English professor takes U.S. trip to gather material

question that is indirectly raised in the ment and deal with such experiences as

Philipsburg and proceeded westward aban encountered. through Pittsburgh, St. Louis, Cebolla Canyon and Red River, N.M.

In addition to his CB and backpack, he also carried a letter from the associate dean of the College of The Liberal Arts a letter which explained the purpose of

"To whom it may concern: This is to state that John Balaban is an associate professor of English at the Pennsylvania State University. During this summer, Professor Balaban will be hitchhiking across the United States in order to project. Any courtesies you might extend

adventures along with Vietnam War ex- that they're usually less suspicious." periences and Romanian travels into a Even though it only took him between book of poetry titled "Blue Mountain," to five and six days to travel cross-country, be published in January by Unicorn there were times when the going got a

In the preface of the book, Balaban explains his motive for relying on his thumb to get from State College to San

writes. "All you see are clouds, river said. "They don't like hitch-hikers, and loops, peaks and prairies. Buses are they are highly suspicious of anyone deadly because you can't see anything without a car. They think you're a mesand, worse yet, you can't get off them senger of the devil if you don't have a

like "Walking down into Cebolla Can-you." Equipped with a CB radio, slingshot, yon" and "Kate and Gary's Bar, Red lobster pot and knapsack of clothes, River, New Mexico" speak of the wide American culture," he says jokingly.

'Once you get out of the East, especially across the Mississippi, people become much more

"There's a great difference in people," their way into most of the poems in the Balaban said. "Once you get out of the first section of the book. East, especially across the Mississippi, him in the furtherance of his academic people become much more friendly and "I think most of this is due to fewer second section of the book: How did the love, marriage, birth and death. created these cross-country, hitchhiking people, and fewer people usually means

friendly and open."

little rough, he said.

A Wyoming state trooper threatened to arrest him; a trucker once pulled a gun on him, and there were times when he had to wait and wait for a ride friendliest place in the world," the poet

"Hitchhiking is best because you meet Balaban's 1978 trip was his third crossnice people: stones truckers, aural mas- country journey. By this time, he had seuses, dogpit trainers, rodeo riders, more or less perfected the art of hitchhik- matically influenced his writings. Bal- Whether it is in the United States or molybdenum miners, middle-aged, ex- ing by relying not so much on the 'ole aban's first book of poetry, "After Our places like Romania people are always Hitler Youth electronics experts, tattoo- thumb but rather on a CB radio to com- War," devotes itself to the horrors of the trying to do this; they are always searchists, newly-commissioned West Pointers municate with those rambling down the war. It was named the Lamont Selection ing for a blue mountain."

10% off any 2-way combination Good Luck to the Lady Lion Volleyball team at the NCAA playoffs.

538 E. College Avenue Across from South Halls Delivery starts at 4:30 p.m.

In June of 1978, John Balaban, Univer- Part one of "Blue Mountain," which is "Using a hand-held walkie-talkie is the His retrospective essay of the war, sity associate professor of English and titled "Journey in the Desert," most only way to do it," he says. "You're able "Doing Good" was included in the Pushcomparative literature, began a cross- directly reflects the experiences gained to contact drivers and tell them what cart Prize Annual for 1978. country journey in a manner usually not on Balaban's 3,000-mile journey. Poems you're doing long before they ever reach to "Balaban's essay 'Doing Good' is, with

"Maybe this will be my contribution to the best writing by an American to have emerged from direct encounter with the Balaban began his trek on Route 80 in variety of places and people that Bal- All of his hitchhiking experiences, both horror of that war," wrote contemporary good and bad, in some way have worked poet, Denise Levertov.

"The war has been over a long time," the poet said staring out his office window, "but I still think about it all the time. It was very hard coming back, especially when a lot of my friends didn't come back."

