's not something I do." He says, "No, well you can help me." I says, "All right, that's what I'll do, I'll come up and I'll help you with the people or whatever." So I went up there that day, and I met him (Floyd). And it's funny, the first time I saw him I didn't say anything, I didn't know what to say, and then, he didn't answer, he didn't say anything back. And I says, "Well listen, would you like me to get you a cup of coffee?" And he says, "Sure," and that's what I did...and I was there that whole day till 7:00 at night helpin' 'em.

IJ: You were a fan of the show beforehand?

LV: Yeah, I was watchin' for about 3 1/2 months regularly.

IJ: How did you get into it?

LV: It's funny, I was at a party in January, and everybody's sittin' around drinkin', and all of a sudden, this friend of mine brings out the record player and starts playing "La De Da Dah." And I'm goin', "What the heck is that?" "La De Da Dah?" Oogie? Who is Oogie? Uncle Floyd? Who the hell is that?" He says, "You gotta see this show"—knowing my type of humor—he says, "You gotta see it, put on Channel 68"...And the first time I watched it, I liked it, which was weird. But I didn't understand it. And I just kept watching it, I says, "I gotta understand this eventually, I mean, I'm a college graduate..."

IJ: Did Floyd see you at the Bottom Line?

LV: No, the first time I saw him at the Bottom Line I didn't know him. And I wouldn't go up to him. He was standing by the bar, as a matter of fact, but at the time, I was with this other guy I was going out with. I dragged him to the Bottom Line, and he hated the show, for obvious reasons...He says, "You wanna go say hello?" I says, "No, not now, really, it's not the time to say hi to him now, I'll say hi to him some other time," and that's what I did...The first time we met personally was April 6th of last year, at Looney Tunes.

IJ: Did he know you were a fan of the show, or just that you were a friend of Chris'?

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LV: No, as a matter of fact, at the time, he didn't ask me out then or say anything. 'Cause he thought I was Tom (Mallanby)'s sister. He didn't want to say anything. Eventually, when I got pictures back from the personal appearance there, he says, "Tom, your sister's nice" or something, and he (Tom) goes, "That's not my sister!" So he says, "Oh, well, I'd like to take her out"...Then his mother got sick, subsequently, and we just couldn't get together for a couple of months, things happened, you know, so we didn't go out, actually, till July.

LV: Do you think he would've been interested in you if he'd known you were a fan?

LV: He has a policy, he said to me, that he tells the guys on the show, "Never go out with a fan," and they laughed at him when he started going out with me. But he says, "Well, she's not a real 'typical fan'..." I'd never bring up the show when I was with him the first couple times we went out to dinner. I'd never mention it, because that's his job. It's just like he was a butcher of something. I wouldn't say, "Oh, how was your meat today? Did you do this, did you make veal cutlets today?" That's something I wouldn't ask. It's nice and all, but it's his business and I treat it as a business.

LV: Is it difficult dealing with Floyd's fans when, for instance, they come up to you on the street and start talking and all?

LV: No, the majority of them--well, I'd say 100% of them have been very nice so far, and usually they'll say, "Hi, how ya doin'?" to me, or he'll introduce me, "This is my girlfriend," and they're real nice. But it's funny, about, I'd say 95% of the people that do come up to him are male, it's really interesting. Girls'll just kind of like stand there and go, "Oh, look, that's Uncle Floyd" or something. But I don't know, I think girls generally are shy, you know, where guys, they don't worry about their ego, they'll come right up and say, "Hi, how ya doin', Floyd?" But no, it doesn't bother me. Even the girls, you know, I say, "Hi, where ya from?" I'm friendly towards them...

LV: That can really put a cramp in your social life, when you've gotta stop every two minutes to say hi to somebody.

LV: (laughing) It's not that frequently! When we're at a dinner or something, people usually are very courteous. They won't usually come up, or they'll wait till we're done eating and then they'll come up. But he never minds it, you know, he likes it. He's always very nice to them all. They're nice to me, and him, too.

LV: You said you don't bring up the show--does Floyd talk about the show when he's not doing it?

LV: Never. Very rarely. Something'll come up, he'll see something--like we were in the Shop-Rite the other night, and he saw Body Buddies cereal, and he says, "Oh, this would be good for Scott Gordon" or something--but he doesn't talk about the show. From the business end of the deal he may like he'll say, "Oh, you know, they're doin' this with the show," or "We're movin' down," but he'll never talk about the content of the show, you know? Like, it's funny, because I've never been out with "Uncle Floyd," I don't even know who the person is.

LV: Who do you think "Uncle Floyd" is?

LV: He is an extension of Floyd Vivino. (LV: Where does one start and the other end?) Oh, they're very different. Floyd Vivino's a very serious person--he

loves to do the most common things that most of us do. But "Uncle Floyd" is an entity that people, I guess, like to laugh at, to look at and laugh at. And I really can say that I don't know who it is. It's someone I turn the television on to watch, the little clown on TV, I've only seen the show with him maybe five or six times in person, and it's an odd feeling, believe me. (LV: Well, he probably watches the show from a critical point of view.) Yeah, but he never would say it out loud, though. He's like that...we'll laugh at some things, but he's very quiet about it. We hardly ever get to watch it any more, between being out, or whatever.

LV: Is it difficult to plan times to see each other with everything that's going on, in both your lives?

LV: Yeah, between me and school and everything...No. We see each other, I'd say, every day almost, even when he tapes, we manage to fit in some kind of time. (LV: That's good...) Yeah, it's good, it's really great. And it started out that way, right from the beginning, I'd be seeing him maybe two, three times a week, and of course, the guys would bust him.

LV: How do they treat you now?

LV: Oh, they're all nice. Everyone's very nice to me. I really didn't get to know them until I went to a show, and I was backstage with them all, you know, and I was telling Mugsy "Calm down" or David Bird "Come on, get ready" or whatever, and started talking to them. And then they started to warm up to me, and they're very friendly. They're really very nice to me, all of them.

LV: What do you see as your plans for your future?

LV: Well, my immediate plans are to finish school, which I'll be doing in a few months. And, basically, I'm not a "career person" where I wanna go out and see the world on fire. I still have an "old-fashioned" attitude where I'd like to have children, get married--not in that order! So, basically, I'd like to get married within maybe a year to sixteen months from now, and start planning a family. And I don't believe in anybody else raising my children, so I guess once they grow up I'd get another job, get a job, doing something with what I did in school--hopefully, I could always fall back on it. So that's basically where I stand now, my plans.

