## Line from New York.

## It's Saturday Night (and you ain't got no ticket)

By BRIAN GAMERMAN

warm-up for the studio audience. "Last He was with Cathy from California and take Missy in place of her friend. year the show was so bad we couldn't Todd from Texas. Sharon walked "all the even give tickets away. . . . 'Get away way from 57th street' (seven blocks). from me with those tickets, sucker!" premier, two weeks ago, had the lobby tickets. Sharon McMahon's uncle works packed with standbys and none of them for NBC.

"We were pulling bag ladies in off the

street," he chided.

So how does anyone get to see the show? There are over four million stories in the Naked City, and every one of them is about a different way to get tickets. There is always a first in line. Always. air, five dress rehearsals - not counting

"I'm a fanatic," the 17-year-old Sole

body, School of Tickets. The "Saturday Night Live" season California. Sharon's uncle got her some of Prussia. He gets his tickets from his

McMahon's niece?"

week. All the standbys got in for the came in Friday she called her friend who dress rehearsal and Battista even had used to work at NBC. He called his friend some difficulty filling the 312 seats of who still works at NBC and . . . tickets.

His friend said the tickets were "very much in demand" but would get him a pair. Wilson came up from Mississippi with his wife on the Red Eye, left at three in the morning. That's why she was asleep back in the hotel, which leads us to the Know a Friend With an Extra Ticket school. Becky was an old friend from Miss and, well, her husband was also tired that night. "So I ditched my wife and picked up what's-her-name here,"

said. His ticket tactics are simple; he Nancy Caronia from Long Island goes writes away for them. His crash style is to a similar school of ticketry. She has eighth floor, he's a camera blocker and requests in his friends' names, see, and They don't always fall for it, he so far five of his 10 letters have hit. All his

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"On a lark," he replied. "What will you do if you don't get in?" "A lot of drugs."

Battista said some WTs threatened to slash wrists, etc. if they could not get in. It seldom helps, all of them are given the same speech by one of the pages, always Which leaves us with one of the easiest ways to get into the show — work there. Robert Kaplan is a page. "I interviewed for the job and I got it," he said. Small wonder Battista describes his three

Then there's the Know Somebody, Any- he's busy acting in a play, see? So Nancy went to the show with her cousin and this NEW YORK — Eddie Murphy did the Andy drove all the way from Indiana. bear, "Little Missy." Nancy promised to They all went to high school together in Amateurs compared to Peter from King cousin's dad, who is a talent agent. Five

whether from across the country or across the city, with for-sure tickets

tickets to the producers and they give them to friends who never show up," Battista said. The standbys wait in line, to be number 312. You must come in

personally abused," Leroy said. I pointed out that being made to wait in line and then being turned away was pretty abusive. "We are already being indirectly personally abused," he

Beryl Wolfe of Arlington, Texas, was a middle-class, middle-aged type with the equally simple. "My dad works on the this friend, see, and he mails ticket most wonderful Texas drawl, not your typical SNL fan. "I love it, but sometimes it's a little sick." She explained that she learned about standby from the

Lowest on the lobby list are the Wishful Thinkers. Pages spend most of their time dealing with these folks who aimlessly wander into the building and ask to see the show. It's Saturday night and we were in the neighborhood anyway. Why had Ed Kalanka, a classic WT, come from Clifton, New Jersey, with no

weeks as a page as "never ending speed



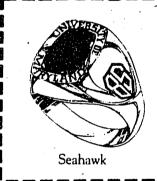
tion as first in line, while page Mark Battista (right) displays the classic "I'm sorry, all the seats are reserved" posture. Nancy Caronia (below) takes surrogate friend Little Missy to its first "Saturday Night."

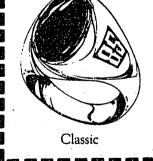




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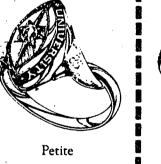














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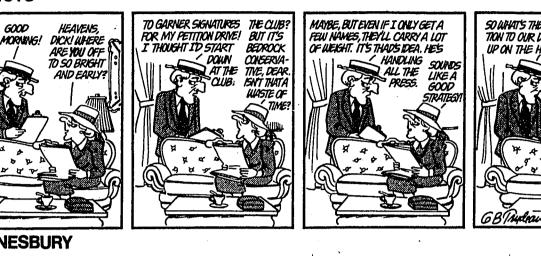


