

Writer John Brunner speaks God appears on campus

By RICH GRANT
Collegian Senior Editor

God appeared on campus Thursday night, performing his poetry, warning his audience in South Human Development that "we HAVE got to set our planetary house in order," showing off his interdisciplinary omniscience.

What more could one ask from John Brunner, the English poet and writer of science fiction? That he has the enthusiasm of Graham Kerr and the authority of God?

"The main ingredient of the mix is me," Brunner said. I DETEST being categorized!

Brunner, the poet, launched into verbal pyrotechnics, giving each word its own vibration and form.

He tossed off parodies of poetry by Kipling, Sandburg and others, speaking in Middle English, his accent changing. The parodies served as introductions to chapters in his newest novel, "The Sheep Look Up."

He read his poem about children literally driven mad by the fighting in Ireland.

"If anybody has been wondering why I have been so pessimistic in my work, it is because of the nature of the times we live in," Brunner said. "I wish the world was furnishing something more ENCOURAGING, more optimistic for my material."

Brunner's best known work is "Stand on Zanzibar," a novel dealing with the population explosion which won him the 1969 Hugo Award for best novel. Hugos are awarded by science fiction readers at conventions.

Set in the 21st century, with several billion humans alive, the novel tells "What it's like to live in a huge hive that has its own kind of hysteria and bursting point," according to Philip Klass, associate professor of English and writer of science fiction under the name of William Tenn.

Brunner has written about 60 other works, mainly science fiction, including general fiction, spy thrillers and two volumes of poetry.

"I'm a writer," Brunner said at a press conference earlier that day. "to have attempted a much wider range of material gives me a wider choice of tools."

Later, he stated, "What would happen when ALL science fiction writers felt the way I do? It would HASTEN the crumbling of the artificial barriers between science fiction and literature."

Brunner treats his creativity like an investor, learning new skills, trying new angles, waiting out the lows, constantly exercising, constantly.

"Writing is ALMOST a job that never stops," Brunner said. "From breakfast to bedtime, feeling, seeing, walking may give you ideas."



John Brunner

Photo by Ira Jaffe

And: "There are no problems of ideas for a writer. There is only a problem of expression. I am lucky I have a well-developed conscience which will ONLY present me an idea when there is a form for it."

That night, Brunner's inner confidence appeared as arrogance. After he performed his poems, he answered questions from the audience, instantly, elegantly, a British version of the Shell Answer Man.

"I feel that we are the species which could take control of our destiny, but we haven't measured the consequence of our own meddling," Brunner said.

"No other creature has the ability to realize what never happened and make it happen," he told his audience.

Maybe Brunner wasn't God. Maybe he didn't even own the planet. But, for a while there, it felt like it.

Discrepancies in assault case

By BETH NISSLEY
Collegian Staff Writer

Many discrepancies surround the assault and battery charge filed by William G. Snyder, student patrolman, against James Lomax, University Concert Committee member and Black Caucus chairman.

The charge was filed Thursday after an incident at the West, Bruce and Laing concert Nov. 11.

The charge claimed that Lomax attempted to enter Rec Hall without a concert ticket or written authorization, pushed Snyder to the floor, tore his uniform jacket, inflicted a two and one half inch scratch on his right wrist and threatened him with a wooden board from the handles of a set of doors.

Lomax denied the charges and said he plans to hire an attorney for his hearing Friday at which he said he will enter a plea of not guilty.

Lomax claimed that he tore Snyder's jacket accidentally as he reached out to steady himself after Snyder had pushed him. He said he picked up a small wooden doorstop in self-defense after another student patrolman tried to hit him with a flashlight.

"They never bothered to ask me for the two tickets or identification I had," Lomax said. "Finally, the officer whose jacket I tore (Snyder) entered the door with me and was with me when I found Mike Shields (Undergraduate Student Government president) who verified my identity," he added.

Snyder said Lomax's story in the Nov. 17 Daily Collegian had a "lot of fallacies in it. Like Michael Shields — I

don't even know who he is — I just know he's the president of something," Snyder said. "I never talked with him and wouldn't recognize him if I saw him."

Snyder claimed he finally let Lomax enter the door because it "was just easier to let him get in than stand there arguing. So Lomax and Lutz went to find one of the sergeants or corporals while I stayed at the door," he said.

"Once inside they met up with Corporal (Andrew) Spisak. Perhaps there they talked to Shields, but I can't personally say because I don't know," Snyder said.

Clifford Lutz, another student patrolman, also claimed it was he and not Snyder who entered the door with Lomax. "Together Lomax and I found Corporal Spisak," he said.

Spisak told The Collegian that he "can't really tell which officer I talked to. It's a closed matter and I can't make any statements until after the investigation," he said.

