



# The Parker Press

Keeping you in touch with nothing in particular

August, 1991

## Steve seen in Texas

A. NONOMOUS - PP STAFF WRITER

San Antonio, TX - We have unconfirmed reports that Steve Parker has been seen in various locations around Texas. He was spotted in various restaurants and bars by the Riverwalk in downtown San Antonio during the week of July 8<sup>th</sup> through July 12<sup>th</sup>, although he always managed to get away before this reporter could talk to him.

On the way back to headquarters in Santa Barbara, this reporter flew through Dallas, and spotted Steve there as well. Rental car and hotel receipts place him in Garland Texas (northeast Dallas for those of you not studying your geogra-

See **TEXAS** on page 2

## World Travel??

IMA R. EPORTER

Santa Barbara - Steve Parker is on his way to Israel under the auspices of a training class for ELTA, a defense contractor for the Israeli Aircraft Industry. He'll be leaving August 22<sup>nd</sup> and working there through the 30<sup>th</sup>. When asked about the trip, he indicated that he's slightly nervous, but will be

See **ISRAEL** page 7

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## Ludlam in S.B.

ANN ONON - SAP

Santa Barbara - Robert Ludlam has been seen in various locations around Santa Barbara this month. Mr. Ludlam, a famous novelist, was in town primarily to thank Steve Parker for the royalty checks he continues to receive on books written in the '70's. According to Ludlam's publisher, and a number of bookstores around the nation, Mr. Parker has purchased at least four copies of The Chancellor Manuscript in the last two months.

See **LUDLAM** page 8

## Called to Serve

VARIOUS FAMILY MEMBERS

On August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1991, Ronald E. Parker was ordained as Bishop of the Camino Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. As this was an important day, many members of the family traveled long distances to attend.

A bishop in the LDS church is the presiding authority in a ward. A ward is a geographical location encompassing an area large enough for a congrega-

See **CALLING** page 8

## Reminiscing about our youth

T.T. GRAPEVINE - PP STAFF

Pollock Pines - Dad was recently heard reciting tales from his past. During a family gathering in Pollock Pines near the end of June, the adults sat around in the front room discussing childhood tales. This was one occasion when this reporter wishes he had brought fresh batteries for his recorder. The tales were as diverse as they were interesting.

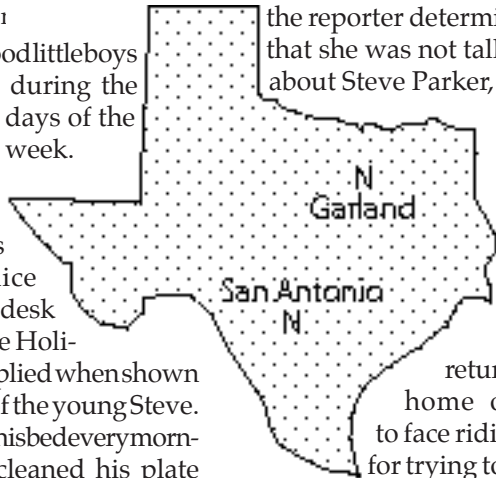
All four Parker kids had similar stories about an English teacher they had in high school. Steve related a story about turning all the furniture upside down in a math classroom. Dad said something about a problem with a truck he was driving when they went to pick up hay for a dance at the high school (The reporters notes at this point were sketchy. From the looks of the writing and tear drops on the page, it appears that the reporter was too busy laughing to continue recording the story.)

The most amazing thing of all was how much each person thought they "got away" with, even though

See **REMINISCING**, page 3

TEXAS from phylike good little boys and girls) during the first three days of the following week.

"He's such a nice boy" the desk clerk at the Holiday Inn replied when shown a picture of the young Steve. "He made his bed every morning, and cleaned his plate whenever he dined with us in the restaurant. His mother should be proud." At this time,



the reporter determined that she was not talking about Steve Parker, and

returned home only to face ridicule for trying to file an incomplete story.

