

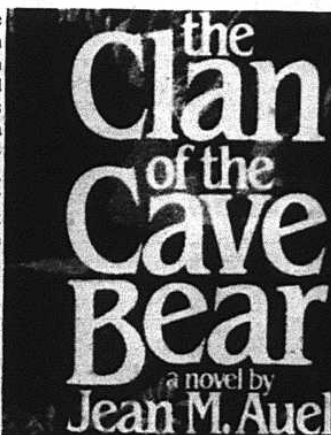
Auel's *Clan of the Cave Bear* shows prejudice is not a new concept

by Heather Kirby

Can you imagine being five years old and living happily with your family? That is, until an earthquake leaves you orphaned and left to wonder in the woods by yourself to survive. After a week of starvation, near dehydration, and an attack by a vicious animal, your young body finally gives in and begins to accept death. Just as you are on the verge of your last breath, you are found by the medicine woman of a cave-man clan. She begins to heal your mangled, weakened, starved body.

This is exactly what Aayla, the main character of Jean Auel's *The Clan of the Cave Bear*, a book set in the prehistoric times, suffers through and survives

In the book, Aayla is adopted into the cave bear clan by the medicine women and the magic man. Her strange blonde hair and blue eyes does not go unnoticed by the rest of the clan, but through many courageous acts she begins



continues to break the rules in their structured society, eventually inspiring some of the women to rise up against the chauvinism of their mates.

Not only does Aayla gain the respect of her adopted family, she also gains the hatred and jealousy of the cave bear clan's future leader, Brun. She begins to suffer through daily acts of jealousy wrought beatings. But slowly she begins to cope with her struggles.

The Clan of the Cave Bear is a very enlightening book about a young girl who struggles through every page. From her you can learn an important lesson: Never be ashamed of who or what you are.

to gain the love and respect of the clansmen.

As Aayla is accepted by the people she begins to test the limits of the chauvinistic society by hunting which is forbidden to all women by the great spirits. She

Car Maintenance...

from page 6

A few minor repairs and adjustment and her Cavalier was back on the road and running smoothly.

Keeping your car clean inside and out will also help to improve its looks and smell. Many types of road debris can cause more damage than meets the eye. Usually damage the paint on your vehicle, and rust any bare metal that may be exposed.

Other things such as tree sap, bugs, gasoline, and the "harmless" shaving cream your buddies put on your car at that party will also ruin that shiny detail work.

Be careful not to wash your car obsessively though, because excessive washing and waxing will damage the finish of the vehicle as well.

Keeping the parts you don't see, such as battery connections, engine, and other things under the hood clean will lengthen the life of your vehicle and help keep it in overall good shape.

Following these simple steps to car maintenance will make your driving experiences better, safer, and less expensive in the long run.

They may even save you from that long, cold, lonely walk down a deserted country road.

What kind of things would you like to see on our Arts & Entertainment page? Write The Rocket and give us your ideas!

Winter Driving... from page 6

Driving in winter weather can be dangerous, but if you get stuck, not driving may be the most dangerous. If you have to run the engine, make sure the exhaust pipe is clear of snow and that there is adequate ventilation inside the car.

Hopefully your trip to McDonald's and wherever else you decide to go this winter will be safe. Just remember these simple tips, as well as a few general rules (always wear your seatbelt and keep gas in your car) and you should get through this winter safely.



"It's a dirty job being ridiculous, but I'll do it." --Cher

Project Graduation was created to provide an alcohol/drug-free alternative to the traditional drinking parties that seem to have become the accepted form of celebration following graduation. Far too often, the future of young adult lives and their special events have been marred by the tragedy of drinking and driving crashes. We hope to implement a drug/alcohol-free celebration in our community to prevent such tragedies.

We are planning our annual Project Graduation party as a joint school, family, community, church, and business project. We have been very successful with this effort for 13 years. We see this as an exciting opportunity to provide a drug/alcohol-free, wholesome, and safe graduation celebration for the young people of the Class of 2000.

There are no public funds for this project, and we must raise the full amount from donations. We are hoping that the Rockcastle County businesses and churches will help us carry out this event. Monetary donations for the celebration are needed (before April 1, if possible) and greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, you may contact Myrna Childress at 256-2125 or Ms. Ruth Allen at 256-4816.

Please help us make Project Graduation 2000 a huge success.

Sincerely,

Project Graduation Committee

