

arts

Ticklish?

A group's effort can help you to find out

By CHRISTINE CURCIO
Collegian Staff Writer

Did you ever go to a hotel and find that they have some of your towels? This question and others like it will be answered by Penn State's only performing comedy group, Funny Bones. Appearing from 10 to 12 tomorrow night and next Thursday night at The Deli's Hippo Room,

this talented group became locally known when they performed at The Wine Cellar and Gatsby's. When the New York nightclub "Catch a Rising Star" had a comedy contest last January, Funny Bones members Scott Bruce, Ron Gallop and Gene Frantz appeared in their show. Gallop placed second in the competition. Winning second place in the

"Catch a Rising Star" competition has earned him the honor of performing in HBO's next "Young Comedians" special. To be filmed in Boston this week, the show will be hosted by Saturday Night Live's Joe Piscopo. It will air May 15. Funny Bones later took their act to Eisenhower Auditorium January 27 to open for Warren Zevon, where hecklers had a field day.

"The first thing you learn about standup comedy is how to deal with these people," said Bruce, founder of the troupe. In fact, when someone in the crowd gets obnoxious, his favorite putdown is "See what happens when the fetus doesn't get enough oxygen."

Bruce is a State College native and saw a need for comedy in the area. He created Penn State's last April and in September changed the name to Funny Bones. He is teaching a Free U class in comedy this term called "Insanity 101."

The troupe is currently comprised of Ron Gallop (12th-advertising), Jerry Zolten, Curt Nasatka and Rachel Eisner.

Former members Gene Frantz and George Hamanty will come back to the area occasionally and perform with the group.

Bruce and Gallop are planning to seriously pursue comedy. Bruce has performed at New York's "Comic Strip" and "Catch a Rising Star" many times. In addition to standup, he and a friend have written a television series which one of the networks "has some interest" in it.

Gallop performs regularly at The Comedy Works and The Comedy Factory in Philadelphia.

As a group, Funny Bones is branching out into the surrounding areas. With several engagements in the planning stage, they have already scheduled shows tonight and next Wednesday at the V.I.P. club in Harrisburg.



State College's comedy troupe, Funny Bones, consists of Curt Nasatka, Ron Gallop, Jerry Zolten, Rachel Eisner and Scott Bruce (above).

Motown moves into the '70s

Editor's Note: This is the second part of a three part series on Motown.

By GERARD SHIELDS
Collegian Staff Writer

Another of Motown's smash male singing groups was The Temptations. The group, made up of David Ruffin, Eddie Kendrick, Otis Williams and Paul Williams, became Motown's most popular male singing group.

The Temptations were the first group to become famous for their gyrations and dance choreography. Originally named The Primes, they came up with their first million seller in 1965 entitled "My Girl," which was written by Smokey Robinson.

Within the next ten years the group went through numerous group changes. But the band managed to stay on top of the charts with hits like "Ain't Too Proud to Beg" and "I Wish It Would Rain." The group combined with the Supremes in 1968 for one of its last big hits "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me."

As the Motown Era headed into the '70s, many people wondered if it could keep producing the hits. After all, the Supremes had split and the Temps and Tops were fading away. In 1968, just when it seemed like the young stars were getting too old, Motown Records made its biggest catch when Diana Ross traveled to Gary, Ind. and the Supremes were performing at a black and white talent show entitled "Soul Weekend" when they met a singing group made up of five brothers known as The Jackson Five.

The group was led by the youngest Jackson, 10-year-old Michael. The band projected a new kind of sound that

Gordy labeled "soul bubblegum."

After Ross took the band back to Detroit to sign with Motown, Michael Jackson became the heartthrob of America. His high-pitched voice captured the ears of every music listener. The Jackson Five became the biggest selling act in Motown history. Their first single "I Want You Back," sold 2 million copies in 1969.

The group was so popular it had its own Saturday morning television show. Through the show, the group sold hits like "ABC," "The Love You Save" and "I'll Be There."

During the rest of the '70s the Motown sound was kept alive by three main attractions: Stevie Wonder, Diana Ross, and Michael Jackson.

Wonder carried rock 'n' roll into the seventies with his keyboard wizardry on hits like "Superstition." Hit after hit and award after award, Wonder's music grew with every passing day.

His 1976 album *Songs in the Key of Life* established him as the most popular black performer of the decade. "Sir Duke" was the king with hits like the big band tribute "The Texas Chainsaw Massacre" is described at length along with other heavyweights like "The Exorcist" and "Deep Throat."

"Deep Throat" (1972) was responsible for making porno an acceptable theatrical experience. Once it became a conversation piece, more people had an excuse to go.

John Waters, one of my personal favorites, is also discussed. The maker of the repulsive "Desperate Living" and "Pink Flamingos," Waters later made "Polyester" which was one of the funniest movies I've ever seen.

It's all here in this book. It might make you nauseous if you read it all at once, but it's a peculiarly educational book that makes a few personal comments on the public.