LV: Can you picture yourself, for instance, five years from now?

LV: Five years from now? I think I'll have, probably, two or three kids by then, running around telling silly jokes, being dressed in Yankee uniforms, if my husband has anything to do with it! But yeah, that's what I can see, raising a family and, hopefully, being successful at it.

LV: You seem to have very "traditional" beliefs--do you agree with any beliefs of the feminist movement, or don't you bother with that?

LV: Well, I don't know that much about it, except I do know that, like, women should be paid equally for a job they can do equally. As far as that, I mean, that's just pure garbage that they're not. And from that aspect, yes, I think they've come a long way, and there's only forward to go for them. See, I really don't consider myself--but I guess if I was out there, goin' for a job, damnit, I'd wanna be paid equally too, you know? So I don't know, I guess someday I might be doing that, I may be looking for a job...

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IJ: Does Floyd ever get any flak about not having a female cast member on the show at present? Will he ever consider it again?

LV: It may show up in his letters...I don't know why. For some reason—maybe the audience may have something to do with it. Maybe he feels, you know, he hasn't met the right person that he wants, or whatever. But I don't know. It may be out of his hands. I don't think so. But right now, I just don't think he's into that, he's more into doing more shows and getting everything ready and taking care of the people he has. But I think if the right person came along that he particularly likes, he'd hire them, definitely. (IJ: I have a feeling he wouldn't take a second look at someone who's already "classified" as, for instance, a fan.) Yeah, that probably would have a lot to do with it. He'd probably—I don't know. He loves his fans, but he has to separate them from his job. I know that sounds funny, but it's true...

IJ: I still tend not to see Floyd Vivino and "Uncle Floyd" as two totally different people...

LV: Yes, but on a more intimate level, it's very easy to see the distinction. I mean, "Uncle Floyd", they make fun of his love life, they make fun of his nose, everything else, and he's the big joker out there—you know, leading the show. But he's not like that at all, he's very serious, like I said... But there are several times, even when I'm watching the show, I could always tell when Floyd Vivino's on camera. He'll say something, and I'll say, "Oh, that's him talking"... (IJ: Like what?) Well, whenever he starts to take out gifts, or something that somebody sent him, and he really likes them, or a letter he really likes, he really starts to get sweet about it. He'll say, "Look at this, look how nice this is." I remember somebody sent him a Yankee bank or something a couple weeks ago, and he just flipped out over it when he got it, and on the air, you could see how happy he was, you know, and that's him... (IJ: He gets so many gifts all the time...) But he saves every one of 'em. He saves everything—in his basement, in his attic, and his room is filled with gifts... His room is like "Uncle Floyd Heaven" for a fan. I mean, there's nice pictures and—not of just himself, he's not conceited like that—of, like, him and Winnie (Scelso), him and David Johansen, and all these other old-time pictures from the show, his brothers...

IJ: Do you ever feel like you're competing with all this "Uncle Floyd" stuff all around you?

LV: Well, there may be some competition there, but I know that he places me first above it, and so that alleviates a lot of any thought of anxieties I'd have about it, I'd guess. But to him, like I said, it's a job, he loves doing it, he loves the fans, he loves everything about the job, but, well, I get the impression that he thinks that I'm more important. I hope so, anyway. 'Cause he's more important to me than anything else in the world.

IJ: Most show business performers will say, right out, "Show business is my life, and any relationship that I'm gonna have comes second." You don't get that impression at all...

LV: Oh no, not at all. Last night, as a matter of fact, Sammy Davis Jr. was on TV, and they were asking him about show business, and he says, "That's my work and everything, but you know, my wife and me, we just get in our car and we go places, and you know, I just love being with her, that's the main thing,"

and I think that's the right attitude to have, you know? You never lose the insight about your job, but to have someone to be as equally important, or more important, I mean, that's to me gotta be the best thing in the world to have.

IJ: awhile ago, you were expressing interest in doing your own sort of viewer survey, using some of the methods you've learned in school (NOTE TO READERS: The 22-year-old Vitale is a senior at Rutgers-Newark, majoring in psychology and sociology). Any progress on that idea?

LV: Well, that's been overshadowed right now because of my health and everything else, and him and everything that's been coming up, but I'd like to get into that some time in the future, as soon as we can—you know, maybe when the new year comes around. (IJ: Any ideas yet?) I really have no idea. See, he told me that they usually do a general survey every year to see how much the audience has changed, so maybe I'll just help him out with that for now, when the time comes for that.

IJ: There's gotta be some way to fit that into college credits...

LV: Yeah, too bad I had the course two years ago! Wish I would've had it now, I could've at least used it...

IJ: Turning to music—You mentioned before that you listen to WNEW-FM a lot. I would imagine Floyd's more into old-time music...

LV: Yeah, we fight in the car all the time over who's gonna control the radio! Usually I win. He makes me win, I think. But NEW I listen to, but my taste in music is—it's funny, because I listen to almost anything. My record collection would show you, I've got like two, three hundred albums, and they're from Beethoven all the way up to the B-52's, which is quite a variation there. But we listen to Winnie almost every time we can, and—he usually lets me listen. He likes CBS-FM more so than any, and jazz. But I don't mind, I think we kind of like share it.

IJ: Do you have a special song, the two of you?

LV: Not yet. Someday, if we were to get married—we were talking about this—we said, "What song are we gonna use?" I said, "How about 'Just the Way You Are'?" He said, "No, it sounds like something Fred Rogers would say." So I guess we couldn't, there wouldn't be too much validity in that... Like, some of the songs that he sings on the show are really cute, you know, little romantic songs... "Sentimental Reasons" is a really nice song I like that, and he likes it too, there's a couple of them... (NOTE: Lisa called me a few days after the interview to announce that she and Floyd do, indeed, now have "a song"—"Lady", by Kenny Rogers.)