**CALLING** from page 1  
gation of about 400 members. The calling comes from God through a living prophet. Until recently, bishops have served anywhere from a few years to a few decades. The current tenure of a bishop is about five years. A bishop serves with two counselors and one or two secretaries. Mike Reeves was called as the First Councilor, and Rich Guymon was called as Second Councilor. Dad, Mike and Rich have known each other for at least 10 years, and will make a fantastic team.

Dad's calling is to watch over the ward and all those who reside therein, member

and non-member alike. It is a calling which is very demanding physically and spiritually as the bishop is a marriage counselor, youth advisor, presiding authority at ward meetings, financial advisor, judge, teach, and is responsible for all the physical and spiritual needs of the members of his ward. Dad fulfills all the requirements of a good bishop as is outlined in 1 Timothy 3:1-7. This is a great responsibility and honor and we are very proud of him.

REMINISCING from page 2

the parents knew all along what was going on. It just goes to show you, you should never assume you got away with anything.

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## Doctor gives Dad two thumbs up

WADDA RELIEF-KAISER HOSPITAL

July '91: Pollock Pines - Doctors at Kaiser hospital have officially given Dad a clean bill of health. They are very impressed with his speed of recovery. So impressed, in fact that they don't want (need?) to see him again until January of '92.

The doctor told Dad to "Go for it", not knowing that he has been "Going for it" since about three weeks after the operation.

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## Local Weather

June - Foggy (55°) at night, Foggy (60°) in the morning, sunny (75°) after noon.

July - Foggy (55°) at night, Foggy (60°) in the morning, sunny (75°) after 2pm.

August - Foggy (55°) at night,

## Steve and Mark Get New Jobs

T.BIGWIG-GENERAL PERSONNEL  
MANAGER

Starting in the month of August, both Steve Parker and Mark Hoggewill be working at new jobs.

On Monday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, Steve will be starting his new job at Softool Corporation. His new title (official title) is "Support Services Manager". Yes, that's right. Manager. From the information available at press time, Steve will be working on getting the Support Services side of the Technical Support Division up and running efficiently and effectively.

Steve didn't really want to leave the job that he was currently responsible for (keeping American Airlines in business), but Softool reportedly "made it worth his while"

See **New Jobs** page 9

Foggy (60°) in morning, Sunny (75°) after 4pm.

## The Rest of the Nation

Generally quite hot, with many thunderstorms.

## Pie in the Sky

A. STRONOMER-SKY WEST PRESS

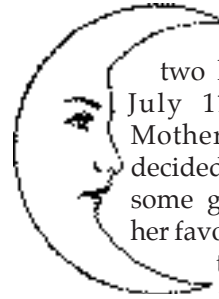
Hawaii-Cows sleeping in the daytime? Birds stop singing? Dogs and cats, living together? Yes, it's all true. For

a period of about two hours on July 11, 1991, Mother Nature decided to play some games on her favorite creatures. She turned off

the lights.

The game continued for a total of about six hours, with totality lasting about two hours. The eclipse was visible from locations throughout North America, with varying amounts of visibility. It was about 75% visible at Kelly Air Force Base in Southern Texas, where Steve Parker was spotted outside with a silly little mirror shining direct sunlight on the side of a building.

"Hey, look at that! It looks like the moon!" was a common reaction from spectators.



## Interview with Doctor Zoose

P.P. STAFF WRITERS

Santa Barbara - Following is an excerpt from an exclusive interview with the infamous Dr. Zoose. Dr. Zoose writes childrens books.

He is most well known for successfully defending a copyright infringement suit, brought against him by Dr. Suess. The suit was filed when Dr. Zoose published One Fish, Two Fish, Me Fish, You Fish and Green Eggs and Spam. Lawyers for Dr. Suess claim that these books are almost identical copies of One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish and Green Eggs and Ham.

Parker Press - How do you feel about the lawsuit?

Dr. Zoose - I feel that it was filed to stop me from publishing what I feel are totally original works.