The best of the worst in gore

By CHRISTINE CURCIO
Collegian Staff Writer

"FOR ONE WEEK ONLY: The World of Exploitation Films," by Richard Meyers, New Century, \$12.95, 270 pages.

Flicks like "Revenge of the Cheerleaders," "Caged Virgins" and "Don't Look in the Basement" are chronicled forever in this unusual and creepy book of exploitation films.

Not distributed by a major studio, exploitation films depend on anything and everything to sell tickets. The book is divided into three parts: Sex, Drugs, Rock 'n' Roll; Violence; and Horror. As the preface says, "You are about to walk the line of cinematic sanity."

Meyers invents the word "gorehound" to describe an addict of

horror films. Considering the volume of movies made to cater to these people, there must be a lot of them out there.

A line from "Two Thousand Maniacs" screams: "A Town of Madmen Craved for Carnage! Gruesomely Stained in Blood Color!" The older films are almost quaint with their statements like "Fiendish is the Word for It!"

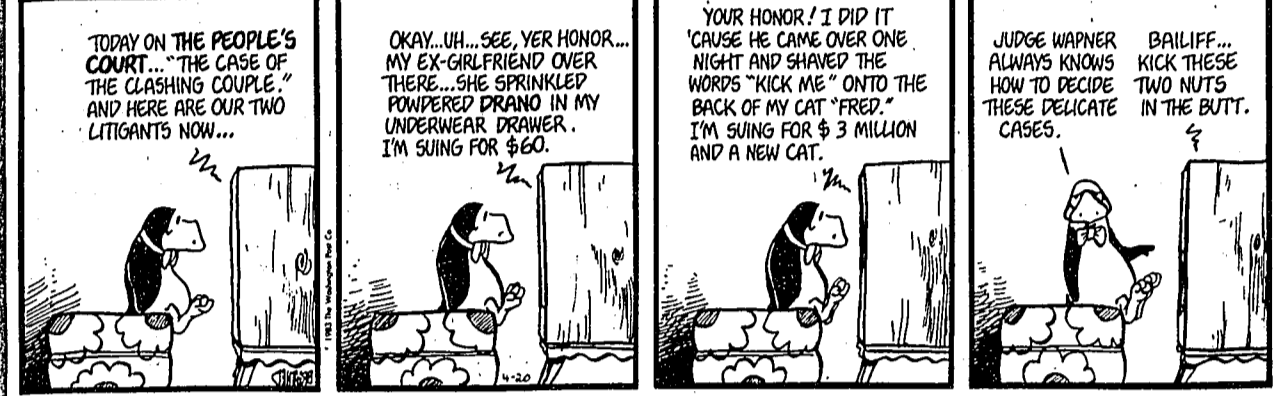
But as the years went by there was a no-holds-barred approach to filmmaking. I don't label myself prudish, but films such as "The Incredible Torture Show," with its brain-scrambling drill and "Isa, She Wolf of the S.S.," cross the gore-film boundary. At the risk of preaching, I can't help but think that there is a lot of sickness in the world and that films made solely for violence and more violence with

comics, etc.