Balaban came to the University in 1970. Then in 1971 and 1972, through a grant from the National Endowments for he Humanities, he returned to Vietnam to collect ca dao, which are traditional, Vietnamese lyric poems. Balaban was the first person to ever record these ca dao, which he estimates Balaban's reasons for embarking on cross-country journeys stem from a are sung without musical accompani-

Vietnam War effect the United States? compiled into "Ca Dao Vietnam: A Bilfound it very hard to live here," he said. ingual Anthology of Vietnamese Folk "I had been away a long time, and like 500,000 other Americans, I felt unwelcomed. So I needed to take a good look at section of "Blue Mountain" are also the country; I needed to find out about "It gives a sense of looking back into Vietnam and the people there." War as a conscientious objector. From

1967-68, he taught linguistics at the University of Can Tho in the Mekong Delta. the poet's experiences in Romania. Then from 1968-69, after the university was bombed and destroyed, Balaban ences to "Blue Mountain." A few of the worked as a field representative for the poems actually refer to it as a place, Committee of Responsibility to Save

His war-time experiences have dra- finding a place in a bare landscape.

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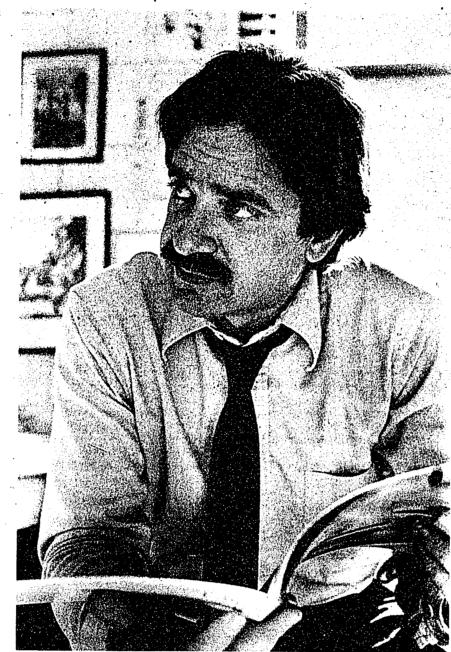
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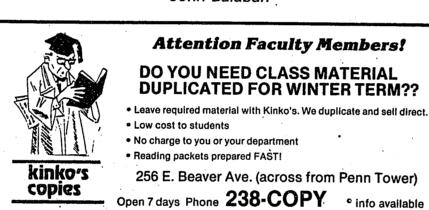
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students too):



John Balaban



BELL'S GREEK PIZZA Let's Go Penn State! The Doctor

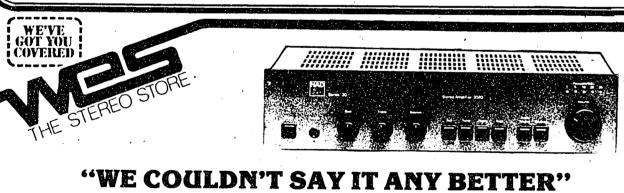
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little amplifier may actually be 'more powerful' with certain very severe speaker loads than some of the heavyweights on the market. So far as we are concerned, it is one of the best values in audio.

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lealing with an inexpensive, modest integrated implifier. Don't let that fool you. It is capable of realvorld performance far in excess of what its specs ndicate, and cannot be judged by the same standard as other equipment in its price and/or power class. Quite simply, it's one of the best buys in audio . . .

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Reagan refuses Stockman's resignation offer —

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Budget Director David A. Stock-rich man confessed to "poor judgment and loose talk" in what he A White House statement handed to reporters following termed a visit to President Reagan's woodshed yesterday. But Reagan rejected his offer to quit for having expressed concern and disappointment" about the article and his doubts about the economic program he helped design. Stockman, in quavering voice, said he tendered his administration . . . might seek to mislead the American reflects things that I had been saying in our private on the best way to solve the nation's economic problems. resignation in a 45-minute Oval Office meeting with a "very public.

the team." He agreed. Stockman is quoted in the piece as having misgivings about Reagan as very disturbed.

article in the December issue of the Atlantic Monthly. several elements of the administration's program.

