

Beaconsfield Banner

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PRES. ALBIE JONES Ph. 707 2141 SEC. TED HORTON Ph. 707 1313 NEWSLETTER CO-ORDINATOR MELVA BEHR Ph. 707 2235

Consultant to speak at Beaconsfield planning meeting

Mr JOHN McCaffrey, former Berwick City Planner and now a private consultant to Pakenham Council, will attend Beaconsfield Progress Association's next meeting (23rd August) to discuss planning issues for the township.

If you would like your views to be known on how Beaconsfield will develop in the coming years, you should attend.

The Shire of Pakenham has issued a broadsheet about town planning in the Berwick — Pakenham area.

At present the Ministry for Planning and Environment is preparing a structure plan for the growth corridor between Berwick and Pakenham.

"Cardinia" is the name of the corridor selected by the Minister for the public consultation phase of the plan study. "Cardinia" is an aboriginal word which means "looking at the rising sun".

In years gone by there were aboriginal camps along the Cardinia Creek and early farmers dug up their stone tools at various places.

The Shire Council has maintained a close liaison with the Ministry during the extensive investigation period of the study.

The Council has a responsibility to ensure that the planning objectives of the Shire are implemented in the final structure plan.

Beaconsfield is strategically located in the Berwick — Pakenham Growth Corridor. The Govern-

ment's metropolitan policy and recent developments in other corridors of Melbourne has resulted in an increasing growth pressure and community concern about the future of Beaconsfield township and its character.

In response to this, Council has allocated funding for a consultant study of the existing township to evaluate the implications of the growth corridor, and to prepare an Action Area Plan to guide the future growth and development.

This study is due to be completed in September/October 1989 and will involve extensive community consultation.

Mr John McCaffrey will attend the Beaconsfield Progress Association's meeting on 23rd August to speak about his work, and to hear the public's views on how they wish to see Beaconsfield township developing over the next few years.

Further information about the study can be obtained from Council's Planning Officer, Ms. Helen Crawford at the Pakenham Civic Centre by phoning (059) 411 011.

What is your view about the Corridor Growth Options?

Cr. Peter Meeking has given us these notes on the planning for the future growth corridor.

The Minister of Planning has now provided four options for the consideration of the Councils and community in relation to the future growth within the Berwick — Pakenham Growth Corridor. The options proposed are —

A. LINEAL GROWTH — Extend the growth along the full length of the corridor with a population capacity of 500,000 — 600,000 people.

B. CELLULAR — Allow growth around existing centres, such as Beaconsfield, Officer, Pakenham, etc.

C. SATELLITE GROWTH — Allow some existing growth but plan for a satellite growth centre, possibly within the Bunyip area, of some 50,000 persons.

d. CONTAINMENT — Restrict growth to the presently zoned residential areas with limited releases within the Beaconsfield/Officer area, but generally increasing the density of development throughout the existing residential and new areas.

More information can be obtained at the Shire of Pakenham or from the Ministry of planning either at the Cranbourne Regional Planning Office or the Melbourne Planning Office.

WHAT IS YOUR VIEW?

Write to the Shire of Pakenham or advise your Riding Councillors.

From the President of the Beaconsfield Progress Association, Albie Jones

One of the things that has become very evident in this very rainy and wet year is the focus that has been forced upon most residents, and that is the need to upgrade the drainage system in most of our streets.

We are seeing, as are other districts, a great growth in building, and a large number of these are multi-units on blocks that would once have had one house, and therefore a much greater run off in roof water, for which many of our council pipes cannot readily cope.

This is only one of the many future needs of the town area and also the outlying parts, that are being built on with an ever increasing number of dwellings, need better graded and drained roads.

The Association can only put to Council the problems of which we are aware, and unless you attend some of our meetings, at least, we do not know the needs in your area.

In your own self interest, it will pay you to attend our public meetings, held only every second month on the fourth Wednesday evening at 7.30pm in the Beaconsfield Squash Courts, Woods Street, per courtesy of Noel Tonks.

Hope you can come to the next one in August.

Albie Jones.

We invite your news and views on any subject pertaining to Beaconsfield and its residents.

Drop your copy in at the School or the Post Office in time for the next edition in mid October, or call one of the Progress Association people whose phone numbers appear above.

Did You Know?

Fire Brigade Auxiliary

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Beaconsfield Rural Fire Brigade is a friendly group who share an interest in the many aspects of voluntary fire-fighting. It is not only for the wives of the firemen.

