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ARTSWEEK

The Weekly Arts and Entertainment Supplement to the Daily Nexus

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An Entirely True Story

SIDE
a



1995

Sattler 'N' Pepa

"He's out in the parlor right now looking at TV. Every afternoon as right as rain, he looks at that show where them kids dance. ... He don't like the show at all, but he won't miss it. You oughta hear what he says about those poor kids." —from *A Confederacy of Dunces* by John Kennedy Toole

Many are the opportunities in life to make fun of David Austin Green, 90210's Brian Silver. For years, the least charismatic male member of the cast has been misrepresenting hip-hop and R&B in a manner that makes Bud Bundy/David Faustino look really fresh. Much to the dismay of the *Artsweek* staff, Slim Kid Tre of The Pharcyde has confirmed that he is producing Green's forthcoming hip-hop album, resultingly giving credibility to a pompously ridiculous person.

So, when my trip to Las Vegas last weekend turned completely surreal, it was my disdain for Brian Austin Green that inspired me to investigate further.

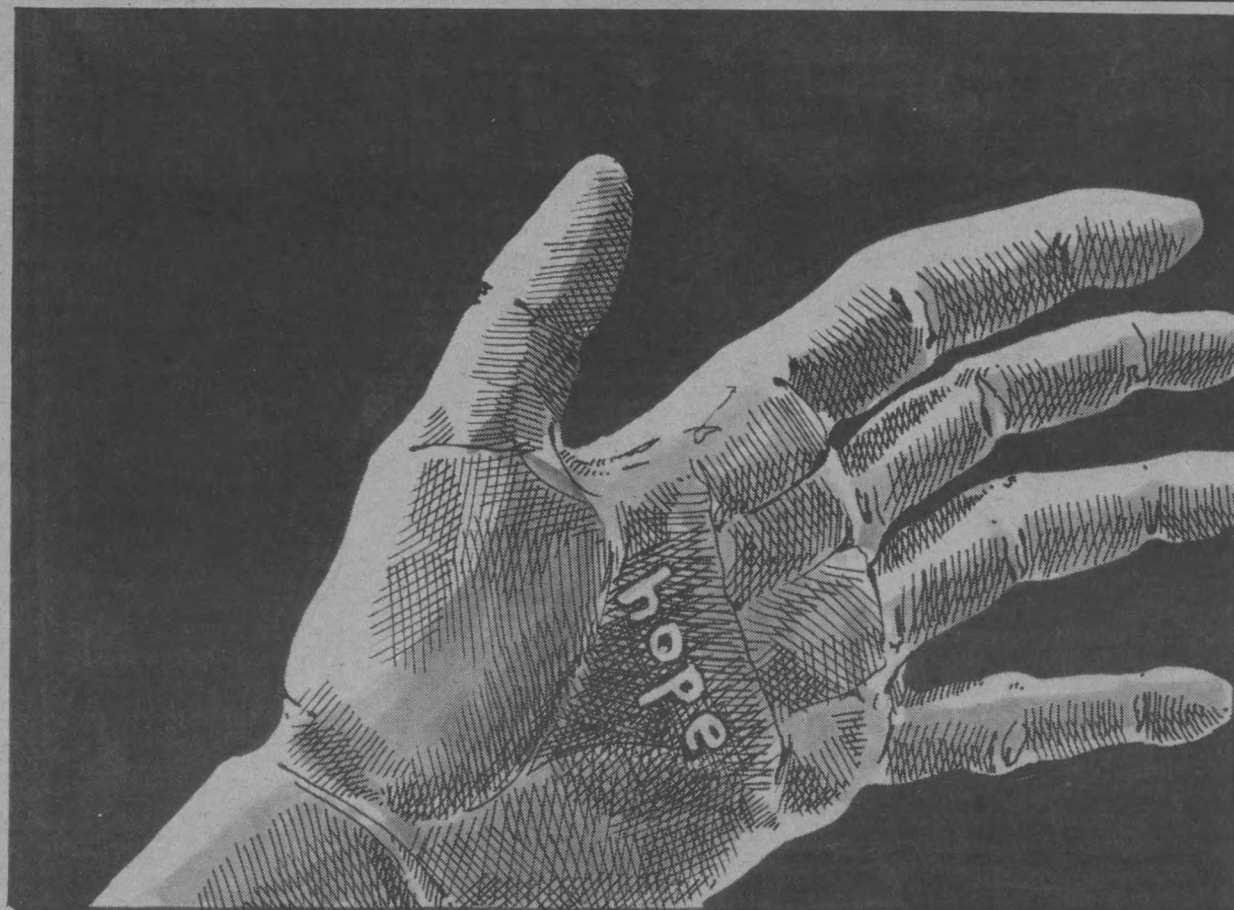
Saturday afternoon, we managed to get a room at the Hard Rock Hotel. I had a feeling that we had checked into the coolest place on Earth, because if the Hard Rock Hotel isn't the coolest place on Earth, it is definitely the coolest place in Las Vegas.

The Hard Rock has managed to move all of the tourists who are drawn to the world-famous souvenir shops into distant corners. What is left for those who gamble at the hotel is an atmosphere that convinces everyone there that they are cool. Cooler than the RV-driving, nickel slot-playing, Sigfried and Roy-watching tourists who dominate the strip. As a testament to God's mercy, there are no buffets in the Hard Rock Hotel. And I don't know if God has the best taste in music: They play selections ranging from Led Zeppelin to Bob Marley to Weezer, but it's bearable.

I expected our room to be cooler. There were nice pictures of Eddie Vedder singing and a bunch of kids in a mosh pit, but otherwise it was a normal room with two queen-size beds for me and my two friends to share.