Stockman's appearance said Reagan had expressed "grave "particular dismay at the possible suggestion that his

chagrined" president, who, at the end, "asked me to stay on "He (Reagan) stated unequivocally that he would not tolerate any such behavior," the statement said. Stockman, who grew up on a farm, said "My visit to the and the president despite the political furor caused by an Oval Office ... was more in the nature of a visit to the sions and misconstrued his views, "I take full responsibility planner. woodshed after supper." The budget director described and blame."

Perhaps the most damaging of those statements was his cocky, spokesman that Washington so quickly grew to know program, Stockman said in explaining why he offered to do."

statement to reporters saying he had offered to resign. Stockman was asked if he could remain a credible point suggested. man for Reaganomics, and replied "Well, I can't judge that, but I would only say this: that almost anything other than maybe an indiscreet quotation . . . in that article basically

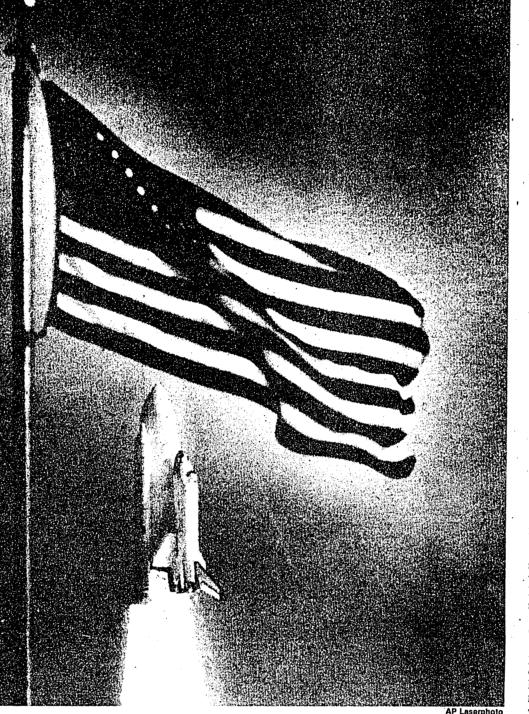
deliberations as well as in public comments."

But Stockman said his "poor judgement and loose talk did his (Reagan's) program a serious disservice." Although and that is to dispel any notion" that he does not have faith Stockman said the article presented "utterly false" impres- in the program he designed as the president's top budget

"I would not let my rambling to a reporter stand in the said, adding: "I am grateful for this second chance to get on The budget director hardly appeared the confident, even way" of Reagan's own credibility or that of his economic with the job the American people sent President Reagan to

"Trojan Horse" designed mainly to lower tax rates for the his voice and hands trembled as he read an opening But the budget director denied that he has doubts about the president's program, as his statements in the article

> . if I did not believe in the president and his policies." Stockman said, adding that "honest people" may disagree He said he told the president that "I have one purpose . .



The space shuttle Columbia is framed by the American flag as it lifts off from the Kennedy Space

They arrived at 9:05 p.m. EST, were installed miles from the dry Rogers lakebed where Colum-

daily state nation world Sister shuttle aids Columbia

A'P Science Writer

PALMDALE, Calif. (AP) — When the chips were down. Columbia's half-built sister ship, Challenger, sacrificed a key data instrument so that Columbia might fly. Challenger could afford it: its time for space will not come until June. Workers at the Rockwell International facility here are toiling daily over tier upon tier

scaffolding surrounding Challenger --- second of a planned four-ship fleet of reusable spacecraft. On Wednesday, after a problem in Columbia's data relay system jeopardized its launch, Rockwell workers scavenged two 36-pound units, each the size of a breadbox, from Challenger and flew them cross-country to Kennedy Space Center.

