

news

Nanny

con't from page 4

Kay gave explicit instructions on how the cleaning and housework was to be done, and demonstrated to F. how she wanted things done. This continued for 2 days until the two older children (4 and 6 years old) left for summer camp for two weeks, leaving only the very young baby. "I just spent the entire time cleaning," says F.

F. also learned of another chore that had to be done, but not one previously outlined by her boss. Not a single person in the house would ever flush the toilet after use. The children used to use the bathroom and then tell "Girlie" to go flush it. F. quickly stopped even looking, and just flushed the toilets all the time. "It was really fucking gross. It was really strange considering how meticulous and spotless Kay wanted the house. How could she ever expect the kids to learn to flush the toilet?" says F.

Other chores for F. included waxing the hall, kitchen and three bathroom floors every day.

The room F. was given to live in was a closet in the basement that was 10 by 10 without a proper door, and her privacy was violated in this room as Kay did go through her things once.

F. was expected to be back at the house at 10 pm as that was the time the family put the security alarm on. "If I didn't make it back by 10 pm, I was expected to find somewhere else to sleep, as they wouldn't let me back in," says F. This left her only 3 hours to explore Montreal, and downtown was over half an hour away. Furthermore, she had to work an average of 3 weeknights which she was not paid for.

Weekend Trips

The family also went away on weekend vacations to which F. had to come. F. viewed her weekends as a

complete freedom because "I had to get out". While forced to work on the weekend trips, she had to clean mice droppings from the floor of the trailer, clean the dead bugs from the front grill of the trailer, and scour every interior surface. She was also made to serve meals and drinks to family guests in the trailer. All this time her supposed primary concern, the children, were in camp.

Even when the children got back Kay still did not trust F. alone with them. "I had no leeway to do anything with the children other than preventing them from hurting themselves. Even when Kay asked me to take them out to the park or something, she was mad when I returned with the kids because I had not completed my cleaning chores." The only time Kay really supervised was with the baby at night, for which F. was not responsible.

Towards the end though, when it was apparent that F. was not going to

stay after the 2 month term, Kay treated F. with more respect, and started to improve the relations. F. feels that Kay was genuinely sorry that she was leaving because it meant going through the entire breaking-in process again with a new girl. F. did manage to speak with another nanny down the street who said that this family had gone through a different nanny every two months for the last two years. (The company had told F. that the family had had three Nova Scotia Nanny's previously in the last three years). This other nanny's privileges included unlimited long distance phone calls, days off, and even use of a car. Obviously, it all depends on the way the family expects to treat you.

Afterwards

F. views her experience as a nanny as beneficial in that she learned to judge and adapt to working condi-

tions, and that she learned what conditions she will not work under. "I won't do that again...I wouldn't live it again because you can't get out and you have no life. I would have to know the family and not be treated like a cheap maid service where the ratio of work to childcare is 90% to 10%."

She also suggests to check out the company and its policy thoroughly.

"Don't just take the company's work. They're more interested in pushing you through to get a post. They're not interested in childcare, they just get money for filling positions."

F. still doesn't understand why the family didn't get a maid instead, because they could have easily afforded it. "I still don't know what the hell I did with the kids. All I did was clean clean clean with a baby on my back."

BURGESS TRAVEL AIR FARES



TORONTO	from 198	HONGKONG	from 1449
BOSTON	from 209	BANGKOK	from 1569
LONDON	from 538	SINGAPORE	from 1499
CALIFORNIA	from 569	AUSTRALIA	from 1599
AMSTERDAM	from 598	NEW ZEALAND	from 1429

The above fares are subject to availability and advance purchase rules. The fares vary according to departure date and are in effect Sept. 28/92. Fares are subject to change without notice.

CHRISTMAS 1992

Tampa & Orlando Dec. 19/20
Air only from 579 packages from 739 ppdbl.

Cancun Dec. 18 Air only from 659
packages from 1099 ppdbl.

Halifax 425-6110
1505 Barrington St. Maritime Centre
New Toll Free In N.S. 1-800-421-1345
Liverpool 354-5400 Bridgetown 665-4812

OPEN SATURDAY 9-5

FLAMINGO
Cafe & Lounge

OPEN MIKE
Every Monday night

MOXY FRÜVOUS

Oct 1-3 Thurs-Sat \$5 The second appearance of Toronto's quasi-a Capella quartet who combine satirical verse, beautifully textured harmonies, guerrilla theatrics and non-traditional instrumentation into a rollicking entertainment package that is a cross between the Nylons and the Barenaked Ladies.

**WEASEL FACED JUDGE
STONE DELTA & TALL POPPIES**

Oct 7 Wed \$3 Three unique local independent bands rock the house.

ANDREW CASH

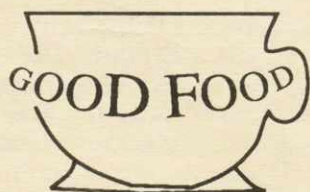
Oct 8-10 Thurs \$5 Fri-Sat \$8 After two years of writing, recording and fatherhood, Andrew Cash returns to reclaim his position as one of Canada's pre-eminent punk/folk/rock singer-songwriters. Andrew spent five years with Toronto's punksters L'Etranger & three years as a solo artist with Island Records.

Barrington at Spring Garden • info 420-1061 *SmithsRecordMan*

CITY CENTRE ATLANTIC

DRESDEN ROW
NORTH OF SPRING GARDEN
ROAD

4 2 0 - 8 8 8 8



EXCELLENT PRICES

* offer expires Oct. 15/92



* Present this ad when you
BUY ONE Halifax-Style
Smoked Meat Sandwich
GET the SECOND for a
L O O N I E ! !

***** "WOW"

SHEARLOGIC
Hairstyling

WELCOME BACK
STUDENTS!

Come and see us at
our new southend
location

Women \$15.00
Men \$10.00
shampoo, cut and
style gst included

All of our staff are
master hairstylists

Fenwick Medical Centre
5595 Fenwick Street
492-4715