SUMMER TIMES

No. 2 July 13, 1988

Page 1 Drug Test Ban
Gulf Clash
A.L. Triumphs
Cool Air Should Ease Local Farm Worries
Khaled Mattawa
Area Officials Back Choice of Bentsen
Howard D. Lipoff
B&G Staff Votes to Ally with Union
Christina Richter

Page 2 Summer Times at the Flicks
“Rabbit’s” New Take on Old Style Offers Grown-Ups a Cartoon
Jennifer Green
Cool Air Should Ease Local Farm Worries

By Khaled Mattewa

An expected cooling trend should offer much needed-relief to area farmers, who have watched some crops shrivel during the recent spell of hot, dry weather. Forecasters said temperatures would drop into the seasonal range today, with a chance of showers.

The problem that has been facing farmers is less the shortage of rain than the recent high temperatures, said Norm Benson, manager of Dutchess County’s Soil and Water Conservation District, yesterday.

The cows-poultry-and vegetable farmers as the 'most hurt' by the hot weather.

Poultry and farm animas in general, said Benson, "don't eat as much in cont. on back'

Area Officials Back Choice of Bentsen

By Howard D. Lipoff and Elizabeth Phillips

Local politicians, activists and political analysts yesterday applauded the selection of Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas as Michael Dukakis' running mate for the 1988 presidential election. Carol J. Nackenoff, assistant professor of political science at Bard College said Dukakis was looking for someone with Washington experience and foreign policy background since he does not have those qualities.

"Dukakis wants a centerist image. He would like to be seen as a fiscal conservative," said Nackenoff. "Jackson wants too much domestic spending for him."

"This should be a successful campaign," said Dutchess County Democratic chair Adam Nowik, "because Dukakis is sending out a message to all the people." By including Bentsen, the party should accomplish a wide-ranging geographical fusion, said Nowik. Also, Bentsen’s background in government, foreign affairs and defense will, Nowik said, provide necessary ingredients for a unified convention in Atlanta next week.

"It seems that his votes have been pretty good regarding reproductive health," said Carol L. Reichert, assistant executive director of Family Planning Advocates in Albany. Bentsen seems to have a "good, progressive" voting record on abortion rights, said Reichert.

Steve White, executive di-rector of the Dutchess/Ulster County Planned Parenthood, cont. on back

B&G Staff Votes To Ally With Union

By Christina Richter

Twenty-two years since their first attempt to unionize, the service and maintenance workers at Bard College voted to affiliate with the Service Employees’ International Union Local 200. Workers voted 3-1 to join the union, despite some misgivings.

Fred Millius, a member of the service and maintenance department, says that for years promises have been made without being put on paper. Millius said he and his wife have long wanted to buy a home in the local area. "This may have been the break that we’ve been waiting for, for a good twenty years." Others are not as confident that they have made the right move. "We’ve had it OK," one worker said.

Dick Griffith, head of the physical plant, said, "Not everyone will be happy."

Local 200 has negotiated strong contracts at a number of area schools, such as Vassar, Marist, and Skidmore Colleges.

"We rely on people, and they work with us, but they organize themselves," Townsend said. The union will be a slow but steady project, he said, but over time, benefits will begin to be noticed. We will negotiate and all and meet with the workers and enhance their present working conditions.

Many other workers on campus are not unionized. The clerical and security division, as well as the Kline Commons workers, are not represented in the new union. One worker, Charles Vennengen, said, "Unions have their hands in the standard of living," and is content without a union for the cafeteria workers.
Dry Spell

cont. from front weather so they don't gain weight and don't produce as much.

For vegetable farmers like Rocco Migliorelli of Rhinebeck, the heat and the lack of rain meant "we couldn't plant anymore. The ground was too dry, all dust," he said.

Migliorelli said he had had to pump water out of his ponds every year in the past to make up for the lack of rain.

"But if you got a drought like now, you may have to use it 24 hours a day," he added.

Pumping water from ponds has also been helpful to owners of the Greig Farm, said Ellen Todd, marketing director of the Red Hook farm.

The pick-your-own fruit crop "has been good, and we've had no problems," she said.

Farmers and orchard owners who do not irrigate have been harder hit.

Tivoli orchard owner Enrique Lunski said his apples and pears are too small—most of the fruits he grows would be twice as big if there was sufficient rainfall.

"I've been here since 1979," said Lunski, "and every year it has been the drier."

Without renewed rainfall, hay and corn growers who have "a second cutting of hay the first of August are not going to make it," said Benson.

This will lead to higher feed prices for livestock and poultry farmers, said Richard Biezynski, who raises ducks in Tivoli.

The problem for farmers like Biezynski is that they cannot raise the price of their stock to offset higher feed prices. They either "keep the animal and feed it every day," or sell it at a lower price," he said.

The deep gravel soil in this region makes the heat and water shortage more difficult, Benson said. "It doesn't hold water very well. It takes a tremendous amount of water," he said.