by 10:30 p.m. and tested by midnight. NASA quickly announced that liftoff was on track, a Last month, NASA borrowed 28 thermal blankets from Challenger to serve as extra insulation

should Columbia require it. Challenger's construction hangar, a huge, nondescript building with great sliding doors is identified by a weather-battered sign as "Building 294." It sits on the edge of this desert town 25

bia ended its historic first flight last April. Dick Barton, a spokesman for Rockwell, the shuttle prime contractor, said nearly 700 men and women are working on final assembly of Challenger, and "tens of thousands from nearly every state in the union have worked on parts of it." There are "no major design changes" between only real difference is that systems on the Chal-

Challenger and Columbia. "There's some fine tuning and of course you upgrade your systems as you go along," Barton said, explaining that the lenger are designed and verified to last 100 missions, while some Columbia systems were not verified. Columbia will be pulled briefly out of service and its systems upgraded once Challenger

then shipped here, where "everything is put together, with the exception of the engines," which are installed at Cape Canaveral, Barton

The wings were made on the East Coast. transported by ship through the Panama Canal to the Port of Long Beach, then mounted upright on the back of a truck and taken through downtown Los Angeles to Palmdale at 3 a.m. Challenger must be completed by next summer because it is to fly in 1983. The third and fourth

shuttles — Discovery and Atlantis — are at early stages of assembly and are to follow Challenger out of the hangar at roughly one-year intervals,

that it came on his 44th birthday was icing on the

The celebration began as soon as he entered the

making second mission. Joe Engle, Truly's commander on the shuttle nission, was also more than a little anxious for launch day. He waited 15 years for a flight and van to take him and Engle to the launch pad. He to provide a spot for a geologist.

back and the shuttle delayed for years. grandfather — twice.

But when his day finally came, it was grand.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Richard "I'm going to have the biggest birthday candle l Truly waited 16 long years before his dearest wish ever had," Truly had predicted when he and

> astronauts' dining room for an early morning snaped centerpiece and a birthday cake

And minutes before the 1010 a.m. shuttle liftoff a section of Very Important Persons sitting in bleachers at a special viewing site burst out in a spontaneous tribute by singing "Happy Birth-

Four charged with Sadat assassination

Associated Press Writer CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — The four alleged assassins of Abdel Hamid Abdel Salaam Abdel Aal, owner of a violent tendencies, and he justified for them the decision President Anwar Sadat and 20 other Egyptians were bookshop; Ata Tail Hemida Rahel, an engineer, and indicted vesterday for premeditated murder and conspiracy to commit premeditated murder. Conviction on such charges carries an automatic death penalty. Military executions in Egypt usually are by firing fraudulently to replace three crew members of his for the prime suspect. session will be open to the public. The three-judge

tribunal is to decide whether the rest of the trial will be

The indictment, broadcast over national television, said the four main defendants were charged with premeditated murder, a capital crime in Egypt. Islambouly of leading the attack on Sadat at a military instructor and a driver. parade outside Cairo Oct. 6. The attackers halted their truck in front of the reviewing stand, then stormed the group as Omar Ahmed Ali Abdel Rahman, a theology

they killed Sadat and seven other people and wounded Inclusion of 20 other defendants, charged with helping and helping the four main defendants by giving them which 750 people were arrested both in connection with prepare the attack and smuggling in ammunition to the wrong religious interpretations of the Koran." parade ground, was in contrast to officials' original Abdel Rahman, it said, "agreed with the group and Egypt, officials said.

stand with guns blazing. According to the indictment,

claims that the attackers were an isolated group.

