By JENNIFER EDWARDS

Several weeks ago, three University theater profes- connecting action and purpose," said McNally, assosors were invited to share some of their skills and ciate professor and coordinator of the professional professional expertise at a series of workshops pre- acting programs at the University. "We worked an sented to Blackfriars and Center Stage in Rochester, awful lot on how the life of acting can spring from a N.Y. Jim Hoskins, Tom McNally and Barry Kur clearly defined purpose." presented a two-day series of workshops dealing with One of the exercises McNally used in his program is

theater groups housed in Rochester. Community the- than just an exterior representation of a line reading," ater groups differ from other theater groups in that, for he said. in theater who get together to perform.

the University, was invited to do a workshop on stage dialects for these two groups. This year, he was asked to put together a comprehensive weekend of theater subtext line to help the actor begin to focus on what to workshops. Movement, voice warm-up techniques and convey. As an example, McNally used the line "To be acting were the three areas chosen for presentation. or not to be ... " from Shakespeare's Hamlet. The "It is a basic actors training program," Kur said. subtext line for this might be, "I have to choose "They are the basic skills needed for getting the whether or not I'm going to kill myself right now or instrument in shape (body and voice) and then estab-

lishing a purpose for doing what you do on stage." breathing and basic movement exercises. "The pur-from within the actor. pose of these are to release tension and to relax, so the

of theater movement training at the University. Movement focuses on how actions should grow out of a character. "As you build the character, the movement comes out. This is more consistent than affecting movement," said Hoskins.

In order to explain this concept, Hoskins used the center of gravity has shifted. By dealing with these ing task. restrictions, the actor learns what the character is By commissioning these three workshops, Blackfri-

Later that day, Tom McNally presented a workshop called "Action in Acting." "This was an improvisational workshop centered on Stanislavski's principles of

movement, improvisation and voice and speech on called "Continuous Subtext." "This is an actors' game which requires the actor to find acting choices, which Blackfriars and Center Stage are two community are based on what's going on inside the person rather

the most part, they are composed of volunteer workThis game has three basic steps, McNally explained. ers. They are a group of people with a common interest The first step is finding an action — what has to happen on stage. In order to do this, McNally said, the actor About a year ago, Kur, director of actor voice and asks himself the following questions: What do I want? speech training and head of the performance faculty at What's in my way? What do I do to get what I want?

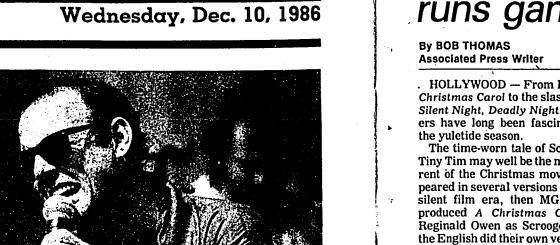
actions and emotions it evokes.

The series began on Saturday with a two-hour Step three in the game is to get those same actions workshop on movement presented by Jim Hoskins. and emotions from the subtext line into the textual line. This seminar dealt with the body through focusing, Thus, the motions and the purpose for the actions come

Kur finished up the weekend on Sunday morning with body can become part of what they (the actors) are a two-hour workshop on voice warm-up techniques. "It saying instead of a hindrance," said Hoskins, director dealt with what the actor needs to do before a performance," he said. "It's to remind the actor of what's accessible vocally."

The workshop focused on exercises in posture, breathing, resonance and tension release. "They do these so that the body is in good condition for the idea of an actor portraying an old man. Instead of just performing task," Kur said. He also stressed that daily pretending to walk like an old man, the actor realizes repetition of these exercises is an important part of an the limitations and physical restrictions of the body of actor's performing activity. After a while, the tensions an old person. It might hurt a little to walk fast, so the won't come back as quickly and the voice will be more person walks slower and is hunched over because their easily conditioned and ready to undertake the perform-

ars and Center Stage have shown that they are more The group at Blackfriars and Center Stage was serious than the average community theater groups. interested in period movement, especially of the Medi- "It's not usual that a community theater takes an eval, Renaissance, and Restoration eras. With this interest in training the actors in these basic skills concept the actor must learn to sit, stand and walk in (movement, acting and voice and speech)," said Kur. The groups are interested in improving the quality community theater, he added.



Rockin' sounds The Sharks, pictured below, will play tonight at the Scorpion, 232 W.Calder Way; while Pittsburgh's ever popular Billy Price (the dude with the shades) and his Keystone Rhythm Band will perform at Gatsby's, 100 W. College

Ave., tomorrow night.





