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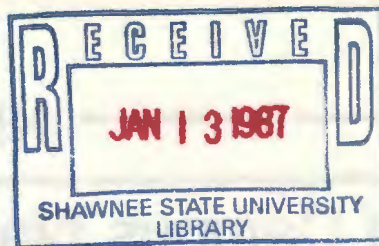


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Shawnee

FOR REFERENCE

**Do Not Take
From This Room**

Student suffers

fatal heart attack

Details on page

Star

The student voice at Shawnee State

Portsmouth, Ohio

Volume 3 Issue 14

January 12, 1987



SOCF—SITE OF Shawnee State University's Tecumseh Branch.

Tecumseh Campus plans for heep-big changes

by Cindy Snipes

Many students and faculty are unaware that SSU has an extension at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF) in Lucasville. The extension is part of the learning center, which is known as the Tecumseh Campus.

A select number of teachers commute from SSU to SOCF to teach approximately 165 students. Teaching is done in a typical classroom setting. Day and evening classes are offered five days a week. This allows the student to further his education and obtain degrees for when he is released.

Shawnee State is in the process of changing from a

two-year community college to a four-year university. George Alexander, director of the Department of Treatment, says SOCF is also planning to expand its curriculum to four years.

A media teaching hookup from SSU to SOCF is also planned. The media hookup will consist of a teacher at SSU in a media room with closed circuit television. In the media room there will be a camera to transmit the lesson to SOCF so the students can watch the teacher on television. There will also be a camera at SOCF to transmit the students' images back to the teacher. This allows the students to ask the teacher

questions. The media hookup between SOCF and SSU will expand the amount of teachers and classes offered. "This all depends on money," says Alexander. "There will need to be supervision during media classes for security reasons."

John Shupert, instructor, agreed with Alexander's statement. "I feel it is a good possibility but foresee problems with it if there isn't supervision during that time," says Shupert.

Students at SOCF felt it would be productive on a limited basis. "I feel it would be productive on a limited basis, but if it just

Tecumseh Campus plans for heep-big changes



DIFFERENT ANGLES OF SOCF. Inmates here have the opportunity to receive college credit while serving their sentences.

meant media teaching I would be totally against it," says Derek Farmer, student.

All plans for the media hookup between SSU and SOCF are pending.

Classes are available to most of the inmates at SOCF. "Anyone is eligible for school at SOCF except those in maximum lock up," says Alexander. "They are not allowed to attend due to obvious reasons of uptight discipline."

Alexander feels that the education the inmates receive is a "favorable element in rehabilitation." He says it helps them stay busy and boost their morale by giving the inmate a feeling of self-esteem.

Derek Farmer, Pre-Law major, as of this quarter has 111 credit hours with a 3.44 gpa. Farmer wants to continue his education through SSU depending on the electives offered in a higher degree.

Farmer wants to follow his



education in legal work when he gets out. While in SOCF he has helped other inmates with legal matters.

"Teachers here are good teachers because they relate and care," says Farmer. "There has been a few who would joke and not

teach," he said. "That was a waste in our situation."

He felt those who were in the work force in their field and taught gave an added dimension to their teaching. "They would associate the knowledge with their ability," he said. "I feel knowledge whether in or out of prison helps me understand myself better."

Richard Griffith is SSU's clerk at SOCF. At this time he has a Business Management degree, an Associate of Science degree, and an Associate of Art Degree in Individual Studies through SSU with a 3.9 gpa. "I was never interested in business management until I took a course," says Griffith. "It changed my whole career goal."

As college clerk for SSU, Griffith handles all paper work. If any inmate has interest in school he helps them apply for grants.

Griffith feels school has a positive affect on inmates. "Usually after their first quarter they will go into class with an attitude to work and achieve," he says. "Teachers have to first change their attitudes; instead of pessimistic to optimistic." He explains that there are those who really want an education but there are some who come just to take up time and make money. Students at SOCF are paid \$16 a month for going to school.

"We appreciate teachers that make us work harder," says Griffith. "We may grumble but it is worth it."