The first time he came over my house it was very interesting, our first date. He walks into my living room, not knowing I had a baby grand piano, and he sits down—I'm sitting there, waiting to go—and he's playing away, he goes, "This is the most beautiful piano I ever saw!" (IJ: That's it, then, he loves you for your piano?) Yeah, and my dog. My dog loves him. (IJ: What's his name?) Clark. He's a little mutt, he's gonna be two years old in December, and every time he hears Floyd's car—which is very easy to do—pulling up, he jumps to the window, and he recognizes him, it's so funny, and he just goes crazy! (IJ: A fan, huh?) It's funny, when the show's on, he recognizes his

one more time, go to next page



voice, it's really interesting. But he loves him... 'cause he can tell, he's an animal lover. And my mother always jokes with him and says, "Remember, you marry her, he comes with you, he's part of the package!" So he laughs, he says, "Yeah, we'll take him..."

UJ: Before I end, what did you think of this whole idea of me interviewing you in the first place? I've had criticism to the effect that it's a stupid or pointless thing to do...

LV: It isn't a "stupid" idea, because anybody who's really interested in the show, really a lot, would like to know, I guess, what I'm about, or how I feel about him, because they're interested in him to the point that they care what happens to him. I think that's the way everybody feels about him, and, you know, I didn't think it was silly at all. I hope I could've helped you.

UJ: Final question: What are the three most important things in life to you?

LV: In the order of importance? All right, I'll go from three to one. The third is probably Floyd's success, for him to be happy at what he does. Second would be our health, and first is him, totally. He's the most important thing to me right now.

**\*end\***

## ~CONTEST~

We will be expanding the CONTEST one more issue--Please send your entries in by the 10th of next month, for YOUR CHOICE(S) FOR THE BEST/MOST CREATIVE TITLE FLOYD SHOULD CONSIDER FOR HIS NEW RECORD LABEL.

"Hello to Cornteeth, formerly of Burger King. We miss seeing you... everywhere! From F.C. #2288 in Paterson"

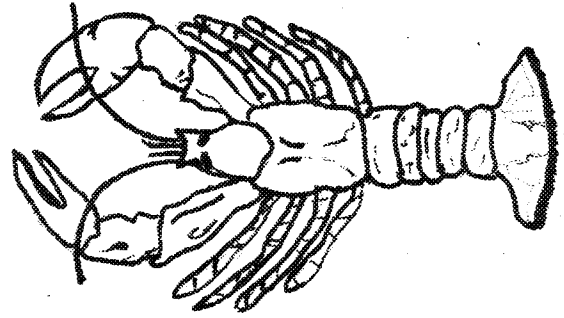
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\* INSIDE JOKE is produced and created \*  
\* by Elayne, uh, me, for your enjoyment \*  
\* (one hopes). Not to be taken inter- \*  
\* nally; often, not to be taken seri- \*  
\* ously, either. Contributions? \*  
\*

\* EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.....Elayne Wechsler \*  
\* PRODUCTION ASST....Margaret Kuczynski \*  
\* STAFF WRITER.....Maria Vitale \*  
\* STAFF ARTISTE.....John Cavanagh \*  
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\* Sue Rosner, Derek Tague \*  
\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

## FACTS ABOUT LOBSTERS:



DID YOU KNOW...

There is no zodiac sign for "Lobster" ("Crustacean"). No, you're thinking of a scorpion, you twits, and no, it's not "the same thing, big deal"!...



This issue dedicated to 52 men  
and women who are  
"FREE AT LAST"



## dementia day:

## A Pictorial Perspective

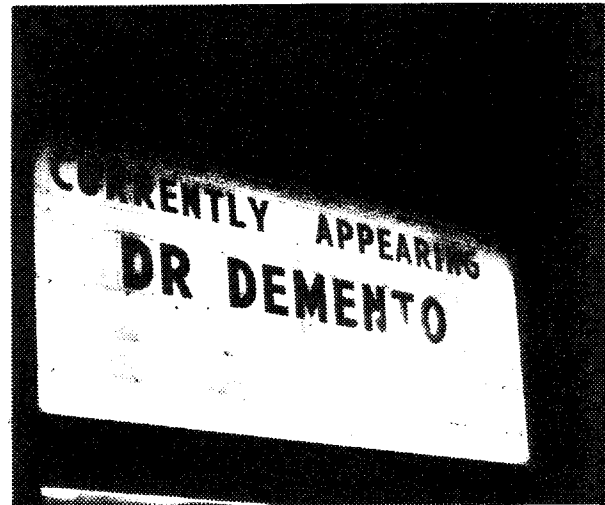
...or "Retrospective", if you prefer. As promised in the last issue, at bottom and on the following two pages are reproduced pictures which Lisa Bottini took at the Bottom Line Dr. Demento show last month, w/ captions...

BELOW: Taken by D.T. (no wonder it looks so dark!), we pan back to reveal the owner-of-camera Lisa B. herself; Maria Vitale; yours truly; Faith Fasano; and Terrie Gehebe—first on line (as usual?)...



DEC. 28  
7

At right: Marquee  
Directly Below: me; Terrie;  
Faith and Maria  
Below Right: Special Guest  
"Uncle Floyd" comes on



Left: "The  
Doctor is IN!"

Right: Floyd  
plays "Josephina"





Above: An old-time Fleischer cartoon, starring Betty Boop

Right: The "legendary" Benny Bell, author of "Shaving Cream"

Below: The Doc and Bell; Floyd and Bell perform the aforementioned "SC"





# REVIOOSE

EVITA by Peggy Gavan

While many of you were at the Montclair College stage show on December 18, I was sitting in The Broadway Theater watching Evita. We had purchased our tickets over two months ago, but the wait was well worth it.

As this was my first Broadway show, I didn't know what to expect, but luckily my father filled in the gaps of Eva Peron's life on the way to the theater. The curtains rose at 8:00pm and a large movie screen was revealed to show clips of the real Eva Peron and announce her death. The screen was then raised and the flashback of Eva's life began.

Evita should be considered a rock opera. The majority of the play was non-stop music and any dialogue that was used was chanted. Both Patti LuPone and Mandy Patinkin who played Evita and Che respectively shook the theater with their voices. LuPone did an excellent job singing the theme song "Don't Cry For Me Argentina", which was a favorite with the audience, but my favorite song was done by Cynthia Hunt who played the role of Peron's mistress. Bob Gunton as Peron and the remainder of the cast also added life and color to the show. All in all, the music itself was good, but unfortunately the lyrics were lost in the snappy music and power of the singers' voices. The show concluded with a reenactment of Eva's death and a grand montage of events in her life.

