



Pictured above are three members of the He-Men Club who prefer to be recognized by their nicknames. They are, left to right "Playboy" George; "Mad Dog" and "Playboy" Sweet Willie "D".

The He-Men Club

Do-Gooders Or Perpetrators?

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

When I asked A. Roberts if she was familiar with the He-Men Club, she immediately responded, "Yes." But she would only permit her comments about the group to be printed in this article if her name was changed. She was actually afraid that if they found out who she was that some harm might come to her.

"I know about the He-Men Club. They are always in some type of fight. I've even known them to carry guns on themselves," remarked Ms. Roberts. A teenager who often frequents Queenspark Theatre, Ms.

Roberts recalled a time that the club tried to start a fight against her uncle and some of his friends. "They even got mad at my friends and me when we didn't want to talk to them," expressed Ms. Roberts.

Her story is different from the one of Veronica and Mammie Houser. Both students at Sedgefield Junior High School, these two young ladies are very familiar with the He-Men Club. "They're nice, respectable guys and they do try to help people," remarked Veronica Houser. She remembered once when the He-Men Club broke up a potential fight between two groups. Mammie Houser said that she has only known the group to fight when they were trying to protect themselves.

Such contrasting statements have created a world of confusion about the young adult male group. And it is

something that spokesman Chris Roach, alias "Mad Dog" would like to see cleared up.

"We are not a violent group, that's the first thing I'd like to see straightened out. We try to help people," stressed the spokesman.

According to "Mad Dog" the He-Men club started out as a weight-lifting club, but later decided to turn their organization towards more humanitarian efforts.

"We've collected canned goods for the needy and given them to local centers to distribute at the holidays. We've also helped to insulate windows for the elderly. Whenever we're out we try to stop any potential fight or hassles, just by talking to the individuals involved," commented "Mad Dog."

Promoting themselves as defenders of the helpless (young kids and females) "Mad Dog" admitted that there have been times that they had to defend themselves. As these occasions of self defense escalated, the He-Men Club, much to their dismay, have taken on a bad reputation.

"There are people doing some bad things, in the name of the He-Men Club, but it's not us and we have to bear the brunt of it," exclaimed "Mad Dog."

While the fame of the club spreads the spokesman also asserted that their lives are in danger. "Other people trying to harm the He-Men. There's hardly a week to go by that we don't get shot at, by people we don't even know."

It still hangs in the air about the true intentions of the He-Men Club some action has been taken to keep them off the premises of Queenspark Theatre. According to Game room manager, Dean Oxidine, "Members of the gang have been banned from Queenspark. They were told by our security that if they came on the premises then they would be considered trespassers." Oxidine explained that such action was necessary, considering the fact that every time a fight broke out, the He-Men Club was either indirectly or directly involved.

"I've gotten to know the group real well and although I haven't had any trouble with them, they are known to do a 'big shot' role. They have a reputation wherever they go."

As one of the managers of the theatre, Oxidine admitted that fights are one of the problems that the theatre has had since it opened. "We do have security here, but by the time we get to the scene of an incident, the fight has usually broken up or the damage has been done. What we try to do is to find the persons responsible and ban them from the park."

Some of the violent stories that Oxidine has heard about the club has made him wonder about their validity. But one thing he does know is that they do carry weapons.

Still the He-Men Club professes to be do-gooders and in holding to that thought another member said: "We want to make friends, not enemies."

Expert Says

Americans Are Consuming Less Alcohol

By Jalyne Strong
Post Staff Writer

The good news is Americans are consuming less alcohol. According to a recent study of adults 18 and older, 65 percent drink beer, wine or hard liquor at least occasionally—this is down from 71 percent in 1977.

The bad news is, though Americans are drinking less, there is no detected decrease in problem alcoholism.

There are two contributing factors to the decline of alcohol consumption among the average American, reports Irma Hoffman, Director of Education at the Charlotte Council on Alcoholism. "First, more people are health conscious now. They are watching what they eat and drink. It's hard to jog when you're drunk," she notes. Many people have begun to heed the warnings of how alcohol damages health. Medical findings show that, taken in excess, alcohol destroys brain cells. Heavy drinkers are more prone to cirrhosis of the liver, cancer of the digestive tract and heart disease. In men, alcohol can reduce sex drive, fertility and potency. Pregnant women who drink can effect the unborn child resulting in birth defects.

The second factor, Hoffman admits, is that Americans are becoming increasingly aware of the many social problems associated with alcohol drinking. "Alcohol abuse has become a nationwide concern," states Hoffman. Efforts are being made to educate the public to drinking problems through such agents as public service announcements on television, organized groups such as MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving), and testimonials of reformed alcoholics. A survey has reported that one-third of Americans now regard alcohol as the single greatest threat to family life. It has been shown as a significant factor in child-abuse cases, separations, divorces, homicides and suicides. "This awareness is definitely changing people's drinking habits," says Hoffman.

Yet Hoffman contends that the statistics show a decrease of alcohol drinking only among the non-problem drinker: people who reportedly drink for "social reasons," or for "relaxation," or only "on special occasions." "Of the 100 million people in America who drink alcohol 90 million have no problems with it but the remaining 10 million are alcoholics," informs Hoffman.

Alcoholics are usually classified as people who are psychologically

First in series

dependent on alcohol, meaning they think they need it. Or they are "symptomatic drinkers" whereby they are physically dependent and have problems controlling their drinking, suffer blackouts, sneak drinks and skip meals while drinking. Hoffman claims among this group there is no decrease in alcohol consumption.