What was odd was the loud music coming from the window. Drawing the curtains open, I stepped into an alternate dimension where my unconscious desires came to life to teach me the lessons that go along with being 21 years of age. I was in Las Vegas to celebrate my 21st birthday. For my 21st birthday, MTV's *The Grind* was being filmed in the Hard Rock Hotel's pool just below my room. I was definitely in the coolest place on Earth.

Immediately, I decided on running into the middle of



KEVIN GLEASON/Daily Nexus

the filming. It was the perfect plan. I would cause a small measure of pain to MTV, a conglomerate that has given its share of pain to me (not to mention pleasure). But I couldn't convince my friends that they should go down with me so I could embarrass myself. After a while, I stopped trying and joined them in leaning off the balcony and watching *The Grind* live.

It looks even more contrived in person, but it's just as easy to start watching it and not realize what you are doing. My attention span is about four minutes, so about every four minutes, I would take my need to go down and disrupt the filming and turn it into an offensive comment that I yelled at the dancers below. My friends and I started getting intoxicated and my comments became more and more appropriate. "This is ridiculous. You guys are horrible. Nobody dances like this!"

It's true, nobody dances like they do on *The Grind*. Nobody stays in one spot and just moves to their own rhythm, oblivious to everything but the camera. Dancing is a mating thing, and I guess the ultimate mate to dancers on *The Grind* is the camera. If you are on camera, that's real. You're really grinding.

It was then that I saw Brian Austin Green, wearing a Pharcyde shirt. I couldn't be as lenient with him as I was with the other participants on *The Grind*. He gets to be on TV all the time. He was filmed in a scene on 90210

where he was on a lawn chair trying to rhyme along with the DAS EFX hit "They Want EFX."

"Fucker, you suck!" I screamed about three times before I had to check the mirror in the bathroom to see what I look like when I'm being an asshole.

I don't know if I just got caught up on celebrating my birthday, but at some point Saturday, I forgot about *The Grind* and focused on the splendor of the Hard Rock Hotel's innards. It was hard for me to do. Understand, I watch MTV without restraint; I have trouble watching any other channel. It feels like wasting time. Anyway, I had already lost most of the money that I had decided would be fun to lose, so I decided to focus on the bar. At some point, I also decided to pass out.

I woke up Sunday to the incessant dance beat of *The Grind*. I couldn't sleep anyway, so I wrapped myself inside the curtain and watched *The Grind* from the window. It was then I realized I had the opportunity to possibly make fun of Brian Austin Green to his face. I grabbed my room key and headed for the pool.

It was windy, warm desert wind. I was allowed into the pool area and told the two places I was allowed to go while *The Grind* was filming. "Over there and over there," the security guy said with appropriate points. One over there was the part of the huge pool not being grinded, the other over there was the bar. Being 21, I chose the bar.

Needless to say, the pool area was the coolest pool area in the world and the bar wasn't bad. For the first time in my life, I sat down at an almost-empty bar and decided to spend some time.

The only other person at the bar was reading a book I didn't recognize. He watched me forget my room number in an attempt to establish a tab. But, everything was cool and I ordered a margarita.

The guy next to me said, "I'm making a statement." He then read out loud from his book, which turned out to be *A Confederacy of Dunces* by J.K. Toole.

I laughed and said, "This is so surreal."

"Absolutely. This is nothing but masturbational material for 14-year-old boys."

I was trying to remember if I had ever jerked off to *The Grind*, when the bartender, an attractive woman called MJ, started giving the specifics about *The Grind*'s stay at the Hard Rock Hotel. They were filming for two days, they did 18 shows, all with the same people. The people were locals and they changed clothes every other episode. The small cutoff area closest to the bar was filled with professional dancers. They were the only ones used for close-ups. Beautiful women in bikinis were wearing shoes so they could really get their grind on. The rest of the professional dancers were dressed in costumes similar to those undercover cops wear in movies, way too hip.

The guy next to me in the bar turned out to be working on the new Tim Burton movie being filmed in Las Vegas, *Mars Attacks*. Only 23 and claiming to know everyone in Hollywood I worship, he gave me some detailed advice about how to make it in the business. For some obscene reason, he figured it all had to do with hope. Like it was a prop, he showed me the palm of his hand. It had the word "hope" written on it.



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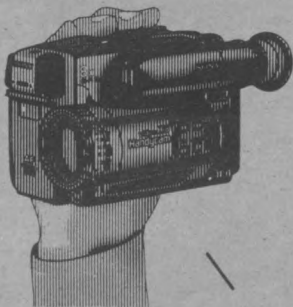
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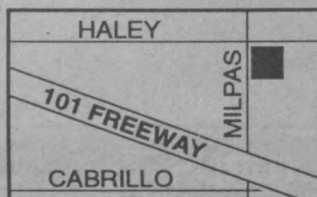
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JEWBILEE

This year's Santa Barbara Jewish Festival commemorates a decade of celebration of Jewish culture and community this Sunday in Oak Park. The event is the first of eight local ethnic festivals to be held this season, all of them outdoors and free of admission.