"We've been saved by the bell," by recent rain, Benson said. "But it's not over yet. We're going to have to go through August."

Union

cont. from front

Bard's 75 housekeepers, custodians, tradesmen, groundskeepers, and maintenance workers began their up and down battle to unionize 22 years ago. In 1965, Bard College students approached Dave Patrick, who at that time was the president of Local 200, with the notion of organizing and providing benefits for the employees of Bard College. For 22 years, Townsend said, votes have been held but the union has always been rejected. Finally for 10 months the service and maintenance workers sustained enough interest, despite opposition from the college.

Veep

cont. from front

said he was happy with the Democratic ticket's stance on abortion. "I think the Democratic ticket with Dukakis will be strongly pro-choice," White said.

Paul F. Cole, secretary of the New York AFL-CIO, said he was confident that the labor delegation from New York at the Democratic National Convention would support Bentzen since he could help the party win in November.

"The more liberal people in the Democratic party may be disappointed, but Dukakis has increased the chances of a close race," said Joel A. Dimond, professor of political science at Dutchess Community College. "Bentzen probably has the best political machine in the South, Dukakis didn't stand a chance in Texas without him."

Christopher J. Bosso, assistant professor of political science at Northeastern University in Boston, said Dukakis made a good political decision in selecting Bentzen, and he does not feel Bentzen's conservative reputation would cause the Rev. Jesse Jackson and his supporters to disrupt the convention.

"Jesse Jackson is a smart person. He doesn't want to be seen as splitting the Democratic party. He wants to be a power within the Democratic party," Bosso said.

Before the Dukakis announcement yesterday, local Jackson supporters said they continued to hope he would be named for the second spot on the ticket.

Jackson has done his best to return the Democratic organization to its traditional "party of the people" status, said James Williams-Meyer, an alternate delegate to the convention. He looks forward to his primary domestic platform being adopted by a majority of the party leaders.

Summer Times at the Flicks

'Rabbit's' New Take on Old Style Offers Grown-Ups a Cartoon

MOVIES:

The Moviehouse
Main St. Rte. 44, Millerton
(518)799-3404
Willow Wed, Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 7 & 9:15pm
Au Revoir, Les Enfants (French w/English Subtitles) Wed, Thurs 8pm; Fri, Sat 7 & 9:15pm

Upstate Films
Rhinebeck, NY
767-2515
9 Corners Wed, Thurs 8pm
Homecoming Wed, Thurs 7pm

Roosevelt 4
Rte. 9, Hyde Park
229-2000
Arthur 2 On the Rooks 2, 7 & 9:30pm
Who Framed Roger Rabbit? 2, 7, 9 & 11:30pm
Coming to America 2, 11:30 & 9:30pm

Overlook Drive-In
Rte. 44 exit De Garmo Rd., Rte. 55 exit Overlook, Poughkeepsie GLZ-3445
Phantasm II 8:40 & 10:30pm

Hyde Park Drive-In
Rte. 9, Hyde Park
229-2000
Big 8:40 & 10:30pm

Lyceum Theatre
Red Hook, 758-3311
Bull Durham Wed, Thurs 7, 9:30pm

The Great Outdoors
Wed, Thurs 7, 9:30pm

Galleria
Rte. 9, Poughkeepsie 297-1161
License To Drive 12:45, 3, 7:15 & 9:25pm
Short Circuit 2 12, 2:30, 5:30, 7:30 & 10:00pm
Coming to America 1, 3, 4:30, 6:45 & 9:45pm

By Jennifer Green
It's been a long time since "The Wonderful World of Disney," since a movie with a child's twist has come along which can also appeal to parents—a movie which can appeal to the best in us all. Despite some limitations, "Who Framed Roger Rabbit," is such a movie.

Roger Rabbit, starring Joanna Cassidy, Christopher Lloyd, and Bob Hoskins, is a new sort of movie experience, because of its lack of intrusive cuteness and pretensions, and because of the superimposed cartoon characters.

The plot focuses on the theme of a "hook"—Roger—and his licentious wife, Jessica. Hoskins, who is sent to investigate the goings-on, is very suspicious of Toontown, since his brother was killed by one of the characters.

What I liked best about this picture was its cinematography. This movie blazes with color and style, yet it disappoints occasionally because it is confusing—so much of the plot focuses around these make-believe characters that it becomes difficult to follow. The toons behave like alters, with Roger the stereotype of the hardboiled man and Jessica the ingrate wife. Despite their childish appearance, the toons carry more of Freud's alter ego in them than childish beauty. They have ulterior motives in some ways they are the backwards shadows of human nature, inverted and thwarted behind the actual actors on screen. It's as if someone took the most patterned behavior of the dark side of human nature and drew it on the screen.

If you want a break from the ordinary movie scene, and you want a little taste of human nature along with a fun comic strip, see Roger Rabbit. Or you could stay home and watch old reruns of Merrie Melodies.