

# point of view

BY BILL NIXON

If you've never been too concerned about the impact television has on children, maybe it's time you were.

If American children had to choose between keeping their television sets or keeping their fathers, nearly half would pick the TV.

That's the answer a group called Action for Children's Television (ACT) received from 42 per cent of a group of Boston third-grade pupils it surveyed.

While we would hope that the feelings of our own kids would be different, the results of the Boston test are a warning of the influence television has on children.

"Television's influence on children is more dramatic than probably anyone suspects," says Peggy Charren, the head of ACT. "It is literally shaping their values and ideals for life."

"The reason so many of them choose their TV set is because they spend more time with it than with their fathers," she says.

"Among the things they learn is that violence is a quick way to solve problems and that life's ordeals can be sorted out in a half-hour or hour."

According to Mrs. Charren, whose group is involved in lobbying for an increase in the diversity and quality of net-

work programming for youngsters, the average American child watches four hours of television a day. Adds Mrs. Charren: "If most of our librarians stocked shelves of the children's section with books similar to the Saturday morning television programming, they would immediately be fired."

So, what's the answer? So few parents are willing, for one reason or another, to spend leisure time with their children. Children require much attention, and parents often find themselves at a loss when entertainment is needed. It's much easier to assign the responsibility of "keeping them out of your hair" to television, video games, or whatever source of entertainment other than personal attention.

Our children are, and will continue to be, a reflection of the parents. It's time we looked at our children as such, and give serious consideration to the image we project.

The following words have appeared in this column before, but perhaps it's time to repeat them:

*Walk a little plainer daddy,  
Said a little boy so frail,  
I'm following in your footsteps  
And I don't want to fail.  
Sometimes your steps are very plain*

*Sometimes they are hard to see.  
So walk a little plainer daddy  
For you are leading me.  
I know that once you walked this way  
Many years ago.  
And what you did along the way  
I'd really like to know.  
For, sometimes when I am tempted  
I don't know what to do.  
So walk a little plainer daddy.  
For I must follow you.  
Someday when I'm grown up  
You are like I want to be.  
Then I will have a little boy  
Who will want to follow me.  
And, I would want to lead him right  
And help him to be true  
So walk a little plainer daddy  
For we must follow you.*

## NewsLine

**RALEIGH**—Now through September 5, the N.C. Department of Agriculture Market NewsLine shown on public television, will begin at 2:30 P.M. rather than 8 A.M. and continue 12 midnight daily.

According to Charles D. Edwards, market news director, the cutback in broadcast time resulted from lack of funding and other problems at the University of N.C. Center for Public Television.

Market NewsLine is a cooperative service between the Center for Public Television and the NCDA. It provides subscribers (those with a TV set adaptor) the latest quotations on fruits and vegetables, livestock, grains, eggs, and livestock and grain futures.

"We regret this break in service," said Edwards, "and I hope it will be possible to have service next summer."

The real name of the painting *Mona Lisa* is *La Gioconda*.

## Social Security Report

By Lee Wallis  
Field Representative  
If you have a farm, will you hire help in 1983 to plant, harvest, process, or deliver your crop?

If so, you must report to Social Security the wages of any person who is paid at least \$150 cash wages or works for at least 20 days on a time basis.

Proper wage reporting is important for workers and their families. Entitlement to and the amount of monthly disability, survivors, and retirement benefits depend on reported earnings.

As a farm employer, here's what you need to do:

**Keep a record** - Write down each worker's full name and number from his Social Security card. Keep track of wages paid and taxes withheld throughout the year, and if appropriate, the number of days worked on a time basis.

**Collect taxes** - The 1983 Social Security tax rate for you and each worker is 6.70

per cent on earnings up to \$35,700. Generally you pay this periodically during the year, using federal tax Deposit Form 511, available from the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

**Prepare forms** - Early next year, you must complete IRS forms 943 (Employer's Annual Tax Return for Agricultural Employees) and W-2 (Wages and Tax Statement). These forms and instructions for completing them are available from IRS.

If you have migrant farmworkers during the year, either you or the crew leader could be the "employer" responsible for reporting wages.

Generally, whoever pays and controls the workers is the employer unless there's a written agreement that indicates otherwise.

For more information, call the Elizabeth City Social Security office at 338-2161 for the leaflet, "Social Security Information for Crew Leaders and Farmers."

## Summer Reading Program Begins

The Shepard-Pruden Library will be closed Monday for the Fourth of July holiday.