I feel that Evita was tastefully done and worth seeing, but I do advise anyone who is considering going to it to listen to the soundtrack before seeing it performed on stage.

Bruce, a master at what he does, had everyone in awe when he did songs such as "The River" and the song "Drive All Night," after which there was not a dry eye in the house. Both songs are from his most recent album, The River. And of course he did some of his great tunes from the past, such as "Rosalita", "Thunder Road", the No Nukes medley, and the one and only "Santa Claus is Coming to Town."

At intermission time, I had a chance to talk with some of the people in the audience, most of which have been fans of his from the beginning of his career. His fans are the greatest and are very devoted to their idol. I talked with one guy who has followed him to every city and has seen every show since the tour first started in early October 1980. Now that's devotion!

And what does Springsteen have to say about his fans? He thinks they're great! And says, "I don't know if they'll believe me or not, but I love every one of my fans twice as much as they love me! They're the greatest friends I have, I wouldn't trade them for anything."

BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN AND THE E STREET BAND  
at Madison Square Garden, 12/18 and 12/19

by Gloria DeMassi

Giving us two engagements in November and two in December, the Boss has made his well overdue return to New York City. And myself, being able to attend these dates, felt it was an honor.

Although he has been a part of my life since 1976, this was the first time I've seen him perform in concert. I've had the pleasure of meeting him in March of 1980, and he is the sweetest, kindest man I have ever met. But never have I had the pleasure of experiencing all the excitement and joy that Bruce gives to his audience, until now.

It all started about 8:45pm. Bruce took the stage after being introduced by the Professor himself, Mr. Scott Muni of WNEW-FM. The Boss went immediately into his biggest and most popular hit, "Born to Run", which was a great selection for an opening song. He also surprised a lot of people by doing songs by other artists during various times in his sets. Some of those songs included "Who'll Stop the Rain", "I Fought the Law" by the Clash, the Pointer Sisters' tune, "Fire", and a surprising "Because the Night" by Patti Smith.

Springsteen takes total control over his audience, as though he has everyone in his power, especially all the young ladies! And there were a few young ladies who went home with a smile. I mean the ones he pulled out of the audience to do a dance routine with him during the song, "Sherry Darling."

I have never seen a more energetic performer. At times it was hard to keep your eyes on him because he was all over the stage, jumping off amps, pianos, swinging from light cables and of course doing his famous dive off the stage and into the crowd.

*it's not OVER yet!*



(BRUCE continued...)

Well, what else can I say about the man? He's a great songwriter, a great singer, an exciting performer, and a warm person. And for the couple hundred thousand who were lucky enough to be at the shows, I'm sure you know what I mean. And if you weren't lucky enough to attend a show, below is a list of all the song, in order of which he did them.

-----  
1st SET

BORN TO RUN  
OUT IN THE STREET  
SPIRITS OF THE NIGHT  
WHO'LL STOP THE RAIN  
DARKNESS ON THE EDGE OF TOWN  
FACTORY  
INDEPENDENCE DAY  
TWO HEARTS  
PROVE IT ALL NIGHT  
THE PROMISED LAND  
THE PRICE YOU PAY  
THE RIVER  
I FOUGHT THE LAW  
BADLANDS  
THUNDER ROAD

2nd SET

CADILLAC RANCH  
SHERRY DARLING  
HUNGRY HEART  
FIRE  
CANDY'S ROOM  
BECAUSE THE NIGHT  
SANDY  
FOR YOU  
GROWIN' UP  
STOLEN CAR  
WRECK ON THE HIGHWAY  
POINT BLANK  
THE TIES THAT BIND  
RAMROD  
DRIVE ALL NIGHT  
ROSALITA

ENCORE:

SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN  
JUNGLELAND

2nd ENCORE:

I'M A ROCKER  
NO NUKES MEDLEY

-----  
Well, the Boss is back and he's better than ever!

WE LOVE YOU BRUCE!!!

Sincerely,

*Gloria*

more  
REVIEWS

FIRST FAMILY (Rated R - Warner Bros.)

-review by Derek Tague-  
written and directed by Buck Henry  
starring Bob Newhart, Gilda Radner, Made-  
line Kahn, Richard Benjamin, Bob Dishy,  
Harvey Korman, Austin Pendleton, Rip Torn,  
Fred Willard, Buck Henry

I like it. Go see it. It's hilariously funny and highly recommended.

(ED. NOTE: The opinions expressed in the reviews published in this rag are not necessarily those of my own, but hell, I let people write stuff, y'know? Now, the following reviews are my own opinions, so there--NEXT MONTH: A review of the Plas-  
matics' New Hope For the Wretched and PDQ  
BACH LIVE AT CARNEGIE HALL...Also, maybe, I can finally review The Roches' Nurds...)

\*\*\*\*\*FOUR-STAR PICKS\*\*\*\*\*

9 TO 5

Lily Tomlin, Jane Fonda and Dolly Parton all shine in this feminist's fantasy-come-true about a bad-guy boss (superbly played by Dabney Coleman) who gets his due. Pat Resnick's writing is witty and fast-moving, and there's even some nice blends of animation and live action. Oscar material, one would hope, especially Parton, making her movie debut, and Fonda, who plays a character totally opposite from what one is used to seeing her do...

PRIVATE BENJAMIN

Goldie Hawn comes full force into her own in this tragicomedy about a woman suddenly forced to make her own decisions. I was rooting for her all the way. Eileen Brennan is the deliciously despicable villain, and Albert Brooks makes the most of his brief part as Hawn's character's second husband. Nice first-time production effort for Hawn as well.

POPEYE

Don't listen to the reviews--see it for yourself. It's a live-action cartoon, right down to the outlandish slapstick and hilariously faked "violence". Just like in the old Fleischer cartoons...The bit players are even more than a little interesting--they reminded me of those Transylvanians from "Rocky Horror" or the grotesque people Woody Allen always seems to find for his movies...Ray Walston was perfect, Shelly Duvall was typecast, and Robin Williams was Popeye...Lots of fun...

ALSO NEXT MONTH:

"Not Worth It"--  
Entertainment To Avoid...