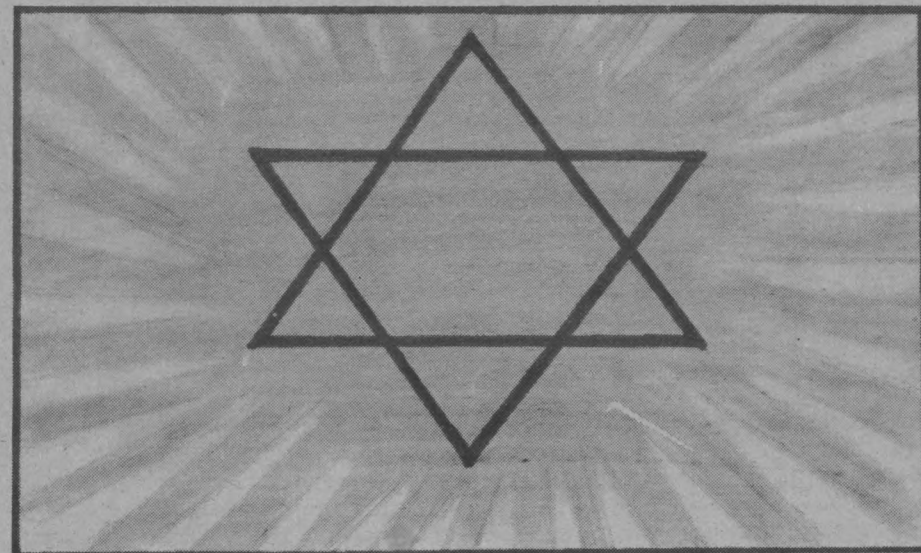
This is a particularly special year for the gathering. 1996 marks the 10th annual celebration in Santa Barbara as well as the 3,000th anniversary of the establishment of Jerusalem as the capital of the Jewish homeland.

History, tradition, lively bands, handcrafted arts, dancing for both novices and masters, and the sheer beauty of Sunday in the park lend added significance to the festivities, according to Rabbi Steve Cohen, director of Hillel.

"There will be great food, music and a nice atmosphere of camaraderie," Cohen said. "There will be a lot for children as well as people of all ages to do. This is the single largest Jewish festival in Santa Barbara every year."

The annual celebration features the usual tantalizing array of traditional Jewish food, booths selling their wares, belly dancing and folk dance instruction. The newest addition to the festivities is the Ventura Klemzer Band, according to Judi Stotland, executive director of the Santa Barbara Jewish Foundation.

"Klemzer bands are the music of the ghetto. They were the bands of weddings," Stotland said.



land said. "If you hear it and have any Jewish background, you can hear it in your bones."

Of course, you don't have to be Jewish to enjoy the event. In past years, the festival has drawn a crowd of several thousand people, Jews and gentiles alike, bringing together people from all over Santa Barbara, the Central Coast and Los Angeles.

"Our intent is to celebrate Jewish life for the general population," Stotland said. The roots of the celebration are with UCSB. The campus' Hillel has been the major organizer of the festival throughout the decade.

"The festival is a creation of UCSB Hillel," Stotland said. "It's their vision of what this should be."

One warning from one with a Jewish mother and festival veteran: Watch out for the nice women who tell you that you need more meat on your bones — you might find yourself persuaded to consume a few too many knishes. In that case, a little brisk Israeli dancing will do the trick.

The Santa Barbara Jewish Festival will take place in Oak Park on Sunday May 5. For more information, call 963-0244.

—Nicole Milne

THE CLASSICS

Wanna hear something exciting? Betcha do! Well, a three-time Grammy-winning act is coming to campus! No, it's not DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince, but the Juilliard String Quartet, who will perform Mozart's Quartet in G Major, K. 387, American composer Roger Sessions' Quartet No. 2 and Beethoven's Quartet in C-Sharp Minor, Op. 131, in Campbell Hall on May 8.

The 50-year-old Juilliard String Quartet is the resident quartet of the Juilliard School. Comprised of Robert Mann and Joel Smirnoff (violins), Samuel Rhodes (viola) and Joel Krosnick (cello), the quartet is world-renowned for making chamber music an instant, involving experience that has been compared to theater in its artistic impact.

The quartet has been especially revered for its vitality and ability to turn great masterpieces into modern classics through interpretive insight and spontaneity. "While thor-

oughly prepared ... the quartet can make it seem as if something were at stake at each moment, with the players discovering it as they play," wrote the *New York Times*.

The quartet has programmed close to 500 different works, approximately half of which are contemporary pieces from known and unknown American composers. They have premiered more than 60 pieces by American composers as well as those from a dozen other countries. Furthermore, the quartet has presented more than 5,000 concerts in North America, South America, Europe, Asia and the Pacific.

That's a list of achievements even more impressive than DJ Jazzy Jeff and the Fresh Prince can claim.

The Juilliard String Quartet performs in UCSB's Campbell Hall Wednesday May 8 at 8 p.m. There will be a free preperformance talk at 7 p.m. Tickets range from \$10 to \$20 and can be purchased through Arts & Lectures by calling 893-3535.

—Eric Steuer



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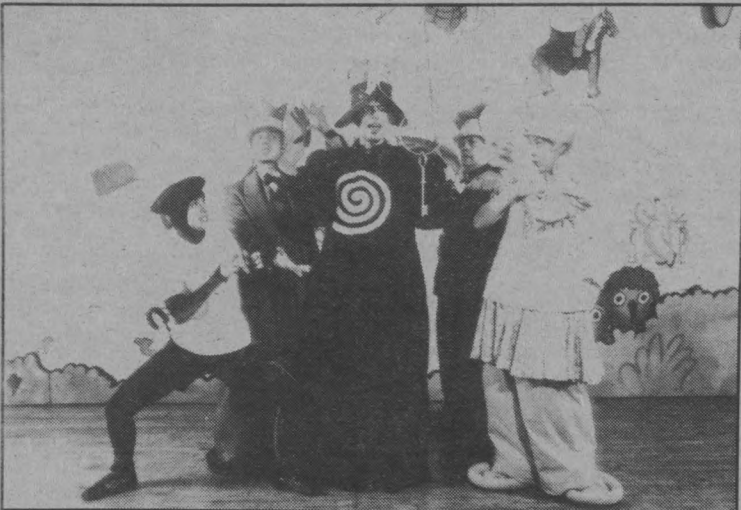
According to the Facts of Life theme song, "If you hear it from your brother, you better clear it with your _____."