The three other main defendants were identified as instigated them to carry out the crime and accepted being the leader of this misguided group, knowing their

The indictment said El-Islambouly "abused his position as a responsible person during the military parade armored truck with defendants numbers two, three and our." It said El-Islambouly also brought ammunition onto the parade grounds, including four hand grenades. The indictment accused two other defendants, a blind

crime by giving extremist interpretations of the Koran, or Moslem holy book, to justify the assassination. Other defendants were listed as an army lieutenant colonel, an engineer, nine students, a dentist, a mer-The indictment accused Lt. Khaled Ahmed Shawki el-chant, a pharmacist, two carpenters, a university grenades and fired automatic weapons in the first few The indictment identified the religious leaders of the

Moslem preacher and an engineer, of instigating the

instructor, and Mohammed Abdel Salaam Farrag Attevia, an engineer

The indictment accused three of the students and the

merchant of participating with the main four defendants as "leaders of religious organizations known for their misguided religious beliefs, which supported Army Lt. Col. Abdel Latif Hassan el-Zomor and 13 others were accused of approving the plan to attack

Sadat and helping smuggle in some of the ammunition Explaining the failure of Sadat's security to protect him, the indictment said the assassins hurled three

"This stunned the persons sitting in the reviewing stand, including the president's bodyguards, and it

It accused Atteyia of "participating and instigating" The indictment capped a 5½-week investigation in the assassination and with attempts to create unrest in

Polish students boycott classes

150,000 others heed appeal to end walkout

By W. JOSEPH CAMPBELL **Associated Press Writer**

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — More than 100,000 Polish university students boycotted classes yesterday but a major have to be introduced. regional strike by 150,000 workers in pendent union Solidarity said it would

Solidarity leaders in Zielona Gora said the strikers agreed to return to work talks would start Tuesday, Solidarity association.

In another development, Stefan Communist Party's Politburo, told a "This will mean restriction of civil

Commenting on the series of strikes, Polish Television said: "How long can Although new strikes by bus drivers one beat to death one's own country? and newspaper started yesterday, 150,- Everybody is striking now over whatever said some of the student boycotts lasted 000 striking workers in Zielona Gora one wants. Let's have no illusions. These province said they had heeded an appeal are no longer just controversies between national tragedy." In announcing that union-government

without providing further details.

today after receiving assurances that the spokeswoman Maria Komorowski said. replacement of three state farm manage- both parties." Polish Radio said the talks strike in Zielona Gora province. were to have started today, but that the had forced postponement of the talks

role in government, according to the fected by the student call for sympathy reduction in sales commissions.

Olszowski also said unless the indepenneering school in Radom, organizers of has been issued by leaders of 40,000 dairy dent union "acts effectively to prevent the student protest said. Students there cooperative workers to seek pay raises strikes, definite anti-strike laws will were in the 18th day of a sit-in over a and a new charter. disputed election of a school rector. Scheduled lectures were replaced by liberties," PAP quoted him as saying, discussions of the country's social and while government-union talks are on. economic ills and callled forgreater aca-

> The student protests were the largest winter over academic reforms. That air their grievances. strike led to registration of the student

The official news agency PAP reported union would press their demands for "It's been decided and agreed upon by long-distance bus drivers had joined the PAP also said news vendors in Gdansk, tense labor situation around the country the northeast city of Bialystok, and the

western industrial center of Gorzow Wielkopolski shuttered their kiosks and

Poland's strikes have persisted despite Solidarity's leadership call that they stop lesa visited 2,500 striking miners in Sosspokesman for the Independent Students Association which organized the strike, their protest, called 16 days ago over a chemical throwing incident. Twenty-one rom Solidarity to end a regional walkout the government and Solidarity. This is a campus strike since a 28-day protest last shafts and demanding television time to

Solidarity is proposing a six-point agenda that will be debated at the Tuesday talks. The union says the agenda embraces "all the country's major prob-

The union wants increased access to the state-run media, free local elections, ernment, creation of a social-economic party conference in Legnica the party About 60 percent of the country's 91 papers were sold from the backs of council representing the government "will never agree" to giving Solidarity a institutions of higher learning were af- delivery trucks. Vendors are protesting a union and church, economic reforms and

who wear white gloves as they select the appropriately numbered piece, apply glue, set it in place and tighten it down mechanically. Barton said the ship was first assembled three years ago and delivered to a nearby site for a series of stress tests. "Then it came back here and we dismantled it" to install the systems and

with green plastic, as is its open nose. The cargo

bay doors are not attached and workers move

about on ladders and catwalks, installing cables,

Much of the work involves applying the 30,800

Each tile is attached individually by workers

heat-resistant tiles — about 50 more than protect

Columbia from the fiery heat of re-entry.

conduits and tubing.