# FIRST IMPRESSIONS: Random Ravings of Newer Viewers

## MY ENCOUNTER WITH THE MAGIC WORLD OF UNCLE FLOYD

by Janet Brown

Although I am 32 years old, I have only been exposed to The Uncle Floyd Show since last July. For the past number of years, I have seen bumper stickers on passing cars telling people that the driver of that car watches Uncle Floyd. I never really knew exactly what Uncle Floyd really meant. As a youngster, I can recall watching Uncle Fred Scott on Channel 5 or Uncle Fred Sales on Channel 13, but an "Uncle Floyd" was something else.

At 6pm my twin sister Pat and I always watched the 6:00 news with Jim Jensen. But since getting HBO in July, we dropped Jim and now are hooked on The Uncle Floyd Show. In the past month, we have made two trips from Belleville, NJ, to see Floyd and the cast in person. The first trip was to the Morris County Mall in Cedar Knolls, NJ.

We got to the mall about 11:45am and waited in line till about 1:00 to enter the record store (I still can't get over how organized everything was). While we were standing around, I started talking to two young women who I found out were Elayne Wechsler and her friend Ronnie, who was there with her two little girls. Elayne was so easy to talk to--I must have driven her crazy with all my questions about Floyd! I am sure all you other people who have talked to Elayne know what I mean (ED. NOTE: Not true--Janet did not drive me crazy, I'd been so beforehand).

Elayne, Ronnie and the two girls were allowed into the store (I was secretly hoping they would invite me to go in with them) (ED. NOTE AGAIN: Me hob no say een dat, mon...me just com to appearances sem as you peoples, no can help wid de line). But my sister and I only had to wait about five minutes longer, and finally we had the chance to enter the fabulous world of Uncle Floyd.

The entire cast, especially Floyd himself, were the nicest group of "stars" I ever met (next to Red Buttons, whom I had met last summer). Pat and I got an autograph from everyone and I took pictures. When we got to the end of the line, my sister and I started talking to Mugsy, David, Scott and Netto and simply forgot to leave. We found out that we didn't need cable to watch Uncle Floyd, and other interesting information, like that most of the show is ad-lib, and I think I got prize of the week for the dumbest question (I asked David if he made Lambie--David's reply was a shocked look and the info that Lambie was a sock!).

When we noticed that the line behind us was getting quite long, we said goodbye to the guys and left the store loaded down with records and autographs of the cast. It was a day I'll never forget!

Our second meeting of the cast was at the stage show at Montclair. We didn't really meet the cast, but it was a great show. My sister and I never went to a stage show at a college before, and as we were waiting for the doors to open, I kept thinking, "What am I doing here?" When the doors finally opened, the people waiting ran for the seats like it was rush hour on the New York Subway. The people who were in charge should have taken lessons from Morris County Mall.

The show was excellent and the audience really behaved themselves, except for a few idiots that Floyd put in their place. One thing I found out about Floyd, he doesn't let anyone step all over him. He was really in charge of the whole evening.

Well, that's my encounter with The Uncle Floyd Show. These two "encounters" I will remember always.

# 'FU'-ing Around by Maria Vitale

*(Like wow, man, this is Maria's space, like, realllly...In this installment of "Fu-ing Around", Maria takes Uncle Floyd Show satires one further in a segment I'd like to call "One Trip Beyond (OTB)". If anyone else has a satire of their own on a satire, thou mayest of course submit for "OTB"...)*

## "MR. FU-GERS" STRIKES AGAIN

*(done in monologue fashion, speaking to audience)*

Hi there, boys and girls! Yes, that's right, I'm back. They thought that I wouldn't, but I showed them. Well, let's see, what can we do today?

I know! Would you like to feed the fish? Sure. I knew you would. Well, let's feed the fish...to the cat! No, no—I'm just joking! That's my sense of humor, boy and girls.

Okay, how about you, little boy? Wouldn't you like to feel my pet pirahna? Sure you would. Don't shake your head. Come back here! Feeding the fish is fun, so go ahead...What? He bit your right hand off? Oh, don't worry. He's just a little hungry. And besides, you still have a left hand, don't you? So?

All right, all right! We don't have to feed the fish anymore. Let's do something else. I know! Little girl, can you say "hemorrhoids"? Sure. I knew you could. Do you know what hemorrhoids are? Well, I guess you're right. They are pains in the...what? What happened? Your little brother is still feeding the fish? Well, you have two other brothers, don't you? Oh well, sisters are nicer than boys—just don't tell your parents where you went today, okay? Good.

Well, that's it for today, boys and girls. Can you say "good-bye"? No, not now. The pirahna is still chewing on that boy's leg...

So, until tomorrow...remember to be kind, courteous, and considerate at all times...Bye!

*(Camera off)*

Get those lousy brats out of here and somebody bring a mop to clean up that blood! Tell those kids to stop screaming...

## YOU KNOW YOU'RE A TRUE UNCLE FLOYD FAN WHEN...

by Diane Droppa

- ...you wave to a car to pass you and you find yourself saying, "Gowanna, gowanna, gowanna".
  - ...while you're making the bed or washing the dishes, you think of Charlie Stoddard.
  - ...you go clothes shopping and you seriously consider buying a plaid jacket.
  - ...you pass a disabled car on the side of the road and you wonder if it belongs to Mugsy.
  - ...you get a number of calls during the day and you find yourself exclaiming, "The phone is always ringing!"
  - ...you start to greet strangers by saying, "Hey, Buddy..."
  - ...you look for bumper-height dents on trees.
  - ...you try to find Mamaroneck Junior College on the map.
  - ...you think of a way to make money, then realize David Burd has probably already thought of it.
  - ...you can guess the punch lines to Skip's jokes.
- (ED: Any more suggestions, readers and viewers?)

## (Letters)

Elayne,

I recently received two Floyd newsletters, one being INSIDE JOKE and the other The Register. I looked at the front page of The Register and swore that it was IJ.

I must ask a few questions, because I realized that your format was stolen (YES--STOLEN). Did the Register people thank you for the new, fancier format? I did not see any acknowledgements mentioning that they borrowed your format. Did they get the idea for rub-on letters from you? Is it true that you contribute to the Register with articles? So, why do you do all that for them and then permit something like this to happen?

Floyd newsletters are nice to read, but why must it be like a contest to see who has a better paper?

Just think about it, people...

Margaret Kuczynski

(ED.: To answer your questions, briefly--No, Yes, Yes, and I Don't Know, He's on Third...seriously, if Wayne Hastrup, editor of The Register, would like to respond to this letter, he is perfectly welcome to do so. As for me, I agree that newsletters are not competitions but creative endeavors--at least, I would like to think so...)

