

Leon Barnard



Paul Konopacki

Saturday - September 22, 1984

The man who travels cross country
in a caravan of one
is always alone in unfamiliar
places
where he is no longer
a general
to anyone in particular.

Dear Paul,

I did receive your letter of
July 42 9 (try 24th - typewriter flub)
and it's taken me awhile to get back to
writing, but since i just bought a new ribbon
i'll make space for a few lines and try to bring
you up to date as to what's happening with me out
here on the west coast. I'm at the ranch in Solvang
again after having completed my stay housesitting in
in Long Beach this summer. While there i befriended, if that's
the word for it, a rather handsome & charming, well mannered
young man of 19 from the east coast, who i hired to help me
in some window washing jobs. He need- ed a place to stay and so i
obliged gladly enjoying the fruits of a short summer's fling. On
the last day prior to the arrival of the homeowners, my friend skipt
town unannounced taking all the cash from my wallet as well as dipping
into the jewelry of my friends--all within a five minute period as i
was showering. It was a disappointment to say the least, and it did put me in
a slight psychological tailspin as i had banked on his trustworthiness, as i
have others in my not too distant past. I recovered quickly though, and life has
brought to me a new set of somewhat more favourable circumstances.

Two years in a row Coca-Cola
lance photographer's job shooting
even though i did shoot them with
due to an awkward inadequacy to
to art--and the art of making
shot a Baseball Skills
orders for enlargements
participating children
now, and the soccer
Company of Los Angeles has offered me a free-
pictures at Children's Soccer Skills Events, and
my trusty Canon, i turned down the offer of money
to deal realistically with economics as it pertains
a living. This year i accepted. Two weeks ago today i
Contest held at Dodger Stadium, and now i am busy filling
not only for Coke & The Dodgers, but for the parents of the
as well. And all is well. I feel good about what i'm doing
contests are to be held here in November/December.

I'm just run- ning right through this letter without editing or correction, other-
wise i probably wouldn't even write it. I hope it makes a semblance of sense to you
and that you get my gist. Anyway, we'll keep up the attempts, you & i, to at least
keep open some line of some kind of communication. Right now i'm at the ranch, and
even tho i expect to go south next week for a few days, i will be returning shortly,
so if you feel like writing, --do! In the care of Jackie Arine - Sun Country Farm
2150 Alamo Pintado Rd Solvang 93463 Ca.

See you then,

Jon