Truly celebrates birthday blast

came true yesterday — travel in space. The fact — Engle arrived from Houston on Tuesday.

was lifted from the crew of the last moon mission Truly became the country's youngest astronaut 16 years ago, at the age of 28. His high hopes of an the orbiter. It was signed by members of the early space trip led to mounting frustration as one manned space project was scrubbed, another cut

His three children grew up, and he became

"It's been a long time coming," the space breakfast. The room was festooned with ribbons, program's first grandpa said prior to climbing and along with his steak and eggs was a shuttle-His fellow astronauts sang "Happy Birthday and tossed streamers and balloons. The song was

> flashed a huge grin and waved. On launch pad 39A, a long, multicolored "Happy Birthday" banner hung over the hatchway to

U.S. official attacked in Paris

PARIS (AP) — The top U.S. offi-house, and I noted a young man on cial in France ducked an assassin's the right about 50 feet away." Chapbullets vesterday, crouching behind man told a news conference at the his car when a bearded gunman in a U.S. Embassy after the attack "He black leather jacket emptied a sev- had a black beard, jet-black eyes en-shot pistol at him in a posh resiand an athletic build. He was a very dential area near the Eiffel Tower. handsome young man - a Middle

Christian Chapman, 60, charge Eastern type.

d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy, was

The man, in his 30s, stuck his hand not hit. The gunman escaped and no in his black leather jacket and apgroup claimed responsibility But Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. said in Washington that Libyan leader Moammar Khadafy house, I stupidly continued on," he could have been behind the shooting. said. "I heard shots and saw him

The Foreign Ministry said Chap- walking rapidly toward me with his man recently reported he had been hand extended. I ran forward and threatened, but that he had not ac- ducked behind the car. He started cepted an offer of police protection, walking rather quickly away. There

the origin of the day's name: an

"I was just walking out of my young man tried to pursue him." Friday the 13th brings bad luck

which will be provided from now on. were several witnesses, and one

HARRISBURG (AP) - For the Friday. superstitious, Friday the 13th is a But others, like Scandanavians special day for avoiding peacock consider Friday the best day of the feathers, one-legged chickens and week. Perhaps this is explained by If you are keeping count, this is the Anglo-Saxon word meaning Frigg's third Friday the 13th in 1981 with the Day

year, the superstitious had to fear with mysticism and apprehension Friday the 13th only in June and next for centuries. In fact, there is even a year they will have cause for worry word to describe those with an abonly in August. Even when it does not fall on the phobics. 13th, Friday is considered an un- So widespread is the discomfort lucky day by many. Traditionally, with the number 13 that many hotels

sailors do not like starting a voyage and office buildings simply elimithat day and some people believe it nate that floor; skipping from the is bad to be born or married on 12th to the 14th floor.

Fizz helps hens lay better eggs URBANA, Ill. (AP) — In the hen more than offset the cost of carbonhouses of the University of Illinois, it ating water, but Odom said specific

goes like this: fizz, fizz, plop, plop. economic studies will be done later. These chickens are drinking car- For years, scientists have been bonated water and then laying bet- looking for a solution to the softter eggs. Scientists found that the shelled, easily broken eggs which bubbly water sets up a chemical are laid during hot weather. chain reaction that makes more Chickens cool themselves by pantcalcium available for eggshell pro- ing, but the panting also changes

The result, said researcher Ted Odom, is stronger eggshells.

save by reducing breakage should water.

their blood chemistry. Carbonate is lost and less calcium is available for

"When they drink the carbonated Using carbonated water to replace

water, the amount of breakage is carbon dioxide lost during panting significantly reduced," Odom said. seems to reverse the process. And The money that egg producers can Odom said the chickens like bubbly