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Battle of the Bands Committee Meets

by Jackie Kratzenberg

The Battle of the Bands Committee met January 4, at the home of committee member Mark Powell. The purpose of the Battle of the Bands is to promote the development of new area talents through contests, concerts, and public exposure. The activities will also provide students with live entertainment for social activities and dances. The Battle of the Bands committee also hopes to develop outside interest through these activities.

Committee vice-president and public relations representative Mike Powell says, "A battle of the bands gives aspiring musicians a chance to get out and test their talent while competing against other musicians in a concert setting."

Several items were discussed concerning the event.



awarding certificates to all participants and giving t-shirts and possibly money prizes to the winners. It was also suggested that the overall winner be given the opportunity to play at the proposed SSU Spring Festival 87'.

Other possible activities under discussion are lip sync and air guitar contests in between sets. The possibility of bringing in solo performers to do non-judged acoustic sets was also discussed.

The date set for the first Battle of the Bands was tentatively set for Friday, February 6. SSU students will be admitted free with student I.D. and non-student prices will be \$2.00. Applications for bands may be obtained from Mike Powell in the Star office or from Committee president Terry Noel at the SG office. Deadline for entry is January 26.

Other committee members include: Bo Henderson, Scott Mullins, and Michelle Medlin.



The committee decided that the contest will be open to both amateur and semi-pro bands only.

The status of each individual band will be decided at the discretion of the committee.

The committee plans to provide a PA system and microphones. Bands will be responsible for providing their own instruments (including drums), cords, and amps.

Judging will be done by the committee members, all of whom have an extensive background in music and conducting live performances. Contestants will be judged in four separate point categories, which have been tentatively set as follows: originality, stage presence, performance, and crowd reaction. Possible prizes discussed were

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ISA drive planned

by Terry Noel

The Shawnee State University Student section of the Instrument Society of America is now conducting a membership enrollment drive.

All students pursuing degrees in Instrumentation and other technologies are urged to join this beneficial organization. Annual membership fees are five dollars, and you will enjoy all the benefits offered by the society. Members will also have the opportunity to meet with potential employers, receive discounts on specialized publications, and to participate in ISA sponsored events.

One familiar ISA event is the Scioto County Science Fair for students in grades 5 thru 12. This event is co-sponsored by Engineering Technologies and Math Sciences. This is the second year that the ISA has been involved in this popular event.

Additional information or applications may be obtained by contacting Ed Scott, ISA member faculty advisor, in room 200 of the Vern Riffe Technology and Industry (T&I) Building.



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St. Gov't. Special Meeting

by Bo Henderson

and Barbie Lyons

The Shawnee State Student Government met Wednesday, Jan. 7 for a special meeting. The meeting was their first meeting of the Winter Quarter. The SG had planned to meet on Tuesday, Jan. 6, at their usual meeting time. The original meeting was postponed due to problems in several SG members' class schedules. The SG had decided during the Fall Quarter to schedule their classes so they could meet at the usual meeting time. The SG will decide on a permanent meeting time at the next meeting.

Other than scheduling, topics at the SG meeting include group counseling, SSU students being admitted to the Columbia theater free of charge, and the upcoming Battle of the Bands event.

Paul Crabtree, counselor, requested input by the SG on counseling groups. He also says although students respond positively to having group counseling, few participate.

Crabtree says Fannie Madden-Grider and himself will be conducting another survey in the Star to determine what types of group counseling the students would prefer. Crabtree asked the SG for suggestions on group counseling topics. Among the topics the SG suggested for group counseling are: self confidence building, career, sex, drugs, alcohol, stress, single parenting, and marriage.

Darrell Andronis, SG member, said group marriage counseling is needed at SSU. "There are a lot of women who are going here to get an education to divorce their husbands", says Andronis.

Crabtree also said married students face a great deal of stress. "It creates family stress, one is progressing while the other stays the same", says Crabtree. Anyone interested in participating in support group counseling should sign up in the SG office.

Crabtree says the results of the University study conducted last year are in his office for

any interested students to view.

He says there is a wide variation in age among the students at SSU. Students between the age of 18 and 21 make up approximately 20 percent of

the student population. Students between the age of 21 and 29 make up approximately 30 percent and students between the age of 29 and 35 make up approximately 30 percent. Many in the last category are divorced, married, or single parents.