peanuts*



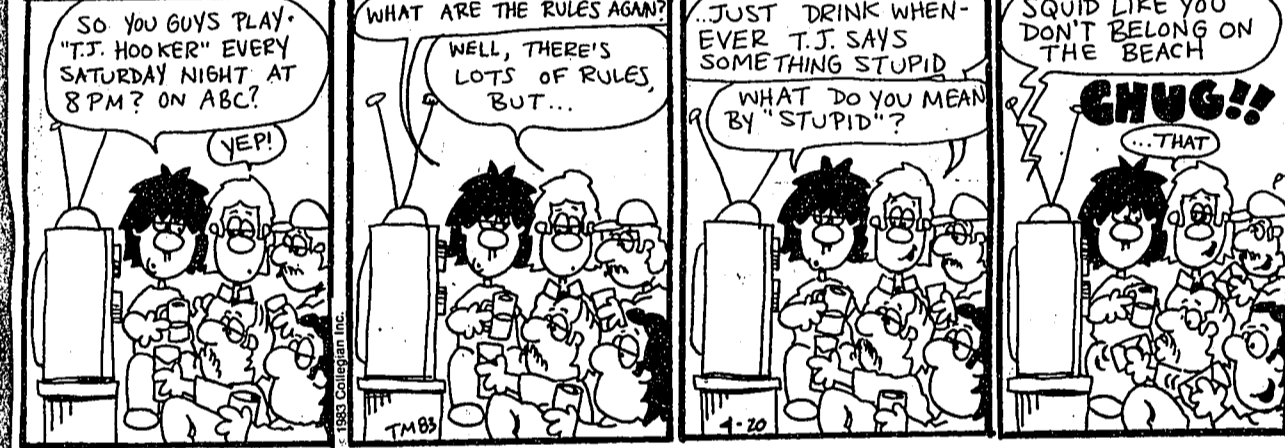
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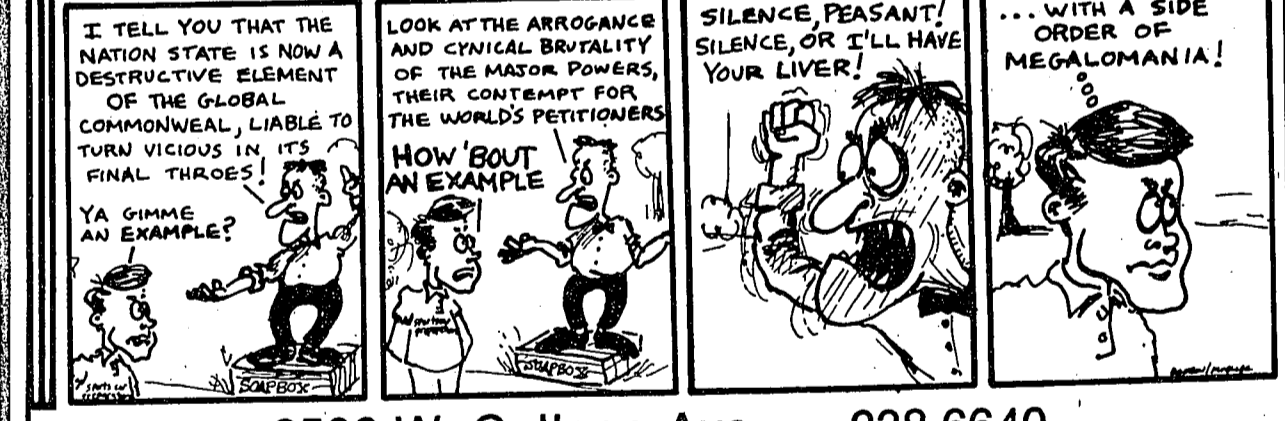
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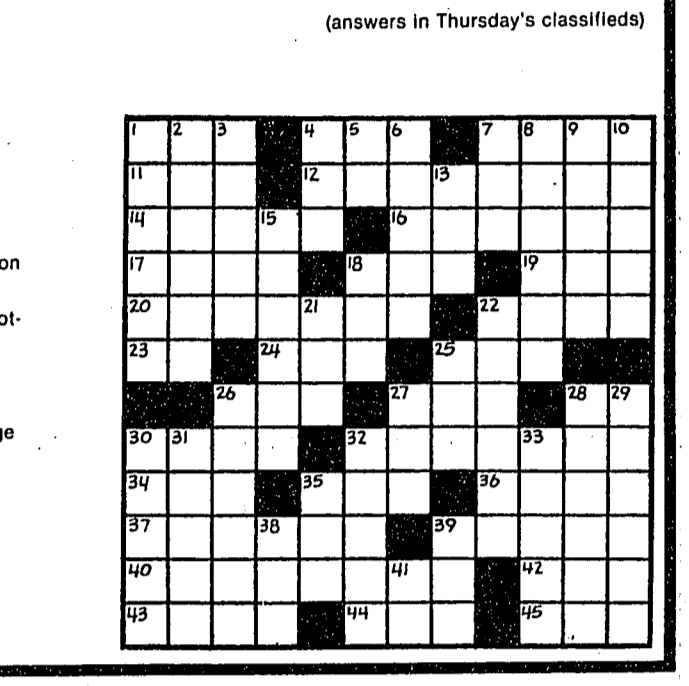


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Crossword

- Across
- 1 Drum beat
 - 2 Thick mass of hair
 - 3 Father
 - 4 Greek vowel
 - 5 Closed
 - 6 Quilt
 - 7 Cheer
 - 8 By any chance
 - 9 Service
 - 10 Down
 - 11 Put
 - 12 Bone
 - 13 Name of John
 - 14 Exhaust
- Down
- 1 Shipworm
 - 2 Ancestor
 - 3 Document
 - 4 Sime
 - 5 Over
 - 6 Sheriff's man
 - 7 Swindler's dum-my stake
 - 8 Pineapples
 - 9 Nopal
 - 10 Adrift
 - 11 American writer and critic
 - 12 Sultan's decrees
 - 13 Cactus
 - 15 Gender
 - 16 Central
 - 17 Pronoun
 - 18 Adjective
 - 19 Poetical
 - 20 Diocese
 - 21 Nod
 - 22 Matgrass
 - 23 Charm
 - 24 Legend
 - 25 Gallant
 - 26 Fairy fort
 - 27 Three-spot
 - 28 Appointed time
 - 29 Adjective suffix
 - 21 Logo
 - 22 Bronze incrustation
 - 23 Needlefish
 - 24 Flies
 - 27 Grandchild: Scot-tish
 - 28 Game fish
 - 29 Oldest
 - 31 Crescent-shaped
 - 32 Purple
 - 33 Overseas message
 - 34 Sap
 - 38 Hawthorn
 - 39 Young fish
 - 41 Digraph



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