Dear Elayne,

I found the December issue of INSIDE JOKE in my mailbox when I came home from work on Friday. Did I open my bills which needed to be paid? Did I wash the dishes that had been sitting in my sink from the night before? Did I straighten up the newspapers that were still lying where I left them when I fell asleep? Did I change from my work clothes, take a shower, wash and set my hair? Noo... I sat right down and read IJ from cover to cover. In the meantime my cute blonde neighbor knocks on my front door and finds my apartment a mess and me a mess!...But since then, I have paid my bills, cleaned my apartment, took a shower (I should hope so!) and my cute blonde neighbor has had me over for dinner (not what you're thinking, he cooked Rock Cornish Hens)...But seriously, Elayne, please accept my contribution for your most enthusiastic and successful efforts. Although you have a job, I'm sure your operating budget is less than ~~WHT~~'s. Sincerely,

Diane Droppa

## Editorial

"Paranoia Strikes Deep in the Heartland"--Paul Simon

On the show of Friday, December 19, Mugsy did a bit as Alfred the Astrologer which parodied zodiac signs. One of the signs, it may have been Taurus the Bull, involved a picture he had drawn of a "typical" "Groupie Fan Club News", which Alfred proceeded to label as "full of misinformation and ego trips."

So of course Elayne gets paranoid.

I know we're not supposed to take anything that happens on the air too seriously, but then again, sometimes we are. I have asked quite a few people if they believe INSIDE JOKE fits the derogatory description given the bogus "Groupie News" of Alfred's. I have been told it does not, much to my relief. I haven't been a groupie since David Cassidy, and I've no intention of starting that silliness up again. But a few simple remarks, whether meant in fun or not, can serve to really wreck a decent rep with friends one hasn't known that long or a first impression with new friends.

I have tried to maintain a high standard with IJ, parody though it may be. I am more or less a professional at this sort of thing, having labelled myself as such after a half a year of newsletters and ten or so years of writing. I do not think I have printed any information regarding cast members or viewers without definitive proof that the information is accurate; nor do I believe IJ is an ego trip (\$30 a month is a bit much to spend on an ego trip--may as well spend it to get high so I think I'm wonderful). I have even been told by various friends that Mugsy admires the newsletter and thinks I "write well". But I would like some kind of assurance or response (even agreement with Sir Alfred) from you, the readers. If I have sunk to the level of a "Groupie Fan Club News", there's not much point in knocking myself out much longer for this.

EW

# So Where's "Parables" this month?

(Well, no "Parables From the Pavement" this month. Steve Bieber couldn't make the deadline, what with Macy's and all. Way it goes in the publication/department store biz. Steve's column will return in February. Meantime, we do, e'en so, have a couple "Com-Parables" from fellow job-seekers--here's one in response to Steve's first "Parable" regarding looking for a position in broadcasting...)

## *Com-parables*

Dear Steve,

I read your "Parables from the Pavement" in INSIDE JOKE. Since misery loves company I just had to write. You guessed it--I'm one of thousands of college graduates seeking to get into radio. I graduated Queens College in June (just got my diploma last week). I worked at WQMC, the station that gave you Dennis Elsas of WNEW-FM, Howie Rose of WHN and WLIR's Mark Drucker. Actually, I'm hoping for an off-air job (like professional button-pusher=engineer)...

I don't have to tell you that it's easier contracting the plague than getting a job in New York radio (even as a janitor!). My resume's everywhere. I even sent one to (gulp!) WKTU (so I'll wear ear plugs). I know what you mean about no car & who wants to move to Bumfuck? Actually, that's the only way to break into the biz is going to a small town. I've had friends move to such "big" cities as Reidsville, Georgia, Water Valley, Mississippi and Dover, New Hampshire. My city tastes would never survive there.

I recently wrote a letter to Harry Harrison of CBS-FM. He was very nice and said not to get discouraged if it's what you want to do, stick to it. So Steve, I'll pass these words of wisdom to you. Plus it helps if you subscribe to Broadcasting but I can't afford it. I tried production houses too and have come up zilch.

Oh, those agencies. I type 50 and they couldn't (or wouldn't) find me anything. One time they asked me if I type 65 (Why's typing the only requirement for a job?). Next time they ask, say, "Sure, I also leap tall buildings in a single bound." It won't get you a job, but you'll feel better. I agree about typing. I typed enough term papers.

My favorite question is "Tell me about yourself." What do you want to know? What day I change my underwear? Then they put you down for being a college grad and not having experience in the business world...

Taking John Pichitino's quote one step further, "if you bang your head on the wall long enough, you'll get a headache."

"Rockin'" Sue Rosner

(And another...)

To Steve Bieber and Terrie Gehebe—To get a job in broadcasting, as in baseball, you have to spend time in the minors before you get to the majors—a 200-watt station in Boise, Idaho, 100 watts in Vincennes, Indiana, etc. Check the personnel on the 6 o'clock news—you will see how they made it to New York...