PP What about the drawings you use. They look virtually identical to the drawings in the books by Dr. Seuss.

DZ The drawings in my book were done by my two year old son. There may have been cases where he remembered seeing some of the pictures he used in other books, but he still insists that everything he did was freehand.

PP OK, enough about the lawsuit. Tell us about your childhood. Where were you born? What did you want to do when you grew up?

DZ I was born in a small mountain town near Placerville, CA. As I grew up, I became fascinated by the concept of Placer mining. Ever since I can remember I wanted to run one of those big water canons. It's hard to believe that you can actually tear down an entire mountain with nothing more than water.

After I graduated from 8<sup>th</sup> grade, I tried to get a job doing this, but there just didn't seem to be anything available. I took a night job at a warehouse, polishing the cement floors, and eventually was promoted to night watchman. This is when I started reading childrens books and decided that I had a good enough grasp on the language of English that I could communicate good with the children.

PP That's an inspirational story. When did you publish your first book?

DZ When I was about 23. I was reading everything I could get my hands on from the childrens section at the library (where I had a side job of polishing the linoleum floors during the day.) Anyway, they gave me a key to the copy room, and I started bringing home copies of books. I never looked at them when I was writing mine, however.

See **INTERVIEW** page 5

INTERVIEW from page 4

PP What motivates you now?

Knowing Dr. Seuss is making more money than me motivates me greatly. I don't feel that his stories are anything original, and he should probably be paying me royalties. After all, I am the person who came up with One Fish... first.

PP Even though your book was published in 1989, and Dr. Suess' version was published in the mid '60's?

DZ Yeah, you see, I was caught in a time warp. Mine was actually first, but the printing press ran so fast, that it sped us into the future without anybody on the planet knowing it.

By the way, did you know that the speed of light is slower than the drum on a printing press? And that when the ink balls up, it turns into a black hole? And that there aren't any lights anywhere? Everything's relative to nothing, and nothing is everywhere. . .

At this point in the interview, there was a knock on the door, and Dr. Zoose got up to answer it. Details have been omitted here, but suffice it to say that Dr. Zoose is safely back at Bellevue Hospital. The doctors say his condition has stabilized, and that he should be able to receive visitors again within a couple of months.

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## Fan Mail

A COLLECTION OF RESPONSES TO THE PARKER PRESS

This column is dedicated to the people who responded to Volume 1 of the Parker Press. For the rest of you, you had better write letters to the editor, or you

will be taken off the mailing list (yes, it's supposed to be a threat; no, I doubt I'd every carry it out).

With that out of the way, here we go:

Fan Mail (continued)

**Mom and Dad** - One of the first responses received at PP was a phone call from the ever supportive Mom and Dad duo from Pollock Pines.

**Linda Hogge** - Linda responded positively to the new publication in the aforementioned phone call.

**Grandma Parker** - PP received a letter from Grandma saying how much she "enjoyed the new Parker Press". The letter looked severely wilted from the heat in the valley this summer, but was still legible

**Rachel Hastings** - Rachel called the PP offices to respond to the July issue. It was mainly a social call to the Editor-in-Chief.

**The Vachuska's** - PP received a letter from Carole and Tom (who are living in Holzgerlingen, Germany for 6 months). As of press time, PP is still unsure of how we developed an international presence, but will continue to take advantage of this to spread the nonsense word around the globe.

**Wadda Idiot** - PP received a letter from Mr. Idiot stating that a Fan he purchased at K-Mart did not work. We replied that he had

See **Fan Mail** page 7

## Reporter takes ride on the wild side

ROBERT HASWELL - RED BLUFF / SHASTA SPORTS WRITER

Following are some excerpts of an article written up in a Redding newspaper by sportswriter Robert Haswell. This article was accompanied with a rather amusing photo of Rob holding on (with both hands) for dear life to a rope tied around a rather large bull.

If we were to compare days, Pancho and I, I'm sure his was much better than mine. Pancho is a brown-and-white bucking bull who lives on John Growney's ranch in Red Bluff.