Elephun

Who will ever forget Babar the curious young elephant? Babar's adventures in the wild and among royalty have enchanted countless fans, not excluding this arts writer. Delightfully, Babar is no longer confined to the page. Author Jean de Brunhoff's famous series of books featuring Babar, the king of the elephants, has been adapted to live performance form and is ready for public consumption: Theatreworks/USA is bringing their production of *Babar's Birthday* to campus this Saturday.

Babar's Birthday displays Babar grappling with life problems. He learns about real responsibility, hard work and forgiveness. Arthur, Celeste and Zephir, Babar's unforgettable friends, are present as always and play their part in helping Babar realize his full potential as king.

Theatreworks/USA is celebrating its 35th year as the premier company for young au-



diences. The performance promises to be unforgettable. Past productions include *Young Abe Lincoln* and *Move It and It's Yours*.

Don't be fooled — Babar is not just for the kids. Babar's sweetness and innocent curiosity give everyone a great model for good nature and forthrightness. *Babar's Birthday* will also be a great chance for those of us with previous Babar experience to revisit the days of bedtime stories and make-believe. Surely, any of us remember Babar's triumphant recovery from the death of his mother and his period of adjustment as he realizes that he will be king.

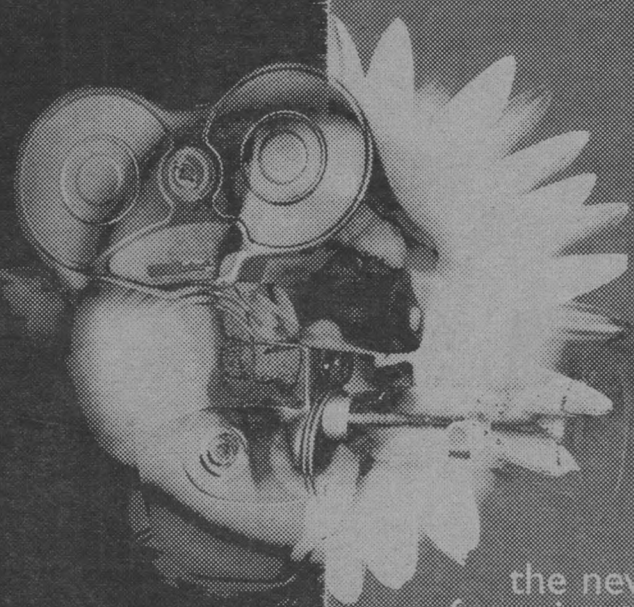
The Arts & Lectures presentation of the Theatreworks/USA production of *Babar's Birthday* will be in Campbell Hall Saturday May 4 at 4 p.m. Tickets are \$4 for children and students and \$6 for general admission.

—Noah Blumberg

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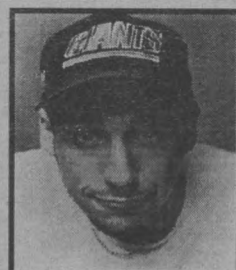
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P R E S E N T S

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

BY LINDA C. BLACK

To get the advantage, check the day's rating: 10 is the easiest day, 0 the most challenging.

Aries (March 21-April 19) - Today is a 4 - Financial matters need to be handled now. Don't put them off any longer or they'll cost you even more. Be careful if you're taking out a loan. The other guy's advantage is hidden in the fine print.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) - Today is a 6 - Jump into an old job this morning and finish it up. You'll get a new burst of energy this afternoon. The competition gets fiercer then, too. Don't worry, you may win through sheer bravado.

Gemini (May 21-June 21) - Today is a 4 - Somebody you've been stalling is starting to get upset. Save your errands for this weekend; you need to concentrate now. This afternoon will be horrible if you don't get an overdue job done this morning.

Cancer (June 22-July 22) - Today is a 10 - Your numbers are on the rise again - life's getting easier. An old friend has a serious proposition. If you want a forever commitment, ask for it this evening. Don't let a stranger spoil your plans.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22) - Today is a 5 - Things grind to a standstill. Consider all your options carefully before proceeding. An older person is pushing for a decision, but you need to make sure your interests are protected.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) - Today is a 10 - You're on a roll. A long-distance call could bring what you need. Take a bold move toward goals you and your sweetheart share this afternoon. Watch out for a bizarre development tonight.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) - Today is a 4 - You're not much of a businessperson, but you can learn. Do that. If you aren't wise about your money, you'll lose it to somebody who is. If you need help, ask a trustworthy Taurus.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) - Today is a 7 - You're strong today, but the other guy's even stronger. This could be one tough poker hand. Play it close to the vest. You'll be well advised to go along with your partner's decision tonight.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) - Today is a 3 - You're under almost too much pressure. If your sense of humor's wearing thin, you know you're in trouble. Hold out a little while longer. It'll get slightly worse, unfortunately, before it gets better.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) - Today is a 9 - Your friends give you the support you need to turn a tough job into child's play. Get that handled early, so you have plenty of time for love tonight. You and your sweetie need to make a big decision.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) - Today is a 5 - You have decisions to make, affecting your home, your career, or both. Choose carefully, but don't procrastinate much longer. Your options diminish soon.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20) - Today is a 10 - A distant contact is very valuable. Skills you're learning will help you make the right connection. A sibling's or neighbor's expertise helps you push past whatever was in your way. Go for it!

Today's Birthday (May 2). Finish up old stuff and set goals in May. Buy a loved one an expensive gift in June. Put down roots in August. Work through September and form a partnership in October. Choose carefully; this union will last. Find a treasure in December. Go back to a favorite old place around the first of the year. Make a career decision in February. There's a test in April.