The Auxiliary held a very enjoyable annual luncheon, with a Dutch auction, at the fire station in May. Some 35 ladies attended and raised a worthwhile sum of money for the brigade's work. The Auxiliary is hosting a casserole tea at a social night in the fire station on the 18th August.

Meetings are held on the last Monday afternoon of every second month in the fire station. Next meeting is on September 25th at 2pm. All interested ladies are welcome and more information may be obtained by phoning Bev Burgess on 707 1389.

Yes, for only two dollars you can sell, buy, hire, announce, or whatever (as long as it's not illegal or immoral!)

Ice Skaters

We have two team skating champions in our midst! Danielle and Kym Maree Gissara, aged 17 and 14, who live in Beaconsfield, have been selected in an Australian Ice Skating Precision Team to represent their State and country in Sweden and Finland in late 1989 and early 1990.

They looking for support and sponsorship in their youthful sporting career. More information will be available at the next Progress Association Meeting in August.

Bear in mind, these trips to the other side of the globe cost a lot of money as well as sporting dedication.

Beaconsfield Market Place

Starting in the October Banner, the "Market Place" column invites your private two line ads for \$2.00.

Silver Wedding

Lyn and Jim Smith were given a surprise party on July 8th for their 25th wedding anniversary. Congratulations to you both and best wishes for the next 25 years.

Letters... Letters... Letters...

Payne Rd Problem

The Editor,

I am concerned by the amount of road accidents which occur at the intersection of Payne and Inglis Roads which cross Emerald Road.

Being a member of the Beaconsfield Fire Brigade, I have been to several accidents at that cross road, and I think that it is a question of time before someone is killed.

Being a butcher at Beaconsfield, I have asked residents who live on Mount Misery for some ideas. One idea was for a round-a-bout.

With the growing population at Upper Beaconsfield, the road is being used more than ever with cars turning in or out of Inglis Road, or on to Emerald Road, or going straight across to Payne Road.

It is a hazard to drivers, so now I believe it is time to do something. The solution? A round-a-bout.

Yours etc,
Darren Sherlock

Thanks for seat

The Editor,

I would like to say how many people use and appreciate the seat which the Council provided in the gardens near the Beaconsfield War Memorial.

Can anyone tell me how much provision is being made in designing the new shops of Beaconsfield for people in wheelchairs, or suffering from other major handicaps? Are the shops providing a slope instead of steps so all may go indoors?

Several shops in Berwick replaced their front steps at the request of the Senior Citizens.

Must we make the same mistakes, and leave the handicapped on the footpath feeling they are outcasts, before we finally decide to alter the front entrances to slopes? Or can we build them correctly in the first place?

Yours etc
"Young at Heart"

Roamin' Roast

The Editor,

Our eldest son Paul recently turned 21 and we planned a function in his honour in Berwick. We enquired at several catering services before we finally hired our local catering service "The Roaming Roast".

This service is operated by our local butcher, Brian Parkes, and his lovely wife Janette, together with Kevin and Jan Manning.

We were most happy with the service given. Beef cooked to perfection together with roast potatoes and a fine selection of salads. Janette and Jan personally served with a smile and gave an impression of enjoying themselves. Cost per head was most reasonable.

The message we would like to convey to any local people who may have a function in the future is to contact Brian first. You will not be disappointed.

We also take this opportunity to convey our thanks to all for a job expertly done, and wish them every success and many bookings.

Yours etc,
Lynette and Jim Smith

Beaconsfield Girl Guides Active

IN TERM II this year the Beaconsfield Girl Guides finished the tree planting on the newly created "Kath Roberts Reserve" as part of Environmental Day activities.

This was followed by the "Margaret Tharle Shield" Day, held at "Kooronga" camp site, Dandenong. Girls from the Dandenong Region participated in camping and other activities, the winner receiving a place on the Shield.

On the home front, one evening in May the Mothers were seen laughing at their daughters taking them off in a skit. Supper was good too.

After this, apart from the normal progression through various challenges, seven girls received their Laundress Badges. The Term finished with the Berwick Guides coming to enjoy a social evening with us and some of the "Old" Guides of games, aerobics and singing.

Anyone interested in becoming a Guide Leader or assisting please phone Mary Perks on 707 4468 or 707 4553.

Nell Seltmann

Drop your local news items for our next issue in October in to Melva Behr at the Primary School, Squash Centre or Post Office.