On Tuesday, July 5, the library will have the second session of the Summer Reading Program. Adventures A to Z. Two films, "Lentil" and "Ransom of Red Chief" will be shown beginning at 10:30 A.M.

New books received at the Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library include:

**Adult Fiction**  
"The Lombard Heiress", by Virginia Coffman;  
"Hurricane Season", by Mickey Friedman; "The Ivory Swing", by Janette T. Hospital; "House Above Hollywood", by Velda Johnston; "Two", by John D. MacDonald; and "The Baked Bean Supper Murders", by Virginia Rich.

**Adult Non Fiction**  
"White Mischief", by

James Fox; "The Media Room", by Howard Blumenthal; "Reader's Digest Home Improvements Manual", by Howard Blumenthal; "Talk & Tackle", by Anne Mueser; "Mary, Wayfarer", by Mary Mebane; and "Tennessee Williams", by Dakin Williams.

## Accepted

**MURFREESBORO**—Five recent graduates of high schools in Edenton have been accepted for admission to Chowan College for the fall semester beginning August 21.

Robert Colfield, Christopher Lee Rankins, Elizabeth Jo Whitson, and William H. Garrett are all graduates of John A. Holmes High School.

Amanda K. Peoples graduated from Immanuel Christian High School.



**PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS CHALLENGED** - The students pictured above are challenged to be inventive by Sandra Phillips while solving a wide range of interesting problems. Students pictured above include Lafayette Holley, Joseph Willis and Janet Devine.

## Festival Plans Are Begun

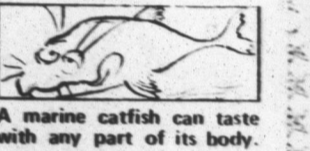
By Paige L. Underwood  
It's once again time to begin talking about The 1983 Festival of Skills sponsored by The Perquimans County Agricultural Extension Service and Extension Homemakers.

Mark your calendar for October 15, to attend the one day event from 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. at the Perquimans High School gymnasium, U.S. 17 Business in Hertford. You will enjoy creativity, true craftsmanship and new ideas by attending the Festival of Skills. There will be so much talent to enjoy. Maybe you are looking for a specific item-like a quilt for your bed, a wreath for your door, a calico chicken for your kitchen, patch work or candlewick pillow or hand crocheted sweater. How delighted you'll be when you find just the right item. Or you may come upon an unexpected, but delightful item for a gift. That's what makes The Festival of Skills so much fun!

Good food goes along with the day, so there'll be good food to make the festival even better.

If anyone is interested in participating in the Festival of Skills, please contact the Perquimans County Extension Office, call 426-7697. There should be adequate space for new comers as well as previous participants. Also there will be adequate parking around the school and comfortable heating or cooling system for our visitors.

Start thinking - "Festival of Skills" 1983! It should be a wonderful day!



A marine catfish can taste with any part of its body.

## Plan District Convention

The Watchtower Bible & Tract Society of New York has revealed completion of plans for a series of 104 district conventions of Jehovah's Witnesses in the United States during June and July.

Stanley Weigel, convention director in New York, said approximately 1,000,000 persons are expected to attend the "Kingdom Unity" conventions scheduled in more than 60 cities.

Many witnesses from Edenton are planning to attend the four-day convention to be held at the Coliseum in Hampton, Va.

Fletcher Gardner, local minister, said 6,000 Jehovah's Witnesses from Central and Eastern Virginia and North Carolina are anticipated for the meeting to be held June 30 thru July 3.

Gardner said the disunity in the world is an alarming thing to Jehovah's Witnesses.

"There is genuine concern for the future," he said. "The increasing dialogue on the need for control of nuclear weapons, threat of war, terrorism and national divisions make many people wonder if world peace is possible."

"This convention will stress looking in a new direction for

## Conference

Frank M. Holmes, a Senior Master agent with Equitable Life Assurance Society from Edenton, will be among an anticipated 4,600 members of the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT) gathering in Dallas, Texas June 26 to 30 for this exclusive life insurance sales association's 56th Annual Meeting. Thirty-nine countries around the world will be represented, making the MDRT meeting the most comprehensive sales forum in the life insurance industry.

During the five-day meeting, more than 100 professional speakers will be discussing subjects of vital concern to those in the life insurance field. Experts in such areas as estate planning, taxes, inflation and law will be sharing their knowledge in a series of intense seminars.

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