Lisa Copas, SG president, expressed concerns with single parenting. "I think single parenting is a big problem."

Crabtree also said there are two new videos in the counseling center available for students to review. They are Everything You Should Know About AIDS and Sexual Harassment On Campus.

The SG also discussed the agreement with the Columbia theater to admit SSU students free of charge. The SG were originally planning to pay the Columbia theater a lump sum of money to admit students free of charge during the Winter Quarter. The Columbia theater will be closed during the Winter Quarter due to the problem of heating.

Also on the agenda was the Battle of the Bands Committee. Terri Noel, committee president, requested funding for the first Battle of the Bands event (see story page 3). The funding consists of \$150 for rental of sound equipment, \$300 for assorted prizes, and \$500 for the rental of the Activities Center. "The primary cost is the Activities Center. We should get it for free or at least minimal cost", says Noel. "I think it's real outlandish".

Noel also said if the Battle of the Bands committee cannot rent the Activities Center, they may consider holding the event

somewhere else.

When asked about refreshments at the event, he said that Bonanza controls the serving of all refreshments on campus. "The SG should consider why does Bonanza have a lock on all refreshments?" says Noel.

The SG unanimously agreed to appropriate the funds Noel requested.

The next SG meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 13 at 4:00 p.m. in the board room. All interested may attend.

STAFF

Michelle Anderson
Thad Blizzard
Debbie Bradshaw
Scott Dickison
Howard Gemperline
David Glass
Bo Henderson
Peggy Hollis
Jim Humphrey
Deborah Jessee
Faye Keaton
Jackie Kratzenberg
Cindy Lavender
Larry Lute
Barbie Lyons
Clayton Madden Jr.
Michelle Medlin
Daniel Naylor
Terry Noel
Andy Osborne
Mark Powell
Mike Powell
Truman Throckmorton
Rick Vournazos
Linda White
Eric Zempter

with advice and
assistance by

Alvin Madden-Grider,
adviser
Fannie Madden-Grider,
adviser

Man dies in Massie

On Thursday, January 8, at approximately 6:00 p.m. John L. Benson, 67, a student in Mrs. Stakers French 11 class, suffered a fatal heart attack on the second floor stairwell of Massie Hall. Benson was found by Dave Andrews who immediately called for an ambulance. Joyce Tyler was also present and she began performing CPR until the ambulance arrived. An unidentified male assisted Tyler in the CPR. Another student, Beth Stevens, also assisted the two in CPR and when the ambulance finally arrived Benson was taken to Mercy Hospital where he was pronounced dead after some attempts at revival.

This is all the information we have at this present time. A follow-up story in next weeks paper.

footnotes footnotes footnotes

Future events

January 14—Rangerettes vs. West Virginia State College, 5:30 p.m. Home
—Rangers vs. Open

January 17—Rangerettes vs. Sinclair Community College, 2:00 p.m. Home
—Rangers vs. Sinclair Community College, 2:00 p.m. Away

January 19—Last day to add a class or apply for pass/fail
—Martin Luther King Day College Closed

January 20—Last day for full refund upon withdrawal or change order
—Rangerettes vs. Ohio University Chillicothe, 6:00 p.m. Away
—Introduction to Micro, Massie Room 215, 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

January 21—Public Utilities Commission Meeting concerning C & O Crossing, Massie Hall, Massie Auditorium, 10:00 a.m.

January 22—Rangers vs. Sue Bennett College, 7:00 p.m. Away

January 24—Rangerettes vs. Lakeland Community College, 2:00 p.m. Home
—Rangers vs. Northwestern Community College, 2:00 p.m. Away
—Registration for Winter Enrichment, Activity Center, 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

January 25—Rangers vs. Lakeland Community College, 4:00 p.m. Home

January 26—Late Registration for Winter Enrichment, Continuing Education Office, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
—Rangerettes vs. Open, 5:30 p.m., Home

January 27—Rangerettes vs. Cincinnati Bible College, 5:30 p.m. Home

—Rangers vs. Cincinnati Technical College, 7:30 p.m. Home

January 29—Introduction to Word Processing, 6-9 p.m., Massie Room 215

Teach English Composition Classes," evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of five types of programs that are presently being used for computer-assisted instruction in English: drill and practice, tutorial, dialogue, word processing, and text analysis.