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Local Firemen are Volunteers

Many newcomers to Beaconsfield do not realise that all the members of the Beaconsfield Rural Fire Brigade are voluntary fire fighters.

They are a most dedicated and well trained group of men who drop everything they are doing, at the wailing of the siren, and dash to the aid of a stricken building, a road accident, or an outbreak of fire on the land.

Have you ever counted the number of times they are required to jump up from a meal, or hop out of bed at some incredible hour, to assist fellow residents? And after the broken night's sleep, they still have to rise in time to go to their normal day's work.

Our district owes so much to these wonderful men.

The minimum age is 16 years. New members are always welcome.

Further information may be obtained from Bob Burgess by phoning 707 1389.

FIELD DAY

A fire brigade field day of particular interest to local people will be held at Akoonah Park on Saturday 7th October from 9am to 4pm.

The Beaconsfield firemen will be busy assisting the Country Fire Authority in staging it for the whole region.

It will bring together members of fire brigades from as far afield as Wonthaggi, the Mornington Peninsula, local brigades, and the other emergency services.

There will be demonstrations with new types of equipment and tools used by the country fire fighters. Farmers and orchardists will find much to interest them, too, at this field day.

Councillor's Recommendations to Pakenham Shire Engineer

All three local councillors attended the Beaconsfield Progress Association's meeting on Wednesday 28th June and gave valuable advice to the members on their queries.

Cr Peter Meeking raised the following matters with the Pakenham Shire Engineer and asked he give them urgent consideration.

1. Urgent grading needed of Coinda and May's Roads.

2. Street light is needed for people leaving the railway station to walk along Beaconsfield Avenue as it is very dark there.

3. A pedestrian crossing is needed on the Prince's Highway at Beaconsfield.

4. Mrs. Kath Roberts seeks to have the sign Wood street corrected to its right name — Woods street.

5. It is claimed a traffic hazard has developed by way of cars parking outside the new shops on Prince's Highway. A person leaving Souter Street cannot see traffic approaching.

The suggestion was made that a "No Standing" sign should be included on part of the area outside the shops at least.

Companion Animal Inquiry

Pakenham Shire Council has written to the Beaconsfield Progress Association about the new registration policy for domestic animals in the Shire.

This has come about through an increase in stray and unwanted animals, and proposals by the Government to introduce new legislation.

Briefly, the Dog Act and other animal legislation will be streamlined. Microchip technology is to be introduced by way of silicon chips injected under the animal's skin, which will make animal registration more permanent, and the detection of strays more efficient.

Overall, more control on the keeping of "companion animals" will hopefully decrease the number of unwanted pets and decrease cruelty to animals.

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Hints from Mother Nature's Corner

It sounds impossible to enjoy tomatoes, lettuce and spring onions grown from a non-soil garden!

Limitations in physical capabilities, together with the lack of good soil, forced a friend to seek other means of cultivation.

A call to a Horticultural School brought the following suggestion.

The first commodity is old paper laid down 5cm thick in raised containers (or on a suitable flat area.) Water it well, and let it soak for several days.

Obtain a bag of straw and lucerne. Both can be bought at a grain store the nearest being at Officer. Cover the paper with 10cm of straw, then the same thickness of lucerne. Water well and allow to settle.

Then cover with compost, either from a bin, or from a bag on sale in Beaconsfield.

This is now ready for seedlings to be transplanted from punnets and well watered.

During a recent survey at Lilydale,

it was noted that the "non-soil" garden produced an even better harvest than the open soil method. It also required less watering as the layers of paper retained the moisture; the straw supplied the heat, and the lucerne rotted to become an added fertiliser to the compost.

As a further gardening tip — it is a good idea to refill the empty seedling punnets with a mixture of one part peat moss, one part coarse river sand and two parts of sandy loam, and plant seeds from the latest crop of tomatoes, etc.

Passion fruit seeds grow very well if covered with dark plastic (or even a brown paper bag) until the first twin leaves appear.

We're waiting to hear your hints and suggestions, so please write to the Beaconsfield Banner and drop them in to either the Primary School, Post Office, Squash Court, or to P.O. Box 217, Beaconsfield, 3807.

"Mother Nature" depends on you.
Happy Gardening!

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Men for Red Cross? Certainly!

Following my article in your June publication, I have been asked "Does Red Cross also seek to interest men in becoming members?"

The answer is "Definitely YES."

Unfortunately the total number of men members within our 500 Units in Victoria is extremely small.

