



Reprinted with permission from cartoonist CHRIS BRITT- Springfield, Il., State Journal-Register

letters

**Kiel saved—finally**

Really enjoyed the two articles on Kiel Opera House in the last issue (SJR May/June)

I've enjoyed Roy Malone and Joe Pollack's work for years and I know one (Joe) was a heck of a softball player.

Just two comments from Kiel man. I never claimed to be responsible for reopening Kiel Opera House. I do claim the responsibility for saving it. And there is a difference. All hail to Dave Checketts.

And, I dont think it was the 'powers that be' who did this. I think it was a man 'from the outside' who saw something that had to be corrected.

**Ed Golterman**  
Kirkwood

**Remembering the Globe strike**

It did not surprise me that the

50th anniversary of the Newspaper Guild strike against the old St. Louis Globe-Democrat went without mention in the last two issues of your publication. I write to correct the oversight.

The strike to obtain a guaranteed secured pension plan began Feb. 21, 1959, and concluded the following May 27. If you would, please get out your rubber type and squeeze this couple of inches of respectful reflection into your letters column to mark the forgotten anniversary of what—at the time—was a cause noble enough for 300 union members to walk picket lines for 14 weeks.

I was chairman of the Globe-Democrat unit during the strike. I left St. Louis for the Twin cities in 1962, was subsequently managing editor of the old St. Paul Dispatch, and retired 19 years ago as associate editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press.

**W. F. (Bill) Cento**  
West St. Paul, MN

off the record

**Critics endangered**



Watching the community of cultural critics (movie, theater, music, books, art, etc.) dwindle over the last few years makes me feel as though I'm one of the passengers milling around the deck of the Titanic.

I'm not an objective reporter, either. A piece of me fell into the ocean recently when KWMU's axe-wielders decided they had better uses for my paltry paycheck as movie and theater critic and sacked me after 15 years. All the station's commentators are now unpaid; it has abandoned local theater and film reviews.

But critics are under fire from both ends of the spectrum. Newspapers are shrinking and cutting staff, and the Antoinette Perry Awards people, who annually honor Broadway theater, decided that they no