GED Certificates

The Community Action Organization of Scioto County has awarded a grant of \$33,462 to Shawnee State University for the continuation of the institution's GED program. The allocation will allow for sixty-six individuals to take part in the program winter and spring quarters.

Committee meets

There will be a meeting of the Admissions Committee on Friday, December 12, at 8:30 a.m. in the Board Room.

Where possible, copies were distributed of the report on the admissions policies of the other 12 state universities in Ohio. Additional materials from the ACT are being sent and should be available at the meeting.

GED certificates

Thirty people received certificates for completing studies in the Fall Quarter General Education Development (GED) program held at Shawnee State University.

They were: Roberta Allgood, Connie Barnett, Rosemary Blair, Cliff Cowgill, Donna Cowgill, Danita Davidson, Nancy Dubois, Wanda Eldridge, Cathy Fitch, Billie Floyd, Deborah Graham, Donna Huffman, Karla Hurt, Cindy Kalb, William King, Veronica Koch, Faye McCleese, Barbara McGuire, Melvin McGuire, Bonnie Riddlebarger, Connie Sexton, Sharon Stephens, Christina Thomas, Mark Williams, and Charlotte Wright.

The ten-week course of study was offered in cooperation with the Community Action Organization and the Private Industry Council, funded through the Jobs Training Partnership Act (JTPA). It readied the participants for the high school equivalency examination given by Steve Midkiff at the University. Participant celebrated

completion of the program at the December Awards and Recognition Ceremony. Featured speaker at the ceremony was Private Industry Council Member, Mr. Don Sherman.

The next preparation course for the GED examination will begin January 5, 1987. For further information, please call Virginia Ramey, GED program coordinator, at 354-1571.

Tutors needed

Looking for field experience to add to your resume? Or if you enjoy helping others in a learning environment, Shawnee BASICS (Basic Adult Skills in a College Setting) needs you. We offer you a chance to work one-on-one with adults who are trying to grasp the basics of education. Some are non-readers, others are just brushing up on necessary skills for the GED. They all could benefit from your help.

We need tutors—daytime, evenings and Saturdays. If you've been awarded college work-study, ask to use it here in the learning center with Shawnee BASICS.

Anyone wanting to tutor, contact Barb Bradbury in the learning center.

Scholarships available

The following scholarships are available through the Ohio Society for Medical Technology for medical technology students who are Ohio residents attending Ohio Colleges or MT, MLT, CLT or CLS Programs:

OHIO SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY AWARDS:

Two scholarships of \$300 each, based on need and scholastic achievement.

GERELDINE DIEBLER AWARD:

One \$300 scholarship for a Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior having a cumulative G.P.A. of 2.5 who will apply to and enroll in a program of Medical Technology in District 1 (Akron-Canton area).

DELORES KREIS SCHOLARSHIP:

One \$300 scholarship to a student residing in one of the counties included in District 8 (Cincinnati area), based on financial need and scholastic achievement.

continued on page 6

Article Accepted

Kathleen Simon, Associate Professor of English at Shawnee State University, has had an article accepted for publication by the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC). The article, "Using Computers to

footnotes footnotes

continued from page 5

MELVIN OOSTING AWARD:
One \$300 scholarship based on need and scholastic achievement for a student who will guarantee enrollment in an accredited Medical Technology program in District 10 (Dayton area).

BETH BOWMAN AWARD:
One \$300 scholarship to be awarded to a student admitted to an AMA-approved School of Medical Technology in District 12 (Columbus area).

APPLICATIONS FOR THE ABOVE MAY BE OBTAINED FROM:
Carolyn G. Laemmle, Chairman
OSMT Scholarship Committee
5491 Mallard Drive
Cincinnati, OH 45247

Only one application is necessary for consideration for all awards for which an applicant is eligible.

REQUESTS FOR APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FEBRUARY 15, 1987.