Following World War II Lieut. Colonel Williams joined our local Unit and worked as its Secretary for several years.

Forty years later Mr. A. White and Mr. W. Hudson offered to act as Treasurers. So office bearing is not "Out of Bounds" for men.

In times of disaster — as with Ash Wednesday — men are a valuable asset in both areas allocated to Red Cross. These are Catering and the Registration of evacuees.

We need men to become familiar with such jobs as purchasing supplies and assisting with the heavier work of catering.

Registration of evacuees entails clerical ability. Courses in both catering and registration are held in the local area each year.

We need more volunteers to assist in transporting patients to hospitals to keep appointments, such as ones receiving therapy after a stroke in Dandenong, or cancer treatment at inner city areas.

Couples who have recently retired would be very helpful in this humanitarian role.

Are there any wood workers in Beaconsfield? Small, simple wooden toys are very useful to display and sell on street stalls and at our Gift Shop situated in Centreway Arcade, Cranbourne.

There was nil result in getting Beaconsfield residents to become members from my earlier article, but we have a very real need to make contact with men and women willing to become interested in the Red Cross story and willing to give responsible, solid support in humanitarian way in our local area.

Please telephone Mrs. Marie Womersley on 707 1103, Publicity Officer, Berwick/Upper Beaconsfield Red Cross Unit.

Choice of Birth Group

Ladies interested in forming a choice of birth centre are cordially invited to attend a meeting on Wednesday 30th August at 11.30 am at the home of Michelle Leo, 10 Sylvia Road, Beaconsfield. (Phone 707 5664).

The informal meeting will be followed by lunch. Ladies are asked to bring a plate please.

There are three Bush Nursing Hospitals within this district, but as yet none provides much range of choice in its birth centre.

Michelle is a member of Home Birth Peninsula, and along with other ladies who are supporters of active birth workshops, will be happy to discuss various viewpoints.

Michelle hopes to form a branch of Home Birth Peninsula in this district to give local women a greater choice at one of the most important times in their lives.

BIRTHS

Beaconsfield welcomes these lovely newcomers:

To Glenda and Steven Fryer — a daughter Ruth Alice.

To Michelle and David Leo — a daughter Meghan Bethany Kate.

Birthday Celebrations

Local truck driver Noel Seabrook celebrated his birthday at home with family and friends.

18 years old Tara Crowley got her driver's licence in early July. Well done!

Death of Beaconsfield resident of 75 years

Mrs Gladys Barnes, aged 82, passed away on 3rd July at her home in Railway Avenue, Beaconsfield.

Having moved to this district from England at the age of seven, she married Frank in 1934. They lived for a short time on the site of what is now the Beaconsfield Squash Courts; moving to Railway Avenue in 1937.

While Frank Barnes was well known throughout the district as a wood carter and farmer, Gladys

worked as a shoe machinist, starting off at Grosby's slipper factory, which was located at the corner of Woods Street and Beaconsfield Avenue in the former Roberts' store.

They were both keen contributors to the Beaconsfield Football Club. While Frank acted as gate man for many years, in recent times Mrs Barnes was the mainstay of the Beaconsfield Junior Football Canteen.

Sincere sympathy to all members of her family in their sad loss.

Free Garden Soil

There is some free top soil suitable for gardeners in the vacant paddock next to Beaconsfield Timber and Hardware in Beaconsfield Avenue. Help yourself and make a beautiful addition to your garden.

Beaconsfield Timber and Hardware recently carried out extensions to the car park at the S.E.C. in Beaconsfield Avenue.

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Our Little Creek

By Myrtle Wilson

Albie Jones' president's letter in this issue set me thinking of the changes which already have taken place along the Cardinia Creek as a result of the increased building activities of the district.

I lived on a farm four road-miles south of Beaconsfield. Until the 1970s we waited two days after heavy rain fell at Beaconsfield/Upper Beaconsfield for each flood to reach our creek paddocks.

But then the floods began arriving some 24 hours faster. This coincided with a vast increase of house building on the east side of the Berwick hill. Paddocks and pot-holed gravel roads, which had held a lot of water, disappeared between Church Street and Manuka Road.

Falling rain rushed downhill quickly along concrete curbing, sealed streets, off house-roofs, footpaths, driveways, patios, etc. It created a new flood downstream a day before the usual run-off arrived from the Guys Hill/Upper Beaconsfield area.