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I.V., 961-1700

Grrreat. The Weekend Connection.
In Friday's Daily Nexus.

—Matt Turner



Afghan Whigs / Black Love (Elektra

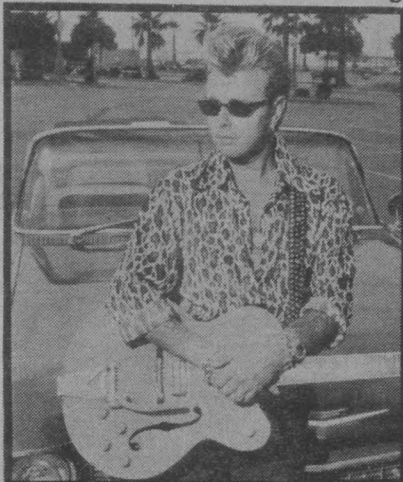
This album is real "in your face." Impassioned vocals, fast, sharp guitar chops and themes of murder reign supreme. Every song is a desperate epic discovering the depths of depression. The first number, "Crime Scene," is about killing enemies and throwing away your life. The whole album has a huge sound which singer/songwriter Greg Dulli amplifies with his at times overzealous vocals. He sings stuff like, "Tonight I say goodbye to everyone who loves me." *Black Love*, however, is every-

MUSE-SICK



bit as great as its amazing predecessor, *Gentlemen*.

—Noah Blumberg



Brian Setzer Orchestra / Guitar Slinger / Interscope

Remember the Stray Cats? Well, that band's vocalist, Brian Setzer, has fused his renowned rockabilly sound with big band stylings to form a unique genre of music with cross-generational appeal—you can listen to this one with your grandparents! With songs like "Town Without Pity," "My Baby Only Cares for Me (I Think of It as a Love Song)" and, for all you Stray Cats fans, a new rendition of "Rumble in Brighton," *Guitar Slinger* is a fabulous treat. Attention lounge lizards: This is a must have!

—Connie Maher



The Sugarplastic / Bang, the Earth Is Round / DGC

It's weird, because I don't really like Gary Numan, but I like pretty much every band that sounds like they like Gary Numan. The Sugarplastic is one of those bands and their newest disc has been in heavy rotation in my stereo since I got it.

Innocent pop songs abound on this LA trio's second full-length. Ben Eshbach uses his lyrics and voice to create several diverse narrators who sing songs that sound as if they were snatched from a Broadway musical. (It's easy to picture a group of frustrated commoners appearing from sidestage to complain, "We want to find what the smart people find!" on "Don't Sleep.") Nobody's made corny, cutesy pop this good for a major label since Weezer. Believe that.

—Eric Steuer, Jr.

Lonnie Smith / Move Your Hand / Blue Note

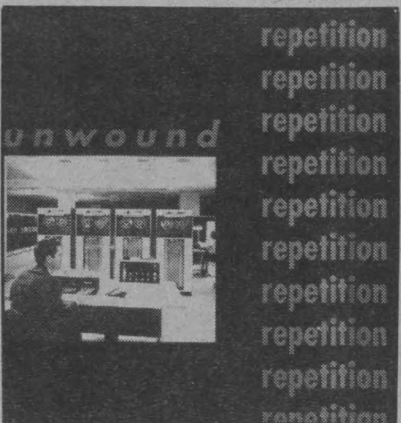
Hearing *Move Your Hand* at a friend's house two years ago enhanced my liking and respect for Lonnie Smith and made me hopeful that the album would be reissued. Now it has been, so don't sleep!

Recorded live at Club Harlem, *Move Your Hand* contains several examples of Smith's "psychedelic groove." The first song, "Charlie Brown," has Ronnie Cuber on baritone sax, adding a dimension not usually associated with music that is termed "groovy." His presence is what adds to the total sound, making it fuller. Another song, "Layin' in the Cut," is one of my favorites on this re-

cord. Lonnie's psychedelic style comes into full effect to bring this groove to a medium tempo that'll make any listener's head bob.

"Move Your Hand" features Lonnie on vocals. This song will enable the listener to hear the passion and emotion which Smith puts into his music and is a definite mix-tape classic. The last song, "Sunshine Superman," is the most uptempo track on the album. It has phat solos, breaks and a sound that seems to envelop your soul, making you part of the music as your body moves to the groove.

—Nathan Ghio



Unwound / Repetition / Kill Rock Stars

This is the third album Unwound has released in the last year, and there's not a bit of filler. Unwound will lead you on with simple bass and drums and then break your friggin' ass with slicing, bending guitar and apocalyptic lyrics like, "It's an invitation to an infiltration." It's progressive punk music. It's serious stuff that will scare you, even with its basic structure and plainly expressed lyrics. Also, Unwound manages to create beautiful sounds amidst the driving fervor. "Lady Elect" exemplifies this. *Artsweek* recommends.

—Noah Blumberg



Various Artists / Insomnia — The Erick Sermon Compilation Album / Interscope

I've kinda been waiting to hear this album for a while. *Insomnia* is an album's worth of various emcees kicking rhymes over Erick Sermon-produced tracks. Standout cuts include Redman's current single, "Funkorama," Jamal & Calif's "Beez Like That (Sometimes)" and Keith Murray's previously released "It's That Hit." I also like The Wixtons' "Up Jump the Boogie" (although it's nothing special lyrically, Sermon's underlying track is an instant head-nodder) and L.O.D.'s "I Like It," where the rapper sounds a lot like his homeboy Keith Murray. Other dope tracks include efforts by Domo, Tommy Gunn and the album's closer, Erick Sermon's solo piece "Reign." Sermon's fans will appreciate this compilation, no doubt, but it might be hard for the average listener to get past the common (almost monotonous) feel to the music. Check it out for yourself.

