

Unconventional Atmosphere at Jawbone

By BETH GOLDER

Collegian Staff Writer

The Jawbone is a coffee house whose budget barely "breaks even"—fall term it was in the red. The most contact many students have had with it was at the beginning of this term, when "The Sounds of the Jawbone" were blaring out on the ground floor of the Hetzel Union Building to advertise "the Jaw's" new recording. However, enough students and faculty members have discovered the Jawbone to make standing room only the rule during many of the Friday and Saturday night performances by folk singers, poets, jug bands and assorted others.

South of South Halls

The Jaw, which is "south of South Halls" at 415 East Foster Avenue, consists of three rooms which can hold a maximum of 100 people at its small round tables. Since a fan and hood over the large grill for "Jawburgers" fight a losing battle with the smoke, the rooms are also filled with authentic Jawbone "atmosphere."

The walls hold modern art work loaned by student artists for a few weeks at a time. A microphone and stool for performers or anyone with views to express are at the side of the center room. The kitchen serves food paid for by donations.

Why is there a Jawbone? The Jawbone coordinator, Larry Trettin pointed out that while the coffee house "just about breaks even," the Jawbone wasn't meant to be a commercial success. Trettin, a Lutheran intern and Baptist theological student from Princeton University, said the Lutheran Student Association on campus saw a "need for an informal place for students to congregate." He said the Jaw is student operated, financed and oriented and is staffed entirely by volunteers.

Reputation for Openness

The Jawbone coordinator said the Jawbone "has developed a reputation for openness." He sees it "as a place where ideas, both very conventional and radical, can be expressed in the same room."

The Jawbone is not a true cross-section of students, Trettin said, but there is a "definite variety in students who are different in background and outlook." A few fraternity and sorority members, students "just here for an education" and members of the athletes' crowd come to the coffee house, he has found.

The Jaw appeals to people due to its "openness and freedom of expression," Trettin observed. The Jawbone menu has a quote by Dietrich Bonhoeffer above its prices for Jawburgers, cheese platters and c-presso coffee which says: "A Christian must plunge himself into the life of a Godless world, without attempting to gloss over its ungodliness with a veneer of religion or trying to transfigure it. . . . To be a Christian does not mean to be religious in a particular way . . . but to be a man."

Cornell Idea

The idea for a coffee house appeared after members of the LSA visited "The Unmuzzled Ox" at Cornell University during winter term of 1963. Susan Sassaman (graduate-clothing and textiles-Harrisburg), a former LSA vice-president, said that those who went were "inspired" by the effectiveness of this coffee house.

The Ox served beer and attracted the "beatniks and hippies" at Cornell, Miss Sassaman noted that the atmosphere was "really crazy" with unfinished walls and orange crates for tables.

The Penn State delegation was not very impressed with the "different clientele" at The Unmuzzled Ox until a drunken student got into a long discussion with the Reverend Arthur R. Seyda, a University pastor, on "does God have a navel?" Miss Sassaman said the student group talked until 4 in the morning discussing their beliefs with some atheistic students.

The next day they discovered that girls wearing black stockings and students with beards were attending the Lutheran church in the same building.

The Unbridled Ass

After returning to the University the group proposed creating a coffee house called "The Un-

bridled Ass" after a Biblical quotation, but settled for "The Jawbone" because it was necessary to have the coffee house chartered by the University Senate, she said. The present Jawbone was built with materials from an old house. LSA members and several interns, Miss Sassaman explained, provided the labor.

She said that the Jaw, which opened in the fall of 1963, has failed to attract the "really controversial students" since "all the people they (the original LSA group) were really after are at the Skeller or someplace like that." It has also tended to become more dated, which "shuts people off" from the others, she pointed out.

One Jawbone project keeping with the original idea for openness is the Tuesday night student-faculty discussion on controversial topics, Miss Sassaman said. Last year's Lutheran intern, Tom Chittick, originated the idea, which is continuing with topics questioning "The Aim of Education: Social Adjustment or Human Liberation?" at 8 p.m. every Tuesday.

Show Business

This year the Jawbone made a record featuring the best entertainers at the coffee house. Karen Lee, a senior resident in East Halls, took the pictures making up the album cover. Over a hundred of the RCA Victor-pressed records have been sold at \$3.95.

A wide range of side uses have been made of the Jawbone. Students have made motion pictures, videotapes, speeches and term papers on the Jaw for anthropology and business education. Such groups as the Pan-Hellenic Council, Graduate Student Association, the Philosophy Club and the Episcopal Student Association have held meetings there. Also, NBC radio did a presentation on the coffee house last year.

When the Jawbone coffee house first opened, customers kept asking "what's your pitch," the Rev. Mr. Seyda observed. The Jawbone is now accepted, without a pitch, as a place for students to talk, as its name implies.