If the proposed 545 houses are built on the Hooker Corporation land east of Soldiers Road, people living on farms at Officer South and Cardinia will probably have another extra day of flooding reach them before the present floodtimes.

But farmers have much to be thankful for at the other end of the year. The Cardinia Creek never runs dry now in droughts, thanks to the regular releasing of water from the Cardinia Reservoir, and farmers can pump water reliably for their livestock each summer.

Times were harder before the reservoir was built. Once dry weather made the creek stop trickling, the big holes become porous, and it was very difficult to start the creek flowing again. Many a time farmers walked or rode

horses looking for the water, checking that nobody had diverted it out of the creekbed for their own use.

I remember one April in the 1960s good rain had fallen at Upper Beaconsfield, but four days later we still had nothing in the creek and were terribly disappointed. My father was working near the creek when he heard a loud rustling. Mistaking it for a reptile, he picked up a snake-stick and began looking around.

Then he realised the sound was coming from the creek and he saw a wave of water, about a foot high, bowling over the dry bark and leaves. It paused to fill a deep hole, then gained momentum and moved on again. It was the miracle of the stream's rebirth.

My father arrived home shortly afterwards, grinning broadly, and said, "You'll never guess what I've just seen!" And in 57 years on that farm it was the only time he saw it happening.

Rocking the cradle...

THE hand that rocks the cradle rules the earth, they used to say. Mums... we wouldn't be here without 'em!

Maybe you have a mother like the one mentioned here.

My Mean Mother

"I had the meanest mother in the world. While other kids had lollies for breakfast, I had to eat cereal, egg and toast. While other kids had can of drink and lollies for lunch, I had to have a sandwich.

As you can guess my dinner was not only different from other kids - I had to eat it at a table and not in front of television.

"My mother also insisted on knowing where we were at all times. You'd think we were on a chain gang or something. She had to know who our friends were, where we were going, and she even told us what time we had to be home.

I'm ashamed to admit it, but my mother actu-

ally had the nerve to break child labour laws. She made us wash dishes, make our beds and even learn to cook. That woman must have stayed awake at nights just thinking up things for us kids to do.

By the time we were teenagers our whole life became even more unbearable.

Our old-fashioned mother refused to let us date before we were 15 and then insisted that boys had to come to the door to collect girls from our family, instead of tooting the car horn for them to come running.

She really raised a bunch of squares. None of us kids was ever arrested for shoplifting or busted for dope.

And who do we thank for this? You're right - our mean mother. Every day we hear cries from both our people and our politicians about what our country really needs.

What our country really needs - is more mothers like mine!"

Dead and Alive?

Beaconsfield resident was having problems with city executors winding up a relative's Estate. Then a letter came addressed to the deceased as though he was still alive.

The executors' computer for filing Estates had forgotten to inform their computer for filing Wills of his demise.

"Dear Mister,

It is now four years since you made your last Will. Circumstances may have changed and you may need to update it."

Local resident turned over the letter and typed the deceased's reply to the executors.

(name of cemetery)

"Dear Sirs,

Nice to hear from you again! Most people tend to ignore me now as though I'd kicked the bucket or something. You have given me a fresh lease of life."

The local resident is still awaiting an apology for the executors' mistake.

Perhaps they've addressed it to the cemetery?

In Brief...

Councillor Meeking Re-elected

Congratulations to Cr. Peter Meeking on his re-election to the Beaconhills Ward of the Shire of Pakenham - once again unopposed.

Sincere thanks for the great many hours and conscientious service he has given during his present term of office for the improvement or life for the residents of Beaconsfield and surrounding districts.

Best wishes for the next three years, Cr Meeking.

New Equipment at Gymnasium

The Beaconsfield Squash and Sports Centre is putting in some new equipment, giving a wide choice of opportunities for people who enjoy exercising in very pleasant surroundings.

And the attractive green and fawn aerobics room will be double its present size when a new carpeted and sound-proofed area is completed by the end of August

Woods Has an 'S'

We believe the correct spelling is Woods Street. It was named after early settlers in the street, the Woods family.

As someone pointed out recently, the letter S left off a word in a legal document could be of great importance.

NEXT PROGRESS MEETING

Next meeting of the Beaconsfield Progress Association will be held at 7.30pm, next Wednesday August 23 in the upstairs room of the Beaconsfield Squash Centre in Wood(s) St.

Come along - you are invited!

Retirement from railway station after 30 years

MRS Kath Clarke retired from the Beaconsfield railway station on July 14th.