Pancho weighs about 1,700 pounds, his cut-off horns are as big around as the barrel end of a baseball bat . . .

... In that wisdom that only comes when you are driving alone on a deserted road, I figured the only way to truly write about bull riding was to get on one. No matter that I'm allergic to farm animals, and the closest I'd ever come to a bull was a tri-tip steak, I needed to get on an animal.

The ride was surprisingly easy to set up. I talked to Growney during the Red Bluff

Round-Up about the idea, and he said no problem.

Cowboys are that way. No waiver sheets to sign, no lawyers involved, no red tape.

"Just bring some dirty clothes. I've already softened up the arena, and I have a rope for you."

"Oh, the bull's name is Killer," he added. After I didn't answer—Growney probably heard my Adam's apple drop to my stomach—he told me the bull's real name was Pancho. . .

... When we arrived at the ranch—a small entourage of friends came along to witness the bloodletting—Growney quickly dissolved any confidence I might have built up. . .

... I borrowed some chaps from a 16-year-old aspiring bull rider named Tommy Fausone, who also lent me his rope and his leather riding glove. Growney was gracious enough to let me borrow his cowboy hat with this good humored advice: "If that hat gets stepped on, your head better be in it!"

Pancho, all 1,700 pounds of him, was loaded

in the middle chute.

"Put your legs around him and let him know you're there," one of the boys told me.

I don't want him to know I'm here, I thought. But I followed his orders. The 1,700 pounds of living, breathing flesh shifted under me, as I settled on him. It was a bit eerie for this greenhorn. . .

... Meanwhile, Pancho was clowning around in the chute. He was ducking his head, horning the gate, and shooing off flies.

This animal wasn't taking me seriously. I knew I was had. The trick now was not to embarrass myself. . .

... The chute opened and Pancho bolted like a runaway freight train. There's no other way to describe it. He was a bucking freight car.

It felt like an eternity and it felt like a split second. After the first buck, I was thrown against his back like a rag doll and was hanging on. No anticipating his moves, no form. Just hanging on. The next thing I knew, I landed in the soft dirt like a wet bag of cement.

One of the boys came over and admired the divot I left in the arena ground. Hey,

See **HASWELL** page 7



**HASWELL** from page 6

you take your glory where you can get it. . .

. . . Later, Tommy got on Pancho and rode him for about six seconds before he too, was deposited in the soil.

That made my ego feel a little better, but it did nothing for my pulled groin, sore neck, and sore back.

Only aspirin, ice, beer and the memory of the ride eased those pains.

— — —

In an obvious attempt to hide his embarrassment, Rob contacted his little brother, quit his job, and headed for Europe for "a few months".

Rob has ignored repeated attempts to contact him for his point of view on these issues, although those attempts have been rather feeble.

**Fan Mail** from page 5

the wrong idea of what we mean by "Fan Mail".

**Fred and Mary Ann Haswell** - Since both of their sons decided to quit their jobs and become homeless in Europe for three months, the Haswells responded to the July issue of PP for them. (see related story "Reporter takes a ride on the wild side".)

**Chuck Broslawsky** - Chuck called to inquire about a job (and was hired on the spot). He wants to write for the entertainment section

**ISRAEL** from page 1

well taken care of by Softool's representative there.

He going to be working in Tel-Aviv for the week, and has arranged for a one day tour of Jerusalem through the Israeli Tourism Board. On the way back (September 1<sup>st</sup>), he'll be swinging through Paris, where he will pick up a train into Stuttgart. In Stuttgart, he'll hook up with the Vachuskas, who have been living in Hölzerlingen for the past few months. He'll be staying there, playing tourist and general Bum-about-Germany until the 5<sup>th</sup>. A friend of his at work loaned him a miniature, fully automatic, zoomable

of PP. Watch for some of his reviews in future issues.