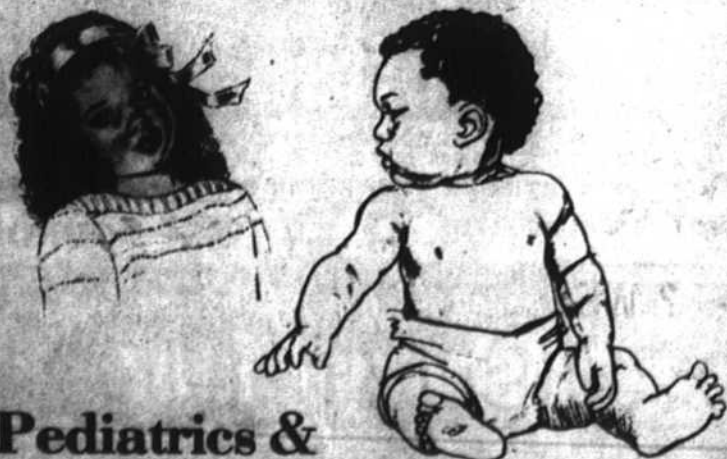
Hoffman sees 1,000 people per year at the Charlotte Council on Alcoholism concerning their drinking problems. People are sent to the Council on Alcoholism by the Court, or through the employee assistance

programs of some companies, or they come of their own will. "We are a referral agency," explains Hoffman. "We evaluate and assess the drinking problem then refer the clients to treatment centers or whatever is necessary."

But if there is a trend towards less drinking of alcohol among adults why are problem drinkers not affected? Hoffman decides it is primarily because alcoholism is a disease. "The illness of alcoholism is very complex," she states. "We look for reasons but there are always more than one."

A major deciding factor of people See ALCOHOL On Page 15A

Dr. Rolande Romain
is pleased to announce the opening
of her new office for the practice of:



**Pediatrics &
Adolescent Medicine**
Children from Birth to 18 Years

Rolande Romain, M.D.

Northwest Medical Center

1406 Beatties Ford Rd.
Charlotte, N.C.

335-0806

Office Hours By Appointment

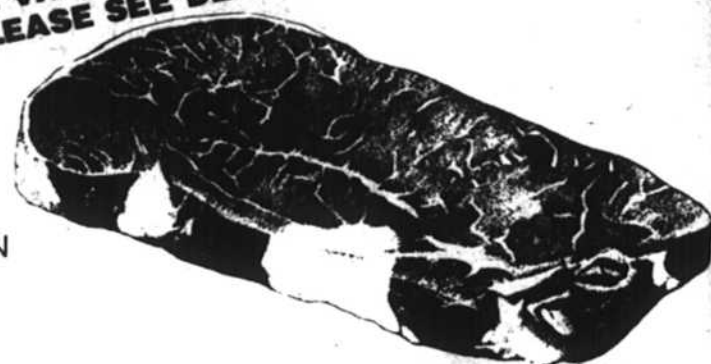
SHOP KROGER ALL
THIS WEEK FOR

DOUBLE MANUFACTURERS COUPONS

WE WILL DOUBLE 5 MFGS' COUPONS (UP
TO 50¢ FACE VALUE) FOR EVERY \$10.00
PURCHASE! PLEASE SEE DETAILS IN-STORE.



U.S.D.A. CHOICE HEAVY WESTERN
GRAIN FED BEEF, TOP ROUND
Boneless



London Broil Lb. \$1 98

HOLLY FARMS
Fresh
Fryer Breast

\$1 38



SERVE N SAVE ALL VARIETIES SLICED
Luncheon Meats 1-Lb Pkg \$1 28



ASSORTED VARIETIES
Oreo Ice Cream
1/2-Gal Ctn \$2 69

KROGER
Skim, 2% Or
Whole Milk
1/2 Gal Ctn 99¢

COST CUTTER
Sliced Bacon
1 Lb Pkg 98¢

DIET COKE, TAB OR
Coca Cola
6 1-Ltr Ret Btl \$2 19 PLUS DEPOSIT

STOKELY'S REGULAR CUT OR FRENCH STYLE
GREEN BEANS OR CREAM STYLE OR
Whole Kernel Corn
2 16-Oz Cans 79¢

KROGER GRADE A
Large Eggs
Doz 48¢ LIMIT 2 DOZ PLEASE BROWN EGGS doz 68¢

U.S. #1 GENUINE
Idaho Potatoes
10 Lb Bag \$1 98 5 LB BAG Select Bakers Lb. \$1.48 58¢

FRESH BAKED
IN THE DELI
French Bread
2 Lvs \$1

Copyright 1985 Kroger Sav-on Quantity Rights Reserved None Sold To Dealers
Kroger Sav-on
Items and Prices Effective Thru Sat. March 2, 1985

Open 8 AM to Midnight - Open Sunday 9 AM to 9 PM
6320 Albemarle Rd. 500 Tyvola Rd. 3301 Freedom Dr. 101 Eastway Dr.
568-2725 527-5470 399-8321 597-8995
Park Rd. MATTHEWS PINEVILLE
at ideal Way 11446 East Hwy. 51
376-0334 Independence Blvd. At Park Rd. Ext. 1133 Wendover Rd.
365-1953

Feel the Difference...
Go Krogering

ADVERTISED ITEM POLICY
Each of these advertised items is required to be readily available for sale in each Kroger Sav-on except as specifically noted in this ad. If we do run out of an item we will offer you your choice of a comparable item when available, reflecting the same savings or a "raincheck" which will entitle you to purchase the advertised item at the advertised price within 30 days. Only one vendor coupon will be accepted per item.