She took on the job in October 1959 for one year to assist Mrs. Cheeseman in running the parcels office and the ticket window. They alternated the 5am start on the morning shift with an afternoon/early evening shift.

Kath enjoyed meeting and helping people so much that she remained in the job for 29 years and

9 months.

Many a passenger has set off to face their work and appointments cheered by Kath's bright smile and friendly greeting at the ticket window.

And when umbrellas and other items were left on the train, their owners found compassion and willing assistance as Kath rang other stations to locate them.

All her passengers wish Kath a long and very happy retirement.

The Origin of the Subway

THE subway under the railway line near the Beaconsfield station was not built originally for vehicular traffic.

At the beginning of this century there was a level crossing at the western end of the railway station (where pedestrians cross now.)

A workman on a project south of the township had to haul loads of heavy equipment out to his job, and he noticed a flood had made a little hole in the embankment under the timber railway bridge.

So he scooped out some more soil. The enlarged hole gave him a short cut from the pipeworks (in a paddock north-west of the Woods Street — Beaconsfield Avenue corner) to the water pipeline being laid between the Officer reservoir and Cranbourne.

Another flood swept away some more soil. Other people began using the pop-hole instead of the level

crossing, which some considered was dangerous because steam trains came down the hill very quietly from Berwick.

Two accidents occurred on the level crossing in the early 1930s. One night some cattle had strayed in from the crossing and over the bridge.

They took fright next morning as the 7.30 workers' train was gathering speed towards Berwick, and rushed up the embankment. The engine struck and killed three cows.

A few weeks later Mr Gus Stephens of Officer was bringing his cans of milk to consign by rail when a steam train hit the back of his spring cart on the level crossing. Mr Stephens and the cans were thrown onto the ground.

By then there was a rough track down to the subway, so everyone used it, and demanded the railways close the level crossing.

More Memories of Beaconsfield

WE thank Mrs Kath Roberts for sharing some more memories of the 1920s.

The Melbourne Hunt Club met at Beaconsfield railway station. A special train was run for the occasion with special boxes for the horses and foxhounds, and it would wait until the time for its return journey.

Also a special train was run on Sundays and the station was crowded at night with returning travellers.

A coachman named Boss

Shorthouse would meet trains with horse and coach to go to Upper Beaconsfield, which was a great health resort, with many guest houses.

The dentist shop in Woods Street was a barber shop, run for many years by Jack Garth.

The yard where Mrs Roberts lived had a huge shed in it, which was used for storing hay and chaff for the store on the corner of Woods Street and Beaconsfield Avenue, and was used also for packing eggs to send by rail.

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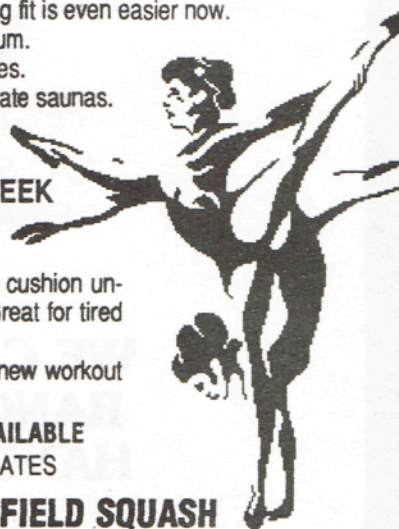
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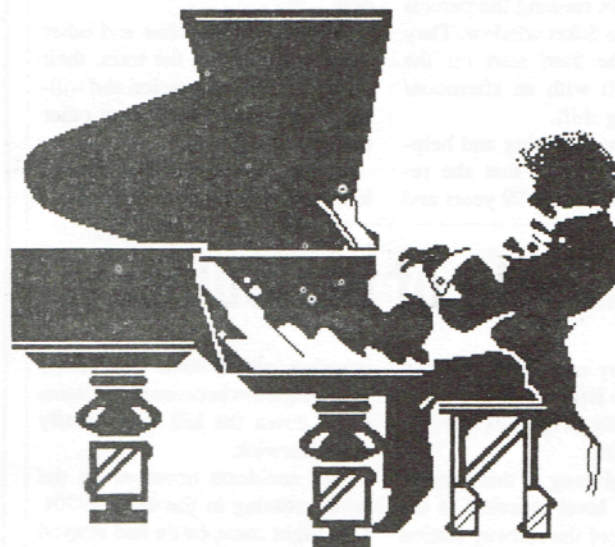
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