**Susan Scobie** - Our Editor-in-chief contacted Susan to let her know he'd be flying through New York on his way back from Israel. Susan also will be writing for us in a future issue, although the subject matter at this time hasn't been determined.

camera that shoots half-frame pictures. There should be lots of pictures, and we'll try to include some in the next issue. After a short jaunt about Paris (if possible) it's time for a non-stop trip back to Los Angeles. Oh Boy! Fourteen straight hours on a plane! He just can't wait.

Steve is reportedly looking forward to this trip (with its own mini-vacation at the end), and will file a full report with PP upon his return.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: This trip was cancelled only one week before Steve was scheduled to leave. Due to heightened

See **ISRAEL** page 8

LUDLAM from page 1

When contacted about this unusual practice of buying many copies of the same novel, Mr. Parker said "It's not what you think. I don't collect the novels or anything as complex as that. I just keep leaving the books in the pocket on the back of the airline seats, and always at a part in the book where I have to know what happens next."

Mr. Parker went on to confirm that he has purchased "more than two" copies of The Chancellor Manuscript, but wouldn't provide a specific number. "It was a little embarrassing when I left the first copy, a little frustrating when I left the second one, and went downhill from there."

"Don't worry, though, I won't tell if you don't." was his last comment of the interview. Alas, this reporter felt it necessary to bring it to the attention of the public anyway.

ISRAEL from page 1

security in the Gulf area after the war, the government could not process his security application in time for the trip. It remains possible that the trip will happen at a later date.]

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## Not Israel, but England!

SUMBUDY ELS - ANONOMOUS AUTHOR

Santa Barbara - Instead of Israel, Steve appears to be on his way to London and "somewhere in Germany". He hasn't been able to confirm all the details yet, but the rumors are that he's going to England to help set up a Support Center (based on his vast experience of over two weeks in his new job as Support Services Manager). Based on what's supposed to be happening in Germany, he may still team up with the Vachuskas in Stuttgart for a couple days. [EDITOR'S NOTE : We don't know if the two little dots are supposed to appear above the "u" in Stuttgart, but they sure look neat, don't they!]

The trip should be interesting and, if he actually goes on this one, we will force him to turn in a story for the next issue of Parker Press. If he does not go, we'll have him

make up something about the previous trip he took to beautiful downtown Torrance (deep in the heart of southern Los Angeles) and Burbank (deep in the heart of northern Los Angeles).

It does seem like the time of year for travel. In Softool alone, Steve just got back from Torrance / Burbank and is on his way to London and Germany, Gary (roommate) and Roni (his girlfriend) are on their way to Hawaii, Pete's in Ft. Lauderdale, Tom's on his way to Germany, Doug's going to seemingly every city in the USA, Carlo's is going to South Africa, and those are only the people we know about now! Who knows what else could be happening?



# Texas Roads (not Rose!)

S.H. HOWDY - SAN ANTONIO TIMES

San Antonio - In a scathing letter to the Texas Department of Transportation, an irate motorist let fly his feelings towards the proliferation of one-way roads, freeway on-ramps and general construction taking place around the San Antonio area. This motorist was spotted by various public officials traveling the wrong way down one way streets, doing an illegal U-turn on a freeway onramp, and more.

"The only place I've ever been that was in worse shape was just outside Logan Airport in Boston", the motorist said, when contacted by the Parker Press.

Apparently the motorist does not feel this is a local problem, as he also said "... Dallas and Houston are in just as bad of shape. It's a bad experience driving anywhere in this state. Not to mention the fact that the Texas Police can use radar on the freeways." "Get me back to the uncontrolled chaos of California."

**This box intentionally left non-blank  
so I would send this rather than wait  
another day!**

New Jobs from page 3

to switch.

When contacted about this new job offering, his boss said "We needed him to get Support Services back on it's feet more than we needed him to train people."

Starting towards the end of August, Mark will be responsible for the proper education of the 6<sup>th</sup> graders at Pioneer School. Mark is reportedly a little upset about having to leave his previous jobs (Playing chef, driving a train at the state fair, temporary clerical work, digging in peoples basements, attending school, and about anything else he could get his hands on) for this new job, but will be great at this new position. Mark has a knack for teaching, and in an effort to gather all knowledge about the profession, has moved his family in with two "life-time teachers" as an understudy.