Studies completed

Officials at SSU have recently received word that 23 participants in the fall quarter GED program have earned the Ohio Certificate of High School Equivalence (GED certificate). They are: Roberta Allgood, Donna K. Cowgill, Danita Davidson, Catherine E. Fitch, Deborah L. Graham, Cynthia J. Kalb, Clara F. McCleese, Karen S. Penix, Jena C. Rewakowsky, Connie S. Sexton, and Sharon K. Stephens all of Portsmouth, Cliff Cowgill, Bonnie S. Milstead, and Mark E. Williams of West Portsmouth, Rose M. Blair, Nancy J. DuBois, and Donna A. Huffman of Wheelersburg, Vicky Easthas of Franklin Furnace, Wanda L. Eldridge of Sciotoville, Carla K. Hurt of Lucasville, Veronica S. Koch of Otway, Andy E. Osborne of McDermott, and Brenda K. Wilkinson of Waverly.

The certificate is awarded to those who earned a passing score on the test of General Education Development. To date, 185 Scioto County residents have earned the GED through Shawnee's program, and 79 have gone on to college.

Shawnee State offers the ten-week preparation course each academic year, and this winter 36 students are enrolled. The class

is sponsored by the Private Industry Council and the Community Action Organization and is funded by J.T.P.A.

Interested individuals are invited to contact GED program coordinator, Virginia Ramey, at 354-1571 for further information.



SPE meeting

SPE members
Columbus chapter meeting of
SPE is January 20. Make
reservations before January 13.

Gaming Society meeting

The first Winter Quarter meeting of the Southern Ohio Gaming Society will be this Thursday, Jan. 15 at 4:30 in the Student Union building. If you have any questions please call Todd or Steve at 353-1790.

SOCF Dean's List

The Dean's List for the Shawnee State University program at SOCF has been published. Students earning a 3.5 GPA or better for the quarter are recognized.

Students earning a 4.0 GPA are Abraham T. Nader, Michael D. Bradenstein, Mark E. Grove, Freddie L. Hickman, Jeffrey R. Howard, Jeffrey A. Rumbold and James K. Stansberry.

Other students on the Dean's List with a GPA of at least 3.5 include Wayne R. Blankenship, Randall R. Buerger, Clarence R. Carlisle, Kevin P. Cruise, Ralph E. Dean, Larbi Elrhazoui, Daniel R. Emch, Christopher A. Estep, Derek A. Farmer, Aaron E. Goodin, John A. Hall, Juan L. Hernandez, Jerry W. Howard, John Johnson, Calvin A. Jones, Phillip W.



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Upcoming Intramural Events

by Merle Kidwell

The winter quarter intramural program is just about to get underway. Intramural Director, Tom Bowman says, "We felt good about our intramural program last quarter. We are striving for an even better turnout this quarter. We are hoping to have less time-consuming events this quarter."

A three-on-three basketball tournament is planned and will be co-sponsored by the Schick Razor Co. and the Shawnee State University Intramural Department.

Schick will give each participant a small travel bag and free razors. The winning male and female teams will represent SSU in the district at Columbus. The top two teams from Columbus will play during halftime of a Cleveland Cavaliers game. "We want the three best people to represent SSU at Columbus. We will buy the winners sweats or shoes and a uniform for the competition," said Bowman. Games will be at noon or between three and four. Register at the

Natatorium by January 20.

Other upcoming events include a racketball tourney for both men and women. There will be an A and B flight. Times will be announced. A tug-o-war tournament will also be held. Five men or five women teams will compete at noon in the gym. A co-ed free throw competition will be held in the gym. Top combined score will be the champions. The deadline for registering for these events is January 20.

NEWS

The *Star* wants to know

Collected by

Thad Blizzard

What contests would you like to see or participate in between sets at the Battle of the Bands Festival ?