The Sounds of the Jawbone

PERFORMERS—if "The Sounds of the Jawbone" are, from left to right: front row, Sherry Erhart Patrick, Jeanne Grubbe Fera; back row, Johnny North, Larry Trettin (Jawbone coordinator), Jerry Marince, Mike Bouman, Daniel Shaffer, Connie Woodring, Larry Brown and John Haag, assistant professor of English.

McClellan Committee Probe Uncovers Vietnam Fraud

WASHINGTON (AP) — Testimony indicates, Sen. John L. McClellan said yesterday, that the use of some funds in the commodity-import program in Vietnam was improper and "of highly questionable legality."

It also indicates, he said, "gross laxity and inefficiency" in the administration of the Agency for International Development—AID—program.

The Arkansas Democrat gave that assessment after three days of testimony before his Permanent Investigations sub-committee concerning alleged fraud and dishonesty in the program where the United States finances the imports.

Testimony at yesterday's session indicated that a Vietnamese importer named Dr. Dinh Xuan Thao set up a phony \$800,000 expense account to promote a worthless battery additive.

The man in charge of the program, assistant AID administrator Rutherford M. Poats, was questioned for a day and a half.

He acknowledged there were inadequate procedures

last year, but said AID had strengthened its controls.

Poats said the abuses were deplorable but unavoidable at the time due to lack of agency manpower to keep track.

"Any alert administration would have caught it," Sen. Karl E. Mundt (R-S.D.), said at the end of yesterday's hearing.

Poats has been nominated for the No. 2 job in AID. Senate consideration of his nomination was deferred until the end of the McClellan hearings this week.

At the core of these hearings was the case of Thomas Edison Higgins of Treasure Island, Fla., a 58-year-old inventor of a battery additive made mostly from epsom salts, which the Bureau of Standards has described as "without merit."

Testimony gave this picture:

Higgins and the Vietnamese import firm of Doanh Tin Cuoc, headed by Thao, arranged to sell the battery additive in Vietnam under the AID program.

Thao arranged to get 39 import licenses in the under \$10,000 category where controls are less stringent. Letters of

credit, valued at \$363,000 were issued to Higgins. AID put up the money.

Thao got \$140,000 from Higgins and had him send it to a Swiss bank. Higgins's books show he owes Thao another \$79,000.

The Florida inventor "stashed away" about \$92,000 and bought a boat, a car and a house.

Higgins was unable to testify. He came to Washington to do so but entered a psychiatric institute in Baltimore the night before he was scheduled to appear.

The battery additive never was sold in Saigon. Most of it still lies in a warehouse.

Thao's Swiss bank account has at least another \$150,000 in it from similar arrangements with other U.S. suppliers.

Thao dummed up the \$800,000 expense account but little, if any, of the money was spent to promote the additive. Thao never received more than \$140,000 from Higgins, but apparently had the expense account set up for \$800,000 to cover future payment he expected from Higgins.

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Applications for Group III Pennsylvania State scholarships are now available in the Office of Student Aid, Nittany 32 at the University, according to Ralph N. Krecker, director of the office.

Applications must be filed by students who currently hold Group III scholarships as well as by those who want to apply for the first time. Completed applications must be returned to the Office of Student Aid before Friday, May 19.

Group III scholarships are designed for fulltime, degree-candidate students who have exceptional need and who do not hold any other State scholarship. They must be United States citizens, Pennsylvania residents, and of satisfactory character and academic standing. Special, adjunct, or part-time students are not eligible.