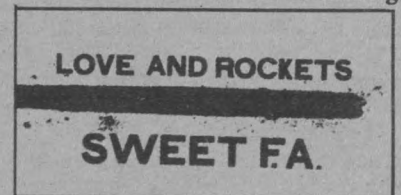
—Todd "One" Mumford

J Mascis / Martin and Me / Reprise

J Mascis is the man who writes the music and sings for Dinosaur Jr. This is a collection of his live, acoustic solo performances from the last year and a half or so. Many great Dinosaur Jr. songs, mostly from recent al-

bums, are included. Highlights include "Flying Cloud," "Thumb" and a fun version of the Smiths' "The Boy With the Thorn in His Side." J goofs off a lot with his whiny, growling voice and his fast guitar, which definitely give a new perspective on the songs. Anyhow, the solo-acoustic presentation is a great way to appreciate and reappraise J's beautiful songwriting.

—Noah Blumberg



Love and Rockets / Sweet F.A. / American

Industrial, alternative, folk, whatever!

I've been waiting for this album forever. Yeah, Love and Rockets put out *Hot Trip to Heaven* not too long ago, but *who* really thought it was any good? *Sweet F.A.* is the band at its best and most creative. The song "Sweet Lover Hangover" is a delight, but what I found even more beautiful to my ears were the songs that sound like they're from older albums such as *Earth Sun Moon* and *Express*. The songs "Judgement Day" and "Fever" definitely sound like the old stuff, but don't get me wrong—they're still... refreshing! What more can I say? It's beautiful music, people! Get it.

—Connie Maher



Kwest tha Madd Lad / This Is My First Album / American

Kwest tha Madd Lad reminds me of a kid I used to know in junior high. He had all kinds of rhymes and nobody could beat him in a freestyle, but thankfully, he was also a lot of fun to be around. In fact, I don't think he ever tried to represent in any way, shape or form.

One of the tightest albums out right now, Kwest's debut is filled with rhymes, beats and concepts far doper than a majority of his hard-faced peers. He maintains without fronting—Kwest would rather make you laugh or think (imagine that!) than simply look tough with a mic in his hand. Kwest's flows go perfectly with beats by Tony D., LA Jay, Da Baka Boyz and Dan Charnas and combine to make an album that shines with creativity. Kwest's keepin' it surreal in 1996.

—Erik Steuer, Sr.

Dean Fraser / Dean Plays Bob Volume Two / Ras

Dean Fraser's latest is an album of 14 remakes of songs written by Bob Marley, including "Rastaman Chant," "Talking Blues," "Crisis," "Chant Down Babylon," "Sun Is Shining" and "Zimbabwe." The music is mostly instrumental with jazz flava, featuring Fraser on saxophone, although "Bad Card" and "No Woman No Cry" have vocals in the background. (There is also a bonus interview with Fraser and Doctor Dread.) The disc was recorded in Kingston, Jamaica, and mixed by the great Jim Fox at Lion and Fox in Washington, D.C. These are nice renditions of Bob Marley songs, and this effort is not only for reggae lovers but for jazz lovers as well.

—Francoise Cromer, Geoff Mognis and Shannon Riley

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This reception has been established to honor women authors at UCSB who have published books within the last year.

TODAY!

Thursday, May 2, 3-5pm

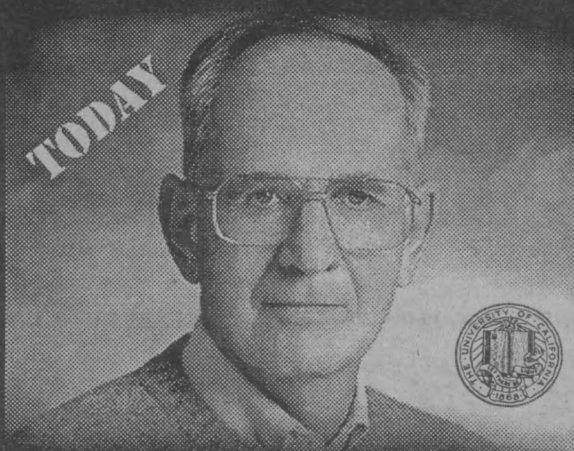
UCSB Women's Center

Introduction of authors will be made at 3:30pm.

Co-sponsored by the UCSB Bookstore.

The 41st Annual Faculty Research Lecture

Gerald Jacobs The Roots of Color Vision



Thursday, May 2 / 4 p.m.
UCen Corwin Pavilion / Free

UCSB Professor in Psychology and the Neuroscience Research Institute, Dr. Jacobs explores how color vision is biologically possible and why we have it at all. The Annual Faculty Research Award is the highest honor given to faculty members by their colleagues.

For more information: 893-3535 v/td

Swap any Rubes for...



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Rubes By Leigh Rubin



It was clear that now was not the best time for Nanook to mention the price of the optional automatic ice maker.

Woodstock's Pizza 928 Emb. del Norte 968-6969

one coupon per customer; not good with other offers; exp. 6/30/96

**Healing the Student Body:
Spirituality & Your Health**

Distinguished Panel Members will discuss the following question from Religious, Academic and Medical perspectives.

"How do
**SPIRITUALITY
& PRAYER**
Contribute to Healing?"

Tuesday, May 7th
4-5:30 pm

UCen, "Flying A" Rm.
Refreshments will be served.

Sponsored by the UCSB Interfaith Council

FREE LECTURE

**How do Spirituality
& Prayer Lead to
HEALING?**

A Christian Science

by Julio C. Rivas, C.S.