Allen Dirnfeld

## *Coming Next Issue:*

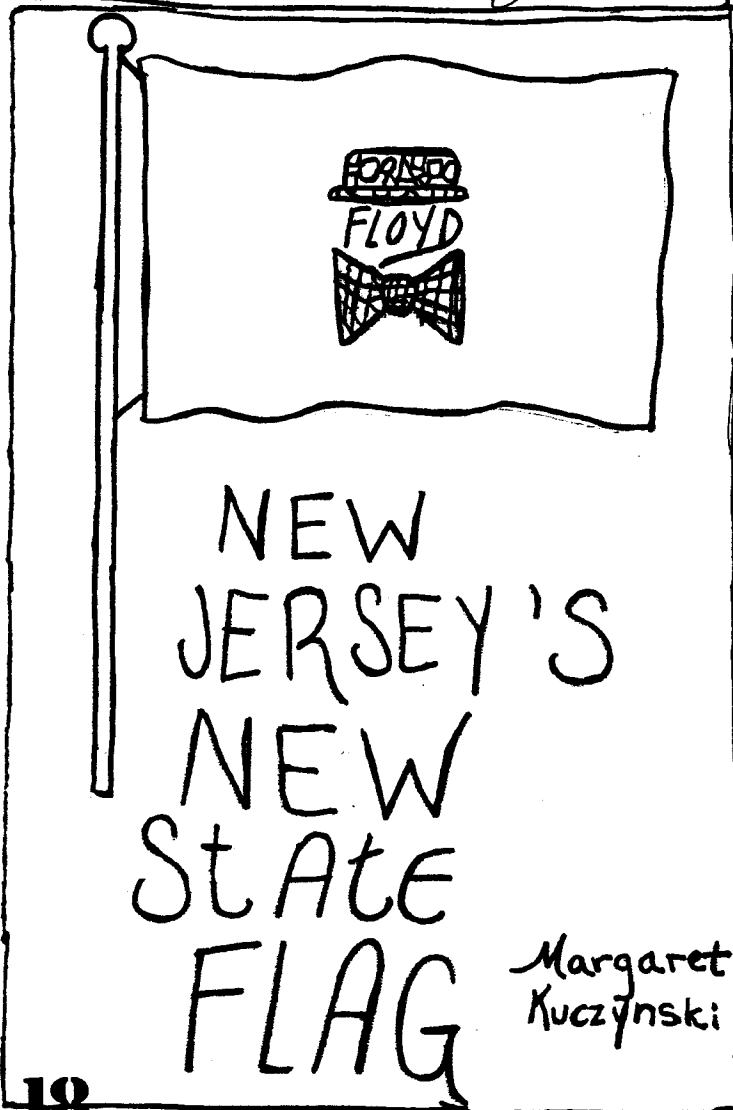
If anyone has any special (but, one hopes, not too maudlin) Valentine's Day greetings to send to cast members, fellow viewers, anyone at all, please submit them by February 10th. Also coming next month will be some Song Parodies, the regular columns, Words of Wisdom from Randy P., the Contest entries, and some surprises, as usual...

# PICTURES off-the-wall

Submissions (1/2 page or less, black or red pen or marker only) must be in by the 10th of next month

Happy New Year  
**1981**  
to all the members  
and fans of the  
"Uncle Floyd Show"  
Love ya all,  
Gloria DeMassi  
Bronx, New York

Happy Birthday  
Jim Vivino  
"the best guitarist  
in the whole world"  
Love ya a whole  
lot!  
Terrie

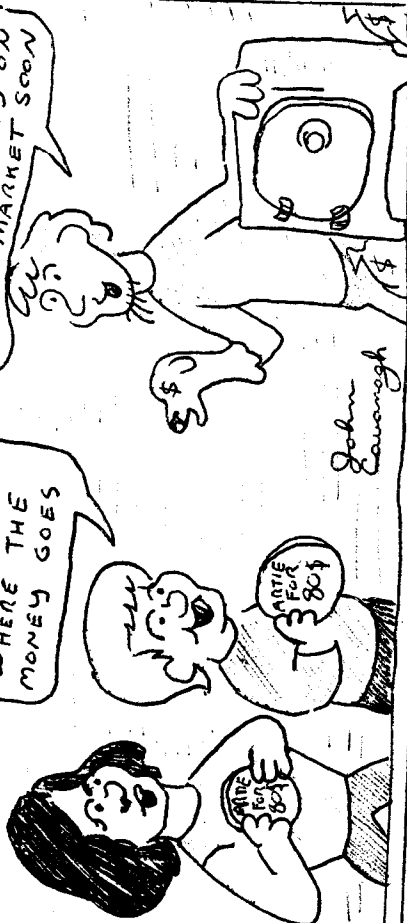


# DAVID BURD SHOWS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT THE SOUVENIR BUSINESS

IT TAKES A LOT OF WORK MAKING BUTTONS...

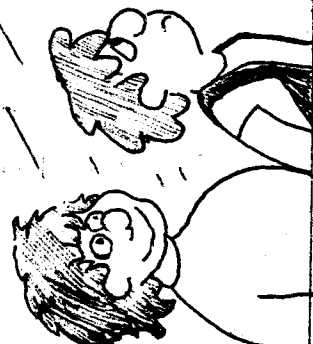
BUT THEY CHARGE SO MUCH AT THE SHOWS YOU WONDER WHERE THE MONEY GOES

NOW REMEMBER - ANYTHING CAN MAKE MONEY... EVEN SOCKS I SHOULD HAVE ADDED DELMAR YACHTS ON THE MARKET SOON



# JIM MONACO TEACHES JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT THE COMEDY WORKSHOP BUSINESS

NOW MY IDEA OF FUNNY IS DRESSING UP AS A FLEA AND EATING GARLIC AND ONIONS. BUT REMEMBER JA DOESN'T HAVE TO CALL IT JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT. NOW YOU CAN CALL IT JA. OR YOU CAN CALL IT A.J. OR YOU CAN CALL IT JUNIOR OR....



# CHARLIE SHOWS J.A. THE DISH PACKING JOB

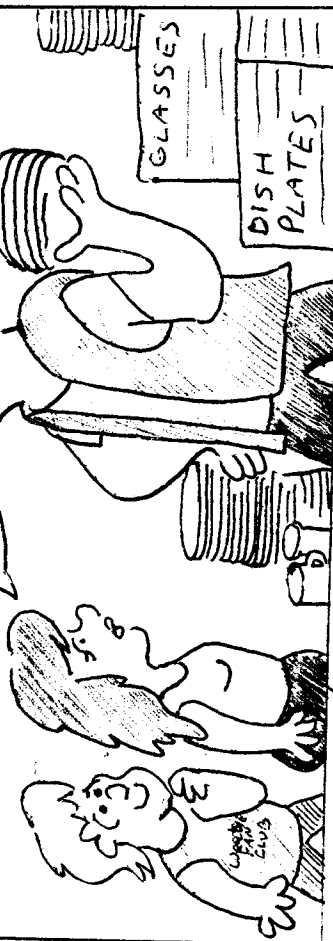
A DISH STACKER? WOW! I THOUGHT YOUR TALENTS WERE LIMITED TO DEACON JIM

IM SORRY I HAVE TO FIRE YOU BUT THOSE ARE THE BREAKS

THIS JOB WASN'T WHAT IT WAS CRACKED UP TO BE ANYWAY

JUST REMEMBER NOBODY PACKS A DISH LIKE ME!

