



Rufus Harley, jazz bagpiper of love.

Jazz Player Shows Off His Skills for Penn State

By Lori Craddock
Lions Eye Staff Writer

On November 20th in the Main Lounge at 12:30-1:20 (Common Hour), Penn Staters have the privilege of experiencing one of the hottest pioneers in the music world here at Delco. Rufus Harley is the world's first jazz bagpiper player. Harley was first inspired to play the bagpipes when he heard them played in 1963, by the Black Watch Bagpipe Band, at President John F. Kennedy's funeral procession. He promptly purchased a set of his own in a New York pawnshop. Although learning to play the bagpipes is hard, he has mastered this instrument and made the music his own.

This original music style, involving jazz and bagpipes, fuses together musical traditions which otherwise would rarely be combined. Harley hopes through this fusion to deliver a message of peace: that different societies and their music can come into harmony.

Harley explains, "You blow the bag up and the wind travels in a circle sustaining one note. Then you view the bag as the universe, every person sustaining one note and the variety connoting different degrees of how to understand life." He proceeds to say, "Once an individual understands himself, he can understand the rest of the world."

Rufus Harley has received some press not only for his unique poetic speaking style and awe inspiring music, but also for his practice of handing out liberty bells during lecture-performances. This artist has been interviewed and written up in magazines such as *Ebony* and *Look*. He has been on both the *Tonight*

Show and *I've Got A Secret*. He received a standing ovation at the governor's mansion in Harrisburg and was invited back for former Governor Dick Thornburgh's inaugural. This multitalented musician plays the soprano and tenor sax as well. And, he played the latter in the movie, *Eddie and the Cruisers*.

This Germantown native has made his mark upon music culture. Rufus Harley is a perfect example of what we all want to achieve: To inspire and entertain others through something we find personally fulfilling. His originality in music is widely appreciated and has possibly opened a new door in the era of music today.

Fellow Penn Staters, I encourage you to come out and see this talented man perform and hear his music. It is an experience you will never forget.

Also coming to our school...

Dec. 4: Ethnomusicologist Jeremy Wallach. Grunge, Rap, heavy Metal, and House Music in Indonesia Today.

12:30-1:20 (Common Hour). Main Lounge.

Jeremy Wallach is a Ph.D. student in ethnomusicology at the University of Pennsylvania. His area of specialization is Indonesian popular music, and he draws on a background as a heavy metal and grunge performer. Mr. Wallach will lecture on a summer field project he has conducted in Djakarta, studying Western popular styles and their meanings in Indonesia today. Mr. Wallach will also comment on the music's meaning to youths that are now spearheading political change.

An Insightful Navajo Book

By Regis Fields
Lion's Eye Staff Writer

"Already, in the sultry streets, the mean quotient of suspicion settles at his crooked mouth, but just inside himself he perceives, in the still landscape of legend, the cold of his dark destiny; already, in the sultry streets, he resembles himself in death."

"*The Ancient Child*," by N. Scott Momaday, is full of cryptic Navajo poems such as this that are used to set the mood of destiny fulfillment. As many stories of Native American origin, the purpose is to express some meaning of their peoples. In this story the main character, Set, is a Navajo-Kiowan man who as a child was orphaned due to the passing of his only immediate family, his father. As a testament to the artistic achievements in areas such as the southwestern portions of the United States, Set is a brilliant yet unguided painter. In contrast to Set's character is Grey, a young Navajo woman who lives in Oklahoma both Set and Grey's homeland, who as a teen wandered onto the homestead of Set's distant family and is immediately accepted by Sets' grandmother Kopeh'mah. Her character is that of medicine woman in training, in the Navajo culture the medicine woman takes on more meaning than what westernized medical practice may have many believe. She embodies the spirit of her peoples as a torchbearer for the continued customs and rituals they perform.

Without giving away the gist of what makes the story, the basic

ideal expressed by Momaday is that of right and purpose of being. The story itself is set in the American southwest and incorporates such legends of that area like Billy the Kid, and Pat Garrett the man who brought

"All these characters enter into this world of fiction as icons of what the American southwest stood for at a time in history."

Billy the Kid to justice. Figures of Navajo ancestry are also included in the story like Chief Set-angya who was leader of the Kaitsenko society, a warrior troupe of honored men who fought for the preservation of Kiowan land. All these characters enter into this work of fiction as icons of what the American southwest stood for at a time in history. Also, to show how their spirits should be reflected in the manner in which the main characters exist, in the text Grey often has visions that entail deep conversations with the late Billy the Kid.

The novel is beautifully written in the Native American folklore style, giving the reader insight into the pride of these peoples. Momaday has written numerous works like this in the past such as "*House Made of Dawn*" and "*The Gourd Dancer*," and in the process he received a Pulitzer Prize for his writing. *The Ancient Child* is an excellent novel for anyone interested in the Native American culture and its effects in writing.

"A tour-de-force of clarity and brilliance." — *San Francisco Chronicle*

THE ANCIENT CHILD

A NOVEL



N. SCOTT
MOMADAY

PULITZER PRIZE—WINNING AUTHOR OF *HOUSE MADE OF DAWN*

The novel can be found at PSU-Delaware County's library.