Member of The Christian
Science Board of Lectureship

Tuesday, MAY 7th
8-9:30 pm • Girvetz 1004

Sponsored by the UCSB
Christian Science Organization

Questions & Answer Session
For information call 683-9402

Falling Off

Film

An elite unit of the 1950s Los Angeles Police Dept. known as the Hat Squad is the focus of the new film *Mulholland Falls*. The Hat Squad made their own rules to enforce the law, which included not necessarily legal actions. With this policy they would give criminals lessons they wouldn't forget. When the team became deeply involved with a strange murder investigation, the power that could bring them down was revealed.

Sound exciting? Well, fans of the tough cop or mobster genre won't be disappointed with the action and complexity of the characters. However, the tough cop premise is not diverged from significantly enough to avoid pulling down the quality of *Mulholland Falls*.

Fairly good performances by all and thorough character developments are the plusses to this film, which is a cross between *The Un-*



touchables and typical mystery thrillers.

Nick Nolte turns out a fairly decent performance as Max Hoover, the leader of the Hat Squad. Hoover has a personal involvement with a murder victim that threatens not only his job but relations with his wife Katherine (Melanie Griffith). Chazz Palminteri is Ellery Coolidge, Hoover's longtime partner and best friend. The two share a great bond, using humor to deal with the ugly sides of life.

Michael Madsen and Chris Penn are Eddie Hall and Arthur Relyea, respectively, the other members of the Hat Squad. John Malkovich plays the mysterious Gen. Thomas Timms well. Hoover's memory produces what we see of Allison Pond (Jennifer Connelly) in flashbacks.

Mulholland Falls features some good performances but ultimately offers nothing truly worthwhile in terms of plot. If it had managed to get beyond the standard cop/mystery/thriller premise, then I might be able to recommend that you see it. However, if you like these particular actors, it might be worth a video rental.

—Brian Uyebara

The Truth Feels Good

The Truth About Cats and Dogs is a clever little comedy focusing on the inherent superficiality of male desire. Thanks largely to Janeane Garofalo, who is terrific, and screenwriter Audrey Wells, it's possibly the funniest film since the magical *To Die For*.

Garofalo plays Abby, a veterinarian who does a daily phone-in on pet problems for a Los Angeles radio station, dealing with, to my mind, some seriously deranged individuals. I'm particularly suspicious of dog owners who fawn all over their pets. To my admittedly slightly demented thought processes, this marks them as dangerously needy personalities.

Anyway, when Abby, a slightly pudgy 5'1", talks to admiring listener Brian (Ben Chaplin) on the phone and arranges a meeting with him, she describes herself, in a fit of insecurity, as looking more like her six-foot-tall, rail-thin, wannabe-model neighbor Noelle (Uma Thurman). Thurman plays this character gently to the stereotype of the model as elon-



gated dimwit. Abby gets Noelle to act along with the charade that she is Abby when Brian comes to the station.

The rest of the movie, directed by Michael Lehmann, is made up of variations on this theme of misidentifying mind and body. This process partially deconstructs the male sex drive as Brian is alternately attracted to the mind (Abby) and then body (Noelle) of what he thinks is the same woman. "Together we make the perfect woman," says Noelle. "No," replies Abby, "We'd make the perfect political prisoner. We'd complain a lot and never eat anything."

Annoyed by the fact that although women can often overlook the physical while men cannot, Abby says, "I'm smart and charming with a great job — if I was a guy, women would be lining up to go out with me," an observation that could be read bitterly, but here isn't.

This is comedy very much from a woman's angle, though men should still find more than enough to amuse them. Chaplin and Thurman are both good, but it's ex-stand-up comic Garofalo who holds things together.

—Martin Knight

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Ready to
Dance,
Ready to
Save**

And it's a
beautiful day.
Coupon Tuesday.
In the Nexus—
Tuesday!

Asian/Asian American Pacific Islander CULTURE WEEK

presents:

Thursday, May 2

- ▲ 12 noon/Storke Plaza: New York-based Indie-rock band VERSUS performs.
- ▲ 1pm/MCC Theater: A panel/discussion on media representations featuring *dIS*orient*'s Howard Hong, Visual Communications' Abe Ferrer, and Arts Studio faculty Kip Fulbeck.
- ▲ 4-5pm/MCC: Asian American Studies Dept. hosts "Cup of Culture"; a social gathering to talk with Asian American Studies professors and students.
- ▲ 5pm/MCC Theater: (Video) *Who's Going to Pay for These Donuts, Anyway?* by Janice Tanaka.
- ▲ 8pm/MCC Theater: Dan Kwong and a group of Asian American Men are performance artists who will voice their experiences in creative forms.

Dead Man Walking



Thursday, May 2 / 7 p.m.
Campbell Hall

TONIGHT
"Astonishing performances." N.Y. TIMES
Starring Sean Penn and Oscar-winner
Susan Sarandon.

Students: \$4. At the door only.