## The Grinch: beloved author's self-portrait?

in his books he most resembles — Grinch's heart.

How The Grinch Stole Christmas an un-Grinch-like grin: "Ask my in the Hat, Horton Hatches the Egg takes away the presents, the trim- wife."

'Red Snake' heads

new music Top 20

8. "Neita Grew Up" - Sex Clark 5 ence

CEDAR RAPIDS, Iowa (AP) - mings and even the trees from the Geisel appeared Monday night Theodor Seuss Geisel, better Whos in the mythical town of Who- for a reading of his works at the known to young readers as Dr. ville. Nevertheless, the town cele- Carnegie Building, where a travel-Seuss, says there's one character brates, bringing a change to the ing exhibit of his works is housed.

Asked to explain his choice of authored more than 40 books, in-The despicable figure in Geisel's who he resembles, Geisel smiled cluding such favorites as The Cat

arts forum

## Farewell: Mainstream at PSU should open eyes

resist a few parting shots, constructors have here is that we should be more average hit-making band. "dear old State" (make me vomit). like those in the Top 40? A majority Van Beethoven was booed by the each semester. Thank you very much to the Arts of people listen to and like these audience. One of the most innovastaff, and especially Pat and Jill groups, so we're told to give the and Jeff for being such swell eggs people what they want.

groups, so we're told to give the around was rejected by the fans of a about it. Bug the Graduate Student and such fun to work with. If not for

If we wanted the Arts page to look band that was once just as obscure.

Association and the Student Union Arts, this rag they call a newspaper like Rolling Stone or Creem, we'd But enough about music — let's Board, too, and all those folks who

the Arts page for giving us a reason Obviously there is no value in being topic of debate for the past year or Elmo's Fire and The Rocky Horror

the Arts page is not a priceless Springsteen's cover version of

to exist. I'm not sure how many of a duplicate of the mainstream art- two. Here is a true example of Picture Show. you there are out there — you should write to us more often. Input and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially for something as diversible and feedback are always helpful, especially feedback are al

piece of future wisdom, of course. "War" just isn't where it's at, ler's Day Off been here this semes-It's the end-of-the-semester crunch once again, with one differ-stories about Penn State football accepted by mainstream fans when here less than twice in one year. ence: it's my last. I'm graduating and the Interfraternity Council get- these groups manage to get a song Showing the same movies all the ("say the secret word and win a ting its feathers ruffled by the State on the Top 40. People tend to reject time is just more evidence of how these bands unfairly because they the students here are satisfied with Since the Arts page does exist, don't have hits. But usually their the status quo. The sponsors don't quality is much better than your care that they show students the tive and destructive, about this hormainstream. Why not review and At a recent R.E.M. concert, for students care that they are given rible place so affectionately called write about more "popular" bands, example, opening band Camper such a small selection of movies

would be unreadable. write about such "pop giants" as
Thanks to everybody who reads

## Filmmakers' exploitation of season runs gamut from tradition to gore

HOLLYWOOD - From Dickens' A Kaye, Rosemary Clooney and Vera-dolph Scott, George Brent) return to Christmas Carol to the slasher movie Ellen. Silent Night, Deadly Night, filmmak- "Silver Bells" was a little song Jay holiday and Christmas in July, a ers have long been fascinated with Evans and Ray Livingston wrote for tame satire of the advertising indus-The time-worn tale of Scrooge and comedy The Lemon Drop Kid in 1951. 1940.

silent film era, then MGM in 1938 and "Que Sera Sera." Alastair Sim as the legendary penny- Little Christmas."

ago, the Walt Disney company en- it. listed all of its cartoon stars for a Oddly, most films with colorized - much to the distress of featurette called Mickey's Christmas "Christmas" in the title have fared many purists.