Mud wrestling.
Keith Adams
Business Management
Minford

A wet T-shirt contest.
Alan Boyer
Business Management
Minford

You could have musical trivia questions with the winner awarded an album.
Merle Collins
Nursing
Wheelersburg

A hot legs contest.
Stan Ferguson
Business Management
Wheelersburg

Singing groups. Mud wrestling sounds good, too!
Mary Jackson
Business Management
New Boston

I'd like to see frog races.
Amy Lightfoot
Dental Hygiene
Portsmouth

A turkey shoot.
Paul Madden
Education
Minford

A goldfish-eating contest.
Gwen Stidham
Elem. Ed.
W. Portsmouth

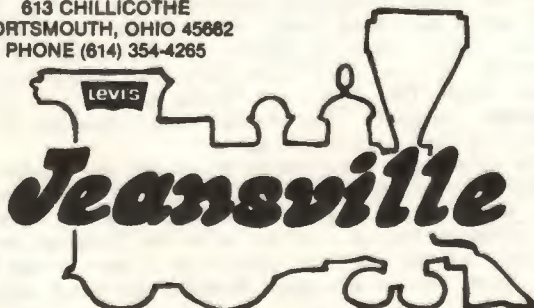
A sub-eating or a lip sync contest.
Rita Schaeffer
Nursing
South Webster

A beer-chugging contest, maybe?
Kelly Sissel
Physical Therapy
W. Portsmouth

A raw egg-eating contest would be neat.
Jody Stevens
Biology
West Union

A best buns contest for the men.
Bev Tadlock
English
Manchester

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My years with the shade tree philosophers

During the years I was growing up, I spent many hours listening to shade-tree philosophers. On Sundays we would either visit someone, or else someone would visit us. Our family ate very few Sunday dinners alone. Several of dad's friends were older men who were old enough to be my Grandad. Dad and his friends always had long, deep conversations. They discussed business and political ideas and theories from local to worldwide. They also analyzed every car that has been built, and every brand of cigarette. They discussed religious beliefs, moral and ethical values, and women. They



Commentary by

Clayton Madden, Jr.




told tales of old, and made predictions for the future. They discussed everything the human mind could imagine, and they discussed it at length and leisurely. No one was in a hurry. After all, this was rest day. We'll have a long hard week ahead of us. Let's enjoy today! This was the prevailing sentiment. I spent many summer hours in the shade listening intensely to their philosophy. In the winter, I spent many of the same hours around the stove. We would all smoke Bugler and Prince Albert cigarettes as we passed away the hours. I mostly listened. I didn't feel capable of saying much. I respected the older men, and I wished to learn from them. After all, grandad always said, "Keep your ears open and your mouth shut, and you'll not only know what you know, but what the other person knows as well."

Dad believed in letting little boys run around with men. This was good training for us from the beginning. I carried this practice over into the raising of my kids. During the tobacco market season, we would sometimes have to sleep in the "Dog House" at the warehouse. Dad would get involved in conversation with some stranger, and I'd have a new philosopher to listen to all night.

One old philosopher that I listened to all my life was Ed Colley. He was a very wise man in many ways. He was a close family friend, so I was always listening to him. He had a simple effective way of getting to the essence of a matter. He knew how to flavor philosophy with humor. Jokes were an integral part of the conversation. One of his comments that I'll never forget came only a couple years before his death. He was an old man in his 90's hobbling along on a cane. We were burying my aunt at the time. Ed came walking across the graveyard. We were about to gather at the graveside and finish the service. Someone walked over to Mr. Colley and said, "How are you Ed?" He laughed quietly and replied, "I'm just flirting with the undertaker." He knew he had used up his days, and he could laugh about the coming of his days of death. No one can really enjoy life until they come to terms with death. When it comes time for me to cross the great divide, I hope I can welcome it as a new experience. I hope I can say along with the Apostle Paul, "I know whom I have believed, and I am confident that he will keep what I have committed unto him against that day. I am now ready to be offered."

Today we are sticking our old people in rest homes to die alone. There is an abundance of wisdom going to waste. The kids should set at their feet, and learn of their wisdom. My advice to everyone is to spend as much time as possible at the feet of an old person. Respect them, and partake of their wisdom.