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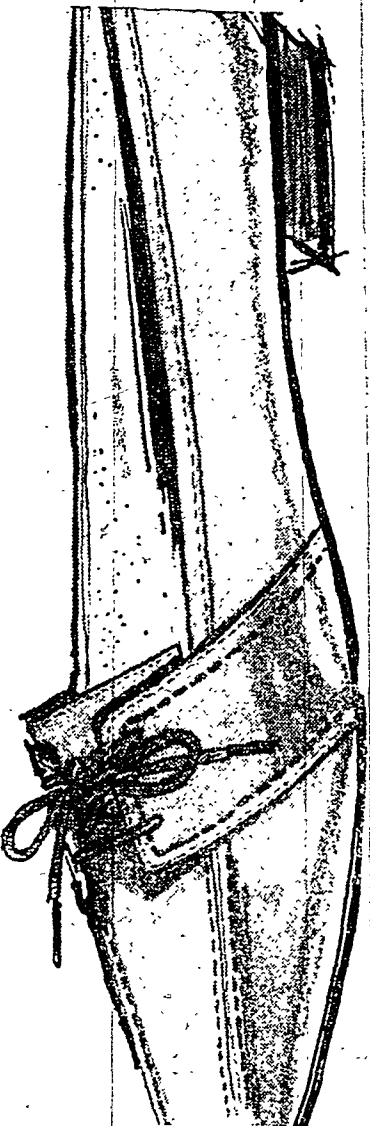
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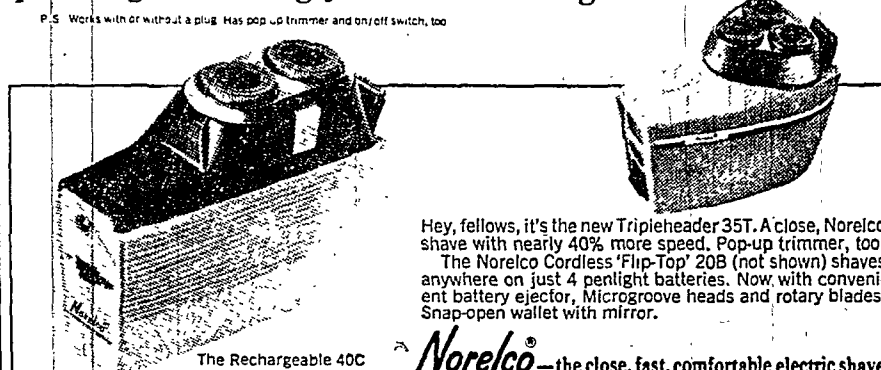
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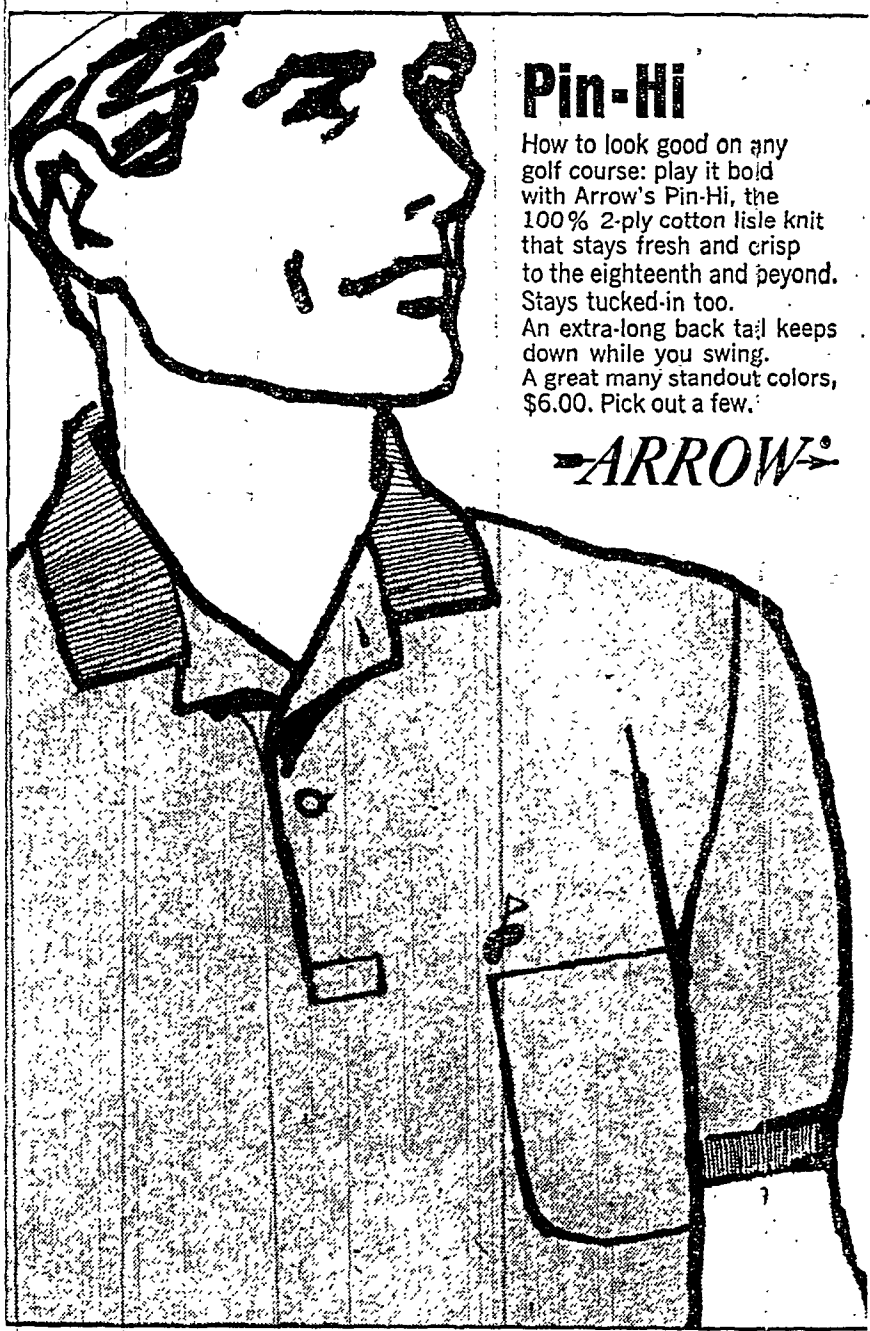


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