Both Steve and Mark are excited, and at the same time apprehensive, about these new careers. We all know they'll do a fantastic job.

# Jokes, Trivia and Puzzles

A collection of items that will guarantee this newsletter ends up in the bathroom

Anon-Threevampires went into saloon and bellied up to the bar. "What'll you have?" the bartender asked.

"I'll have a glass of blood." the first replied.

"I'll have a glass of blood, too, please." said the second.

"I'll have a glass of plasma." said the third.

"OK, let me get this straight," the bartender said. "That'll be two bloods and a blood light?"

Anon - What's the difference between American pilots and Iraqi pilots? American pilots break ground and fly into the wind.

Mom - A battered man walked into a doctor's office.

"What happened to you?" asked the doctor.

"I was in church, sitting right behind this fat lady, and when we stood up, her dress was stuck in her crack, so I pulled it out, and she decked me." he replied.

The following week, the same man returned, and the doctor asked what happened this time.

"My friend and I went to church, and the same fat lady sat in front of us. When we stood up, her dress was stuck again, and my friend pulled it out."

"But that doesn't explain what happened to you" the doctor said.

"I knew she didn't want it out, so I stuck it back in for her" the man said.

Mom again - A lady was just stepping into the shower when the doorbell rang. Rather than get dressed, she walked up to the front door and said "Who is it?"

"I'm the blind man" said the man behind the door.

Figuring that he couldn't see anyway, she opened the door and let him in.

As he walked in the door, he said "Nice boobs lady, here's your blinds."

How many slogans can you identify?

- 1 The White Tornado
- 2 The Wings of Man
- 3 Building a Better Way to See the USA
- 4 Better Ideas Make Better Cars
- 5 We Try Harder
- 6 You've Got a Lot to Live
- 7 The World's Most Experienced Airline
- 8 Fighting Cavities is the Whole Idea
- 9 The Quicker Picker Upper
- 10 Long Distance is the Next Best Thing to Being There
- 11 Better Things for Better Living... Through Chemistry
- 12 America's Most Misunderstood Soft Drink
- 13 Fly the Friendly Skys
- 14 It's the Real Thing
- 15 The Breakfast of Champions

See **Answers to Slogans** pg 11

# Jokes, Trivia and Puzzles

A collection of items that will guarantee this newsletter ends up in the bathroom

Each block below represents a saying or well-known phrase. Good Luck! (See **Answers to Drawings** at right)

**Answers to Slogans**  
from page 10

**Example:** Man overboard  
MAN  
BOARD

**1**  
WHEATHER

**2**  
PRE4SS

**3**  
0  
MD BA PhD

**4**  
NIGHT FLY

**5**  
DANC  
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ETNO

**6**  
SEARCH  
  
AND

**7**  
OHOLENE

**8**  
ROAD

**9**  
agb

**10**  
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**11** N  
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U  
B  
YOUR  
COAT

**12**  
HISTORY  
HISTORY  
HISTORY

**13** FALL ALOHA  
SUMMER HI  
WINTER HELLO  
SPRING SHALOM

1. Ajax
2. Eastern Airlines
3. Chevrolet
4. Mercury
5. Avis
6. Pepsi
7. Pan Am
8. Crest
9. Bounty Paper Towels
10. Bell Telephone
11. DuPont
12. Dr. Pepper
13. United Airlines
14. Coca-Cola
15. Wheaties

**Answers to Drawings**  
from page 11

1. A bad spell of weather
2. Foreign Press
3. 3 degrees below zero
4. Fly by night
5. Square dance contest
6. Search high and low
7. Hole in One
8. Middle of the road
9. A mixed bag
10. Short of breath
11. Button up your overcoat.
12. History repeats itself
13. Seasons greetings

Steve Parker  
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