So long for now.

letters  letters  letters  letters  letters

Tecumseh Branch student expresses thanks

To the Star:

I am a student at Shawnee's Tecumseh Branch Campus at SOCF. I was impressed with your recent visit and decided to write the Star and express an opinion regarding the positive impact this visit has made on many of the students here.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that there has been an aura of excitement spreading among us from the moment we first discovered your very surprising visit! I would say there are several reasons for this, and no doubt each individual has his own unique impression of your visit and the Star, however, I would also say there is a singularly important aspect of your visit held in common by all of the students here; namely, the inspiration and positive reinforcement you brought. It is difficult to explain this point clearly, but perhaps I could best illustrate it by saying that when you visited us it was in many ways a sort of

beacon whose light was an unspoken message. A message to those of us here that if we are willing to work at succeeding and apply ourselves to the task of becoming socially responsible citizens, there is a world out there ready to encourage and assist.

No less than a dozen fellow students have remarked to me just today that they thought it was super that the Star was taking an interest in the Tecumseh Campus! You folks sure know how to put some life into a bunch of guys.

In closing, I'd like to thank you for coming and encourage you to visit us again soon! Also, should the Star, now or in the future, have any interest in establishing a liaison with the Tecumseh Branch Campus, please do not hesitate to call on me if I may serve you in any way. Bidding you peace and all good thing, I am.

Sincerely,
Christopher A. Estep

Rainmakers: cynical rockers from Kansas City



THE RAINMAKERS

(Mercury)

One of the criteria by which I judge good rock and roll is how much fun it sounds like the performers are having while they are performing it. When I first heard the Rainmakers' "Let My People Go-Go", it sounded to me like they were having one helluva lot of fun. The song contained tongue-in-cheek lyrics surrounded by the basic guitar/bass/drums rock and roll instrumentation.

"Let My People Go-Go", a send-up on the old spiritual, takes three Biblical characters and situations, namely Moses on the mountainside, Joshua at Jericho, and Jesus' arrest prior to his crucifixion, and adds what these people might have said in these given situations (e.g. Jesus asking, "Why's everybody always picking on me?") The chorus



Record Review

by Mike Powell

tells us of God's message for his people: "I did not put you here to suffer/I did not put you here to whine/I put you here to love one another/And to get out and have a good time." Jerry Falwell it is not, but wouldn't life be easier if we would adhere to this message?

Anyway, to me, this is fun rock and roll. But then I heard the rest of the album. Sure, the clever titles are there ("Government Cheese", "Big Fat Blonde"), but the more I listened, the more I realized that these guys are serious.

The Rainmakers are four guys from Kansas City, Missouri: vocalist/guitarist Bob Walkenhorst, guitarist Steve Phillips, bassist Rich Ruth, and drummer Pat Tomek. On their debut album, The Rainmakers, non-member Terry Manning lends some keyboard help. These guys do make fun rock and roll—but make a point, also.

Like on "Government Cheese", the message is that food stamps and welfare programs are an incentive

for Americans to be lazy and not work. Walkenhorst sings that free handouts such as "government cheese" are being used as mind drugs: "It's the man in the White House/The man under the steeple/Passing out drugs to the American people."

"Drinking On the Job" suggests that there is a serious problem with the American worker: "The farmer he got plowed/The bricklayer he got plastered/The mechanic he got tanked/The construction worker he got blasted." Of course, the most clever line in the song is the one about the terrorist getting bombed. Those zany guys.

"Rockin' At the T-Dance" concerns the innocence—and naivete—of youth. Walkenhorst sings that while he and his friends were having fun at the high school dances during the sixties, that his older friends were being killed in Viet Nam.

"Long Gone Long" is a Rank and File-ish song about friends growing up and going their separate ways, while "Nobody Knows" gives the rhetorical answer to the rhetorical question, "What is life?"

In "Information", the local gossip is informing the narrator that he has a druggie daughter, an alcoholic sister and a gay brother, to which the indignant narrator replies, "Thanks but no thanks for the information/Cause information's got your number too." Sounds like the old "people in glass houses shouldn't throw stones" thing.

"Doomsville" is a song about a guy on his way down who plans on taking everyone he can with him.

But enough of this morbid stuff. "Downstream" is a light-hearted tune about taking a ride on the Mississippi with Mark Twain, and enjoying two of my favorite pastimes, drinking and telling lies. Along the way, our heroes add Harry Truman and Chuck Berry to the entourage.