Bing Crosby in Holiday Inn in 1942. It musicals.

and resulted in the 1954 White Eve, the 1944 movie in which three Christmas, starring Crosby, Danny wayward sons (George Raft, Ran-

Christmas sequences of a Bob Hope try by Preston Sturges released in

pincher (the British had done an Frank Capra's unabashed sentiundistinguished "Scrooge" in 1935). ment often resulted in Christmas Christmas has been George Seaton's Albert Finney was unrecognizable scenes, notably in Meet John Doe and Miracle on 34th Street, starring Edin the title role of the 1970 Scrooge, It's a Wonderful Life. The latter mund Gwenn as a department store which featured songs by Leslie Bri-shows up regularly on holiday tele-Santa Claus who claims to be the real cusse. A recent version starring vision, partly because of its immense thing. The film, which also starred George C. Scott has become a tele- popularity, partly because its lapsed Maureen O'Hara, John Payne and a

poorly at the box office. uproar from outraged parents was so stomach - in the house."

most is White Christmas, sung by whelmingly for Deanna to return to Heart (1954), The Apartment (1960),

**ANNUAL** 

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**APPRECIATION** 

S•A•L•E

the English did their own version with singing "Have Yourself a Merry wrong. The film was the turkey of

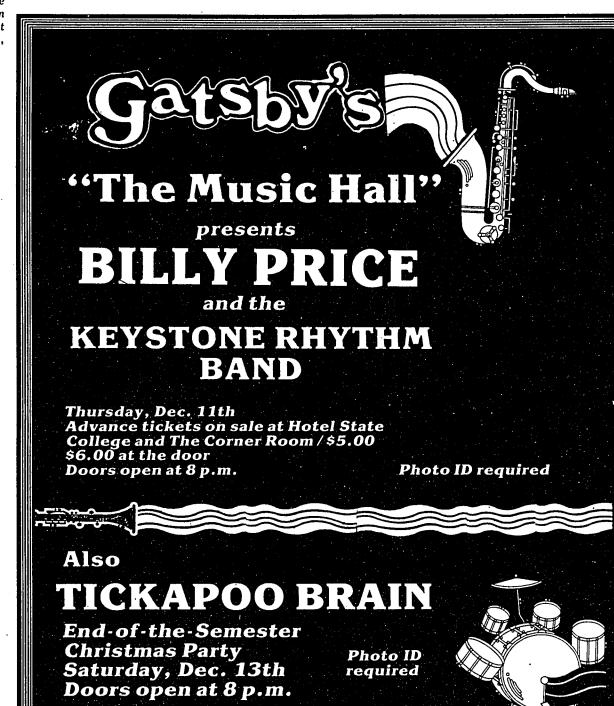
vision perennial. A couple of years copyright allows any channel to carry young Natalie Wood, has become a

At the other end of the scale was The Christmas Tree, starring Wil- the holiday season the 1955 Lady and last year's Silent Night, Deadly liam Holden and Virna Lisi, was a the Tramp, which features a Night, which depicted a Santa Claus 1969 bomb. Wrote critic Judith Crist: Christmas scene when puppies are impersonator as a mad killer. The "There won't be a dry eye — or a full born to the two leading characters. great that Tri-Star Pictures pulled In 1944, Universal cast its biggest The Holly and the Ivy (1952), The Inn star, Deanna Durbin, in a grim melo- of the Sixth Happiness (1958), The Think of Christmas movies and you drama with Gene Kelly, Christmas Bells of St. Mary's (1945), The Man immediately remember songs. Fore- Holiday. Audiences voted over- Who Came to Dinner (1941), Young at

Tiny Tim may well be the most recur- It became the biggest seller for the The producers of Superman rent of the Christmas movies. It ap-song-writing team, who won Oscars thought they would have another boxpeared in several versions during the for "Button and Bows," "Mona Lisa" office bonanza with a big-budget Sanproduced A Christmas Carol with One of the many joys of Meet Me in Huddleston in the title role and Dud-Reginald Owen as Scrooge. In 1951, St. Louis in 1944 was Judy Garland's ley Moore as chief elf. They thought

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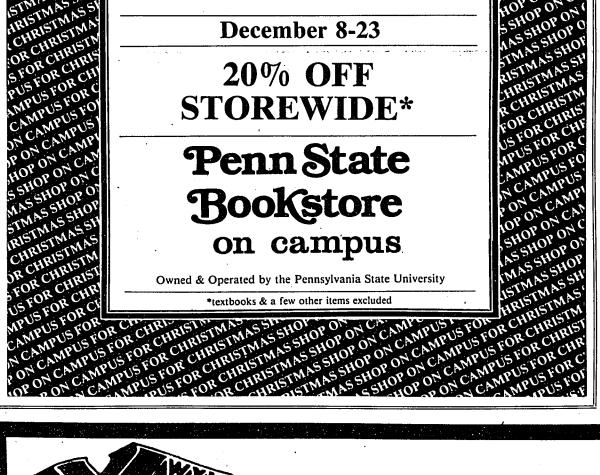


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