

Claire Berger, getting grey hairs and laughs



Claire Berger

by Jack Horner
Collegian Staff Writer

As opening acts go, few performers have had the privilege of having a musical group not sing as well as "The Tyme" did last Friday night. They were, indeed, in rare form. But they were just the prelude to Claire Berger's one-woman exercise in hilarity.

Comedienne Claire Berger is a former member of the Second City Touring Company, a company that has spawned such talents as Joan Rivers, Bill Murray, Betty Thomas, Mary Gross and the late John Belushi.

Claire played to a receptive audience of about fifty people and the number increased as the show progressed.

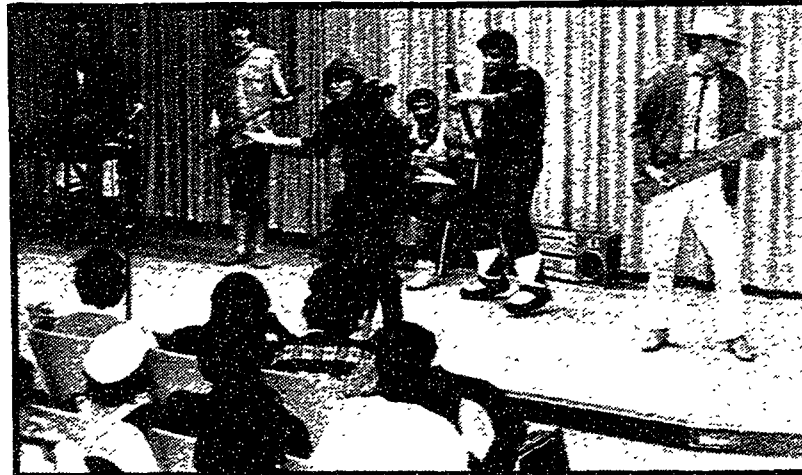
One of the first things Claire does when she gets into town to do a show is grab as many local publications as she can. She got a copy of *The Erie Daily Times*, various brochures from the university and, of course, *The Collegian*. By doing this she

makes her show more personalized than most. And within her short time at Behrend she had us pegged. Among the jibes in her repertoire were jokes about the apathy in our Student Government Elections (uncontested candidates) and the fact that we are the only college in the country that boasts our own ski slope... "I consider myself a good skier," says Claire, "But I, uh, don't

know if I could handle that slope."

One member of the audience told her to stop with the "anti-Reagan" jokes. But she didn't suggest that President Reagan star in a commercial for Grecian Formula. "I mean, the man is seventy-five years old and doesn't have one grey hair?...right!"

After playing to audiences at the Comedy Store in Los Angeles,



SKN air band winners at Berger show.

the Tropicana in Las Vegas and Dangerfield's in New York City, Claire has honed audience participation effectively into her show. By Friday night most Psi partiers had already gone to U.P., but one girl in the audience said she was still going. Claire informed her that her friends had, sadly, left without her.

God is certainly punishing her by making potato chip bags so hard to open. When she does get it open she eats the whole bag so as not to have half a bag lying around the house tempting her. Starting a string of surprisingly honest jokes about her lack of control when it comes to eating.

"If you can't laugh at yourself, what have you got?" says Claire Berger, "That's what it's all about."

Congratulations to the members of the SKN airband winners who closed for the Berger show. With their typewriter keyboard and garbage can drums, their performance ended a comfortable evening of humor.

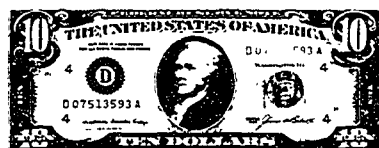
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STUDENTS NEED GREEN?



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Screen Talk:

"VCRs offer selection of films"

by Matthew J. Sullivan
Collegian Staff Writer

As summer approaches and students prepare to move back in with mom and dad, I thought it might be nice to give a run down of the most popular videotapes available for viewing on the VCR somebody got for Christmas.

To begin with, you may be interested to know that it is now possible (in most areas) to rent the entire "Star Wars" saga. "Return of the Jedi" has just been released, so along with the original "Star Wars" and "The Empire Strikes Back," one can enjoy all the adventures of Luke, Han and Princess Leia. I've been told that Jabba the Hut looks even fatter on T.V.

Also freshly recorded is "Rambo: First Blood, Part II,"

Sylvester Stallone's bloody version of "Rocky in Nam." I'm sure you'll want to rent that two or three times, since "Rocky IV" isn't available yet.

"The Emerald Forest," one of last summer's big hits, is an extremely popular rental item these days. Director John Boorman's story of a father's search for his "jungle boy" son is a gripping experience in drama. I urge you to rent "Emerald" before "The Goonies," Steven Spielberg's misguided production (not direction) about a group of noisy kids on a treasure hunt. The special effects in the last twenty minutes are worth a look if you can stand lots of noxious squealing from a boatload of brats.

Those intrigued by my recent review will be pleased to know

that "Kiss of the Spider Woman" has just been released on tape. William Hurt's dazzling, Oscar-winning performance is a must for any serious film viewer.

On a similar note, Anjelica Huston's Best Supporting Actress role can be seen in "Prizzi's Honor." The film also boasts popular stars Jack Nicholson and Kathleen Turner so you may have to sign-up in advance to rent this one.

Well, along with five or ten-thousand other movies, those are some choices. Now you can no longer say that you're watching a "Flinstone's" rerun because there is "nothing good on." If you don't have a VCR, remember that most tape stores rent players as well.

Next issue: Coming Attractions.

Help prevent avoidable fires

by Todd Allen
Division of Police and Safety

A large portion of fires are of the electrical nature. To help prevent such fires, we must not overload circuits with a lot of electrical appliances. In addition, frayed, rotted, or taped cords that overheat must be discarded. Next, appliances such as irons, toaster ovens, and hot plates should never be left on unattended. Finally, keep combustible and flammable items a safe distance away from electrical product.

Another big cause of fires is careless smoking. Be alert for "No Smoking" signs and follow the request. Most requests are made because of hazard in the area. Next, put ashes, discarded matches and cigarette/cigar butts in ash trays, as garbage cans, furniture, rugs and wood work are burnable and not proper repositories for such hot items.

The last probable cause of fires involves the storage of combustible and flammable materials. Included may be paper,

oily rags, gasoline, bottled gas and clothing, among others. Do not put these type of items near open flames, electrical products, or other sources of heat. Be particularly careful not to keep gasoline in your residence or in the passenger and/or trunk compartment of your car. Discard rags if they get oily, as these are extremely hazardous.

The most important way to prevent fire is to think before you act.