"The One That Got Away" is a tune not unlike Ry Cooder's "he Tatler", which states that no matter how many lovers someone has, there is always that unattainable one that is driving them crazy.

And oh, yes, a "Big Fat Blonde" is what these "skinny boys" desire. I, however, would rather compromise and settle for a tall, thin blonde, but everyone has their quirks.

A good word to describe the Rainmakers is cynical. Although many of their tunes do contain humorous lyrics, it is obvious that they are concerned with the state of the nation, although they often use sarcasm to express their views.

The Rainmakers was one of the best debut albums to come out in 1986, but because the band does take a strong stand on politics, our wimpy radio programmers will allot them little or no airplay. Luckily for us, this censorship has not fully hit our record outlets. Yet.

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THE SMITHEREENS Especially For You (Enigma)

On Especially For You, the Smithereens crank out a blend of sixties-meets-eighties rock and roll recalling everything from The Beatles and Paul Revere (with hints of Fairport Convention thrown in) to such latter day new wave reciprocals as the Records and Romantics.

While being basically subdued on side one, guitarist Jim Babjak comes through on the second side, which includes the radio accessible cuts "Behind the Wall of Sleep" and the AOR staple "Blood and Roses."

Stay tuned on the Smithereens.

January 12, 1987

Jason & the Scorchers heat up Cincinnati

JASON & THE SCORCHERS
GEORGIA SATTELITES
Bogert's
Cincinnati, Ohio
Tickets: \$9

Q. What does it take to heat up a thirteen degree Cincinnati night?

A. A double bill of Southern rock and roll!

Such was the case at Bogert's on the night of December 12, where EMI-America recording artists Jason & the Scorchers and Elektra's Georgia Sattelites rocked the house, which was filled to near capacity, with two and one half hours of spirited rock and roll.



Concert Review

by Mike Powell

Bo Henderson and I were sent on assignment by the Special Events Committee to watch these two acts live. After taking seats by the sound technician, we settled in for a barrage of relentless rock performed by these two up-and-coming acts.

First up was the Georgia Sattelites, who

performed forty-five minutes of songs from their self-titled debut record. Led by David Baird, who was celebrating his twenty-first birthday, the Sattelites romped across the stage with blistering guitar leads recalling Southern rock's founding fathers; Lynyrd Skynyrd.

Highlights of their show included spirited renditions of Rod Stewart's "Every Picture Tells a Story" and George Jones' "White Lightning", as well as the band's current hit, "Keep Your Hands To Yourself", in which the crowd sang along. The bands' performance was dampened slightly by Baird's constant use of profanity, a habit that will probably subside as the band garners more well-deserved recognition.

Although the Sattelites put on a good show, it was obvious that Jason & the Scorchers were who the crowd had come to see.

As the curtain rose and the band launched into "Last Time Around", the crowd was on its feet, screaming. Led by vocalist Jason Ringenberg, who wore a black cape that reached to the floor and his trademark ten-gallon cowboy hat, the band ripped through an hour and one half of music from their albums Still Standing and Lost and Found, as well as a few tunes from their Fervor EP.

But Ringenberg's outlandish appearance should not be a fooler; the band is pure rock and roll. Jeff Johnson thumped the bass, Perry Baggs punished the drums, and guitarist Warner Hodges, following the tradition of Steve Vai, whirled his axe around his body during solos without ever missing a note.

The band did three encores, performing their hits "Golden Ball and Chain" and "19th Nervous Breakdown."

The roar of the crowd did not end until well after the band had left the stage and the house lights were turned on.

I thought Southern rock had died with the demise of Skynyrd and Molly Hatchet, but after witnessing the talents of the Georgia Sattelites and Jason & the Scorchers, I found that I was dead wrong. It exists; you just have to know where to look for it. Cincinnati stations play these acts. If this area's so-called rock stations would finally stop slinging mud at each other and get down to playing some new stuff, we too would be able to hear some good music.



Jason Ringenberg

Jeff Johnson

Perry Baggs

Warner Hodges