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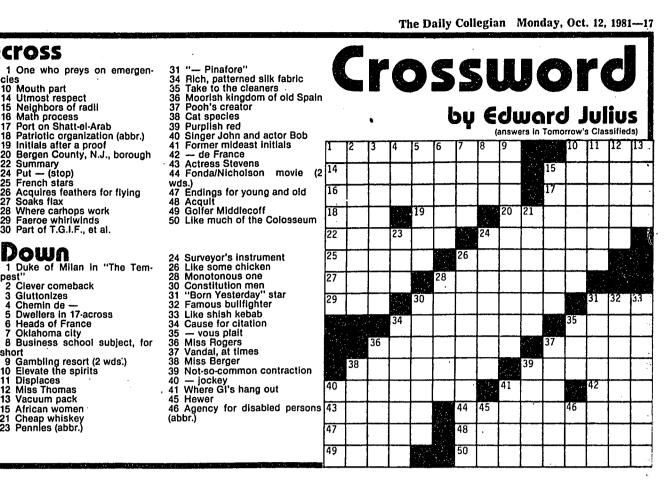
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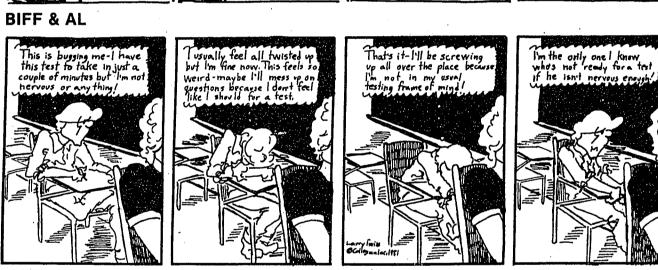
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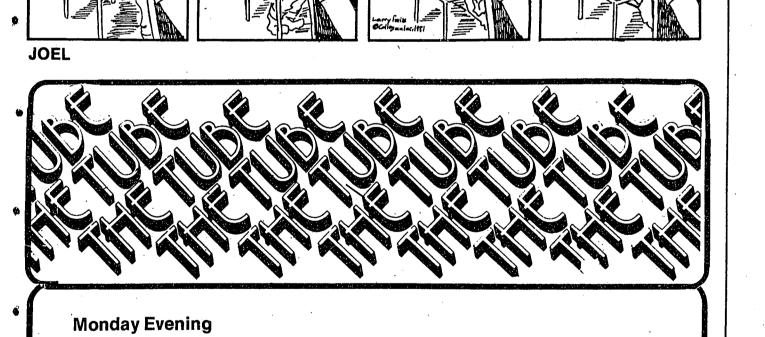


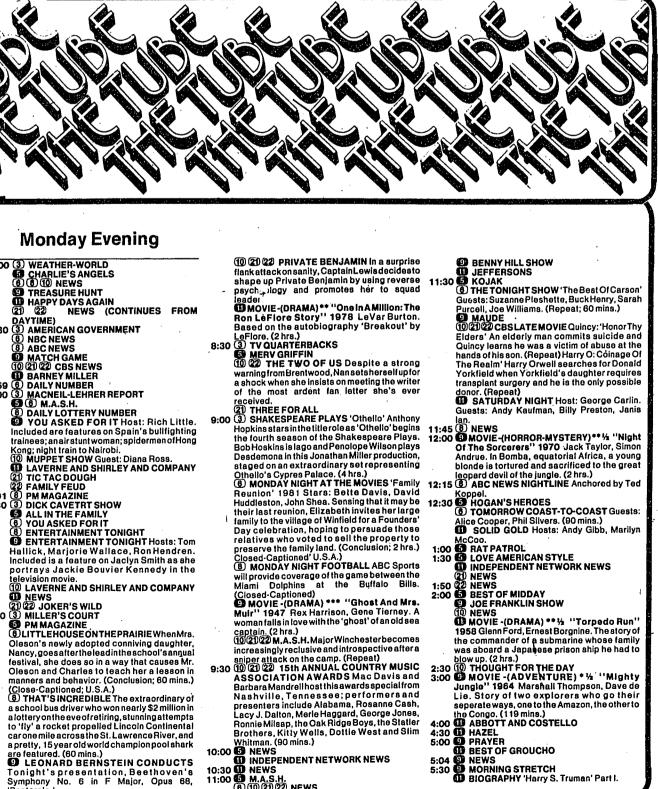
















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