THATS DEBATABLE



# WE ALL KNOW FLOYD'S REACTION TO NEWARK BUT WHAT ABOUT NEWARK'S OPINION OF FLOYD?

DID YOU HEAR THE UNCLE FLOYD SHOW MOVED INTO NEWARK

THERE GOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD

THAT FLOYD GUY SURE GOES DRESS FUNNY

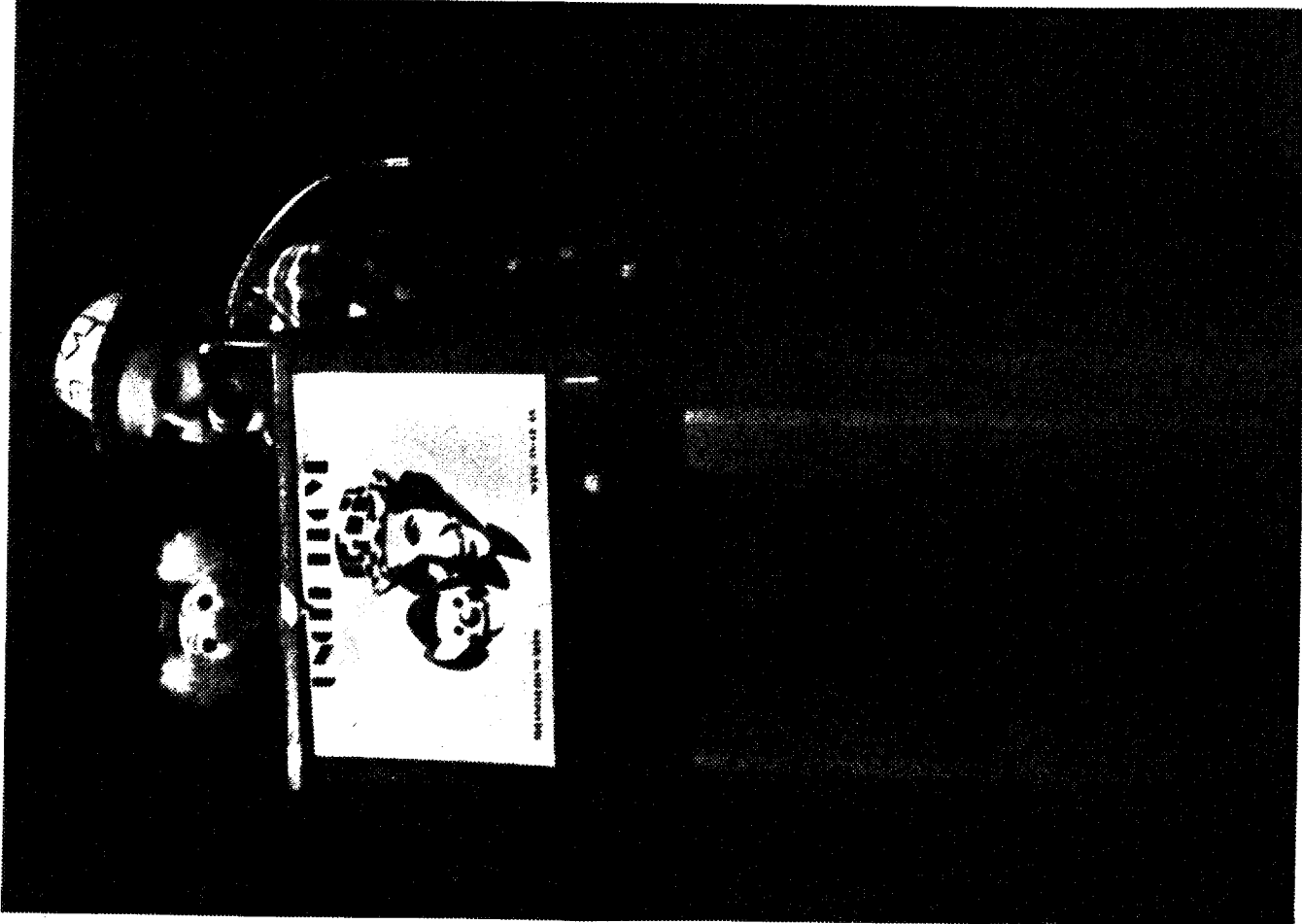
I TRIED TO ROB THE SKINNY BLOND GUY AND HE ENDED UP SELLING ME AN 'ARTIE IN '80' BUTTON

THE LAST JOKE SKIP EVER TELLS IN NEWARK FLOYD MY WIFE WAS EATEN BY A CANNIBAL (THATS AWFUL NO SHE ALWAYS DID LOOK GOOD IN BLACK



# Happy New Year! FROM THE STAFF OF IJ

(UPCOMING APPEARANCES AND CAST MEMBERS' BIRTHDAYS ARE CIRCLED)



JANUARY	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3
	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
	25 26 27 28 29 30 31

MARCH	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
	29 30 31

MAY	SMTWTFS
	1 2
	3 4 5 6 7 8 9
	10 11 12 13 14 15 16
	17 18 19 20 21 22 23
	24 25 26 27 28 29 30
	31

JULY	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4
	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
	26 27 28 29 30 31

SEPTEMBER	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5
	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
	27 28 29 30

NOVEMBER	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
	22 23 24 25 26 27 28
	29 30

FEBRUARY	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5 6 7
	8 9 10 11 12 13 14
	15 16 17 18 19 20 21
	22 23 24 25 26 27 28

APRIL	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4
	5 6 7 8 9 10 11
	12 13 14 15 16 17 18
	19 20 21 22 23 24 25
	26 27 28 29 30

JUNE	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5 6
	7 8 9 10 11 12 13
	14 15 16 17 18 19 20
	21 22 23 24 25 26 27
	28 29 30

AUGUST	SMTWTFS
	1
	2 3 4 5 6 7 8
	9 10 11 12 13 14 15
	16 17 18 19 20 21 22
	23 24 25 26 27 28 29
	30 31

OCTOBER	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3
	4 5 6 7 8 9 10
	11 12 13 14 15 16 17
	18 19 20 21 22 23 24
	25 26 27 28 29 30 31

DECEMBER	SMTWTFS
	1 2 3 4 5
	6 7 8 9 10 11 12
	13 14 15 16 17 18 19
	20 21 22 23 24 25 26
	27 28 29 30 31

1 9 8 1

picture calendar courtesy of Lisa Bottini  
glossy prints available for \$1 each