For more information: 893-3535 v/tdd **A&L**

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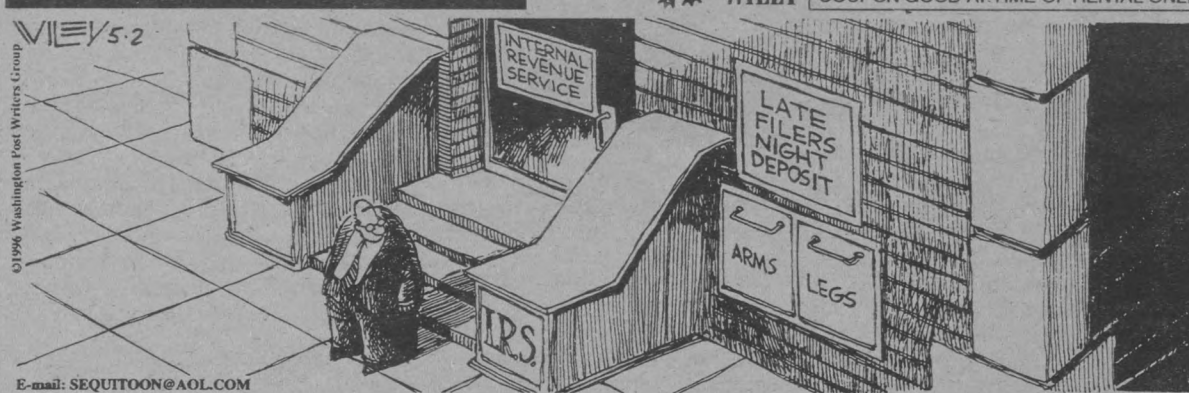
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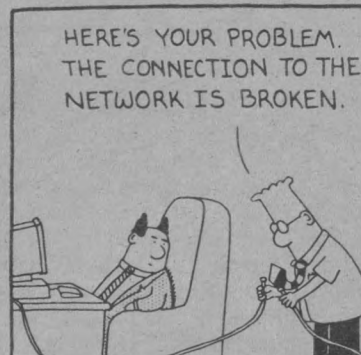


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We Score More

Victory Celebration

Mexican composers will pay tribute to a spectacular military victory that has come to symbolize much more in the Festival de Mayo beginning today.

Cinco de Mayo is a date of great importance for the Mexican and Chicano communities. It marks the victory of the Mexican army of 5,000 ill-equipped Zapotec and Mesquero Indians over the French army in what came to be known as the "Batalla de Puebla" on May 5, 1862. The Mexicans were victorious despite being outnumbered three to one.

Although Mexican independence actually came 50 years later, the "Batalla de Puebla" came to represent a symbol of Mexican unity and patriotism. With this victory, Mexico demonstrated to the world that it and all of Latin America were willing to defend themselves from any foreign intervention (especially from imperialist states bent on world conquest).

This year's Festival de Mayo is UCSB's 5th Annual New Music Festival. The campus Ensemble for Contemporary Music is responsible for putting on four days of concerts that will be held alternately at UCSB's Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall, La Casa de la Raza and the Lobero Theatre.



Mario Lavista, one of Mexico's leading composers for the past 15 years, will attend, as will established masters Leonardo Velázquez and Francisco Nuñez. The Festival will also feature emerging composers Eduardo Soto Millán and Sergio Ortiz.

The concerts will feature the postwar music of Mexico, performed by players from UCSB and Mexico's prestigious Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes.

The Festival's events will not be limited to preparing and performing the music. The composers will also deliver lectures on recent developments in Mexican art and participate in cross-cultural panel discussions.

—Julia Bernstein

This week's proceedings will include:

Today: The Proud Pre-Colombian Roots, 8 p.m., La Casa de la Raza, 601 E. Montecito St., Free Admission. Music based on Aztec, Mayan, Nahuatl and Quechua cultural traditions.

May 3: Ricardo Gallardo, Percussion, 3 p.m., Lotte Lehmann Concert Hall, \$5 at the door. Percussive aural delights combined with tape.

Also, Heart of Sun, Magic of Dawn, 8 p.m., Lotte Lehmann, \$7 students, \$10 general. Features Horacio Franco, and works with electronics.

May 4: Towards New Beacons, 3 p.m., Lotte Lehmann, \$5 at door. Works by Leonard Velazquez and Jesus Villasenor of Mexico, as well as in-house contributions.

and La Poesia de Las Formas, 8 p.m., LLCC, \$7 students.

May 5: The Gran Concierto Final, 6 p.m., Lobero Theatre, \$12 general/ \$7 students. Features all five guest composers.

ARTSWEEK RECOMMENDS:



Justin Moore: Drawings, a Graduating Student Show May 6-10 from 8-5 in the College of Creative Studies Gallery

Artist and Editor Don Suggs at the Art Symposium Tuesday May 7 4:00-5:30 Buchanan 1920



Asian-American Performance Group tonight at 7 in the Multicultural Center Theater

Ancient Echos and Troupe Juice! (North African Traditional Drumming and Dance) at The Flying Dragon 22 West Mission at 8p.m. on Saturday



BLOOD DRIVE

MAY 8 & MAY 9

11:30AM - 4:00PM

GRADUATE LOUNGE, UCEN RM 2502

(ABOVE MULTI CULTURAL CENTER)

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FROM 8:00AM - 4:00PM

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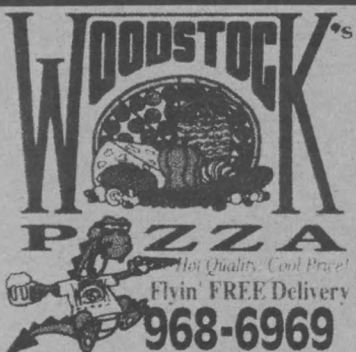
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23rd Annual Student/Alumni Flag Football Tournament

Saturday, May 18th &
Sunday, May 19th

\$35/student team



Sign Ups
end May 6th
or until 20
spots are
filled

FREE PIZZA AFTER THE RACE!

Compliments of Woodstock's Pizza of Isla Vista

4th Annual Ina Kristiansen

5k/10k Walk/Run

Saturday, May 4th



ALL RUNNERS RECEIVE A T-SHIRT & ARE ENTERED IN A RAFFLE

Costs:

PreRegistered	\$12	Race Day	\$17
Teams of 4			
PreRegistered	\$40	Race Day	\$50