Li Kirk Trate, commander of Student Patrol, said, "From the reports I saw I couldn't determine which one went in, although I do recall that one of the officers did go in with Lomax."

Shields said he was inside the front entrance and saw Lomax engaged in some kind of debate. "Lomax asked me to identify him and I did. The officers were saying he had just rushed in without a ticket, so I told them he was on the concert committee and reassured them that he didn't need a ticket," he said.

realized that it was a very hostile situation," he said. "My part in the affair was really only identifying Lomax."

Shields said he didn't know which officers were with Lomax when he met them, but added that they knew him.

A State College man who wished to be unidentified told The Collegian that he saw the incident between Lomax and the police.

"The two officers were the most abrupt rude bastards I ever saw. I was playing paddleball with my nine-year-old son at the time and they wouldn't even let us through to get a drink," he said. He further described the officers as "bitter."

"Lomax came up and asked to get in. They got him started. He does have a temper," the man said. He added that the officers appeared scared and the one that raised the flashlight was so scared he didn't know what

to do. "They ought to get rid of the other guy," he said. He said Lomax was not the only one treated rudely and said people going up to the door were treated with "no tact whatsoever."

He said that when the band finally arrived the officers refused to help them find the dressing room. "They wouldn't even give the band the time of day."

He said "shoving" began when Lomax attempted to enter and was grabbed by the officer. He said he saw shoving but that no one, as far as he could tell, hit anyone else.

He said Lomax's account published previously in the Collegian coincided with what he saw.

Bottler fined

TEL AVIV (AP) — A judge said he fined a bottler \$6 a leg for a poisonous centipede found in a bottle of raspberry juice.

COP concerned about advising

By TANYA McCLURE
and MITCH CHERNOFF
of the Collegian Staff

A Faculty Advisory Committee has been formed to improve instruction and advising at the Commonwealth Campuses.

At a Council of Presidents meeting Saturday, Dean of Academic Instruction for Commonwealth Campuses Bob Quinn said the new advising system "should be running by next fall, and will provide "as high quality advising as possible."

The committee was formed because many of the Commonwealth Campus Student Government Association presidents said they felt students at their campuses are not getting proper guidance from advisers.

Hazelton SGA President Bob Henry complained that some of the Hazelton students didn't have advisers. Ogontz President Joe Kaplan added some advisers were unwilling to advise students.

Quinn said the SGA's could take these problems to the faculty member on the advisory committee. He added the committee will compare new ways to teach courses. They also are redoing course television tapes over which

students will have veto power.

Director of Student Activities Mel Klein told the Council his office presently is looking for a Leadership Development and Educational Program Specialist to help with the developmental needs of organizations on this campus.

Klein said the person selected for the job will deal with building effective communication skills, conflicts within an organization and integrating new officers in the organization.

Klein added that the specialist will serve as "a resource person for student organizations and for the professional staff of Student Activities."

He said upon hiring this person, a leadership conference for SGA presidents

Graduate study fellowships available

For the 1973-74 academic year Alpha Lambda Delta will award the following fellowships for graduate study: the Maria Leonard Fellowship, the Alice Crocker Lloyd Fellowship, the Adele Hagner Stamp Fellowship, the Kathryn Sisson Phillips Fellowship and the May Augusta Brunson Fellowship.

will be held under the direction of this person to teach them how to run their student governments more effectively and to improve communications.

The Council elected a student to the Academic Advisory Board for Undergraduate Studies Ann Reveria, from Delaware Campus, was elected to the board which evaluates alternative means of education such as internships and small group instruction.

The Council also discussed the availability of concert tickets to Commonwealth Campus students. Many of the Commonwealth Campus students said that it was difficult to obtain tickets away from the University and said they felt that a certain number of tickets should be allocated for students at

Commonwealth Campuses. The argument against this was that money from Associated Student Activities is given to University Park for University students only.

The Council presidents plan to talk to the Concert Committee to obtain a certain percentage of tickets from each concert for Commonwealth Campus students.

SGA President from Behrend Walker Moore suggested a committee to investigate the funding of the University since many of the Commonwealth Campuses said they felt they weren't receiving enough money. An ad hoc committee was set up and will work with the Undergraduate Student Government.

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'Brecht on Brecht' set

The Department of Theater Arts' Experimental Theatre will present two performances of "Brecht on Brecht" today and tomorrow at 8 p.m. in the Pavilion.

The production consists of six characters taking parts in renderings of the German writer's song and prose.

Jerry James, a master of fine arts candidate who directed "The Overland Rooms" for Five O'Clock Theater, will direct the production. James has directed two plays for the Kern Graduate Center, "Botticelli" and "The

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