

Dylan & The Dead

by Robb Frederick
Collegian Staff Writer

For a while it had seemed as if Bob Dylan, who had once been considered the "spokesman of a generation," had run out of things to say. Recent solo recordings by this masterful lyricist lacked the enthusiasm and meaning found in his earlier work, and many listeners began to search for a new musical icon. Late last year, Dylan decided to combat his plummeting sales record by taking advantage of an offer to join the Traveling Wilburys. Surrounded by an unprecedented grouping of musical excellence, Dylan was inspired to return to his peak form, and his contributions to the Wilburys were beyond impressive. On the recently released "Dylan and the Dead," he continues his collaborative success by teaming with the ever-popular Grateful Dead. The resulting release provides another boost for Dylan's potential return to greatness, as well as another opportunity for fans of the Dead to capture Jerry Garcia and company on vinyl.

Recorded live in the summer of 1987, "Dylan and the Dead" offers seven tracks which at times leave listeners wondering why the combination of these musical

forces did not occur years ago. Dylan's performance is inspired and stimulating, and the Dead appear as the world's greatest back-up band, leaving the vocals to their new-found lyrical counterpart.

"Dylan and the Dead" begins with the song "Slow Train," during which the Dead provide a perfect beat for Dylan's gritty vocals. The partnership continues to prosper on songs like "Gotta Serve Sombdy" and "Queen Jane Approximately," which the Dead included in their recent series of concerts at Pittsburgh's Civic Arena.

Highlights of "Dylan and the Dead" include the frequently copied "All Along the Watchtower" and the rock staple "Knockin' on Heaven's Door." On "All Along the Watchtower," Dylan's spirited vocals demoralize the hastily produced cover version of this song which appears on U2's "Rattle and Hum." The electrifying guitar work of Jerry Garcia and Bob Wier successfully energizes the song, although the style is so distant from traditional Dead form. "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," which closes "Dylan and the Dead," offers the greatest collaboration, with each musician perfectly complementing the work of the others.

Although "Dylan and the Dead" is exciting and refreshing, the album does hint at a far greater potential. The meeting of these two legendary musical forces surely produced more worthy songs than "Joey," Dylan's tribute to gangster Joey Gallo. The most obvious and frustrating fault in this release is the exceeding prominence of Bob Dylan. Dylan is unquestionably one of the music world's greatest lyricists, but the Grateful Dead are far too talented and influential to be suppressed into the role of a backing group. The distinct sound of the Dead appears on each track of "Dylan and the Dead," but too often the band is overshadowed by Dylan's characteristic nasal vocals. Considering that the following the Dead has amassed over the years, combined with the group's recent commercial resurgence, will largely provide the support for this album, the band deserves a more notable level of input.

Aside from these discouraging problems, "Dylan and the Dead" is a refreshing and inspiring work which succeeds on its own terms. The album is certainly not commercial, but fans of the contributors will surely be impressed and sorry if they missed the brief union of these two musical giants.

Fry Now

One in every seven persons develop skin cancer. That one could be you! Although this statistic seems alarming, skin cancer has the highest cure rate and more importantly, is the most preventable of all the cancers.

A common misconception is that the only people that develop skin cancer are those with light hair, fair skin, blue eyes and those individuals with a tendency to burn when exposed to the sun. While these are the more will known factors contributing to skin cancer, there are others that must be considered.

Predisposing factors that also put people at high risk are persons with familial history of skin cancer, scar tissue, some types of birthmarks, all types of moles and most importantly, overexposure to the sun. Although overexposure to the sun is the leading cause of skin cancer, we will discuss three simple measures of prevention and early detection which will make it possible for us to enjoy the outdoors.

Keeping your exposure to the sun to a minimum is the primary concern in preventing skin cancer. For your best protection stay out of the sun when the ultraviolet rays are their strongest. These hours are

between 10 am and 2 pm. Some instances make it impossible to be out of the sun rays during these crucial times. These may be persons with outside occupations or when activities call for long time exposure in the sun.

No matter what time of the day you are in the sun, sunscreens are vital. The American Cancer Society recommends the use of sun protection factor #15. It is important to use this sunscreen to cover all exposed areas to the sun, not forgetting areas that are frequently overlooked. These areas are: lips, back of hands, ears, neck, forehead, cheeks, nose and wrist. Remember also to re-apply after swimming or perspiring.

Knowing your skin also adds to prevention and early detection. Be alert to the size, shape and color of pigmented areas. It is important to check these areas monthly, noting any sudden or continuous change in a mole's appearance. These include: asymmetric in appearance, border irregularity where the edges are ragged notched or blurred, change in color or if the color is not uniform throughout, or diameter greater than six millimeters. If any of these conditions are suspected, please contact your physician immediately.

ACROSS

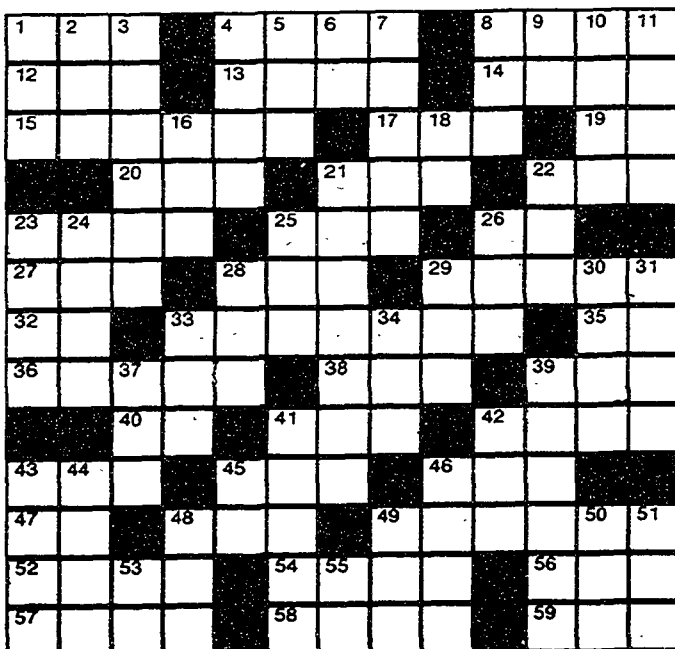
- 1 Cry
- 4 Vessel
- 8 Somersault: colloq.
- 12 Macaw
- 13 Courageous person
- 14 Japanese native
- 15 Bigger
- 17 Pale
- 19 Half an em
- 20 Scottish cap
- 21 Wager
- 22 Still
- 23 Barracuda
- 25 Sailor: colloq.
- 26 Hebrew letter
- 27 Organ of hearing
- 28 Weight of India
- 29 Ill-natured: colloq.
- 32 Article
- 33 Bird
- 35 Football pos.

DOWN

- 36 Wander
- 38 Dine
- 39 Edible seed
- 40 King of Bashan
- 41 High mountain
- 42 Antlered animal
- 43 Cover
- 45 Towel
- 46 Merriment
- 47 Hypothetical force
- 48 Footlike part
- 49 Waitzed
- 52 Singing voice
- 54 Not subdued
- 56 Anger
- 57 Lifeless
- 58 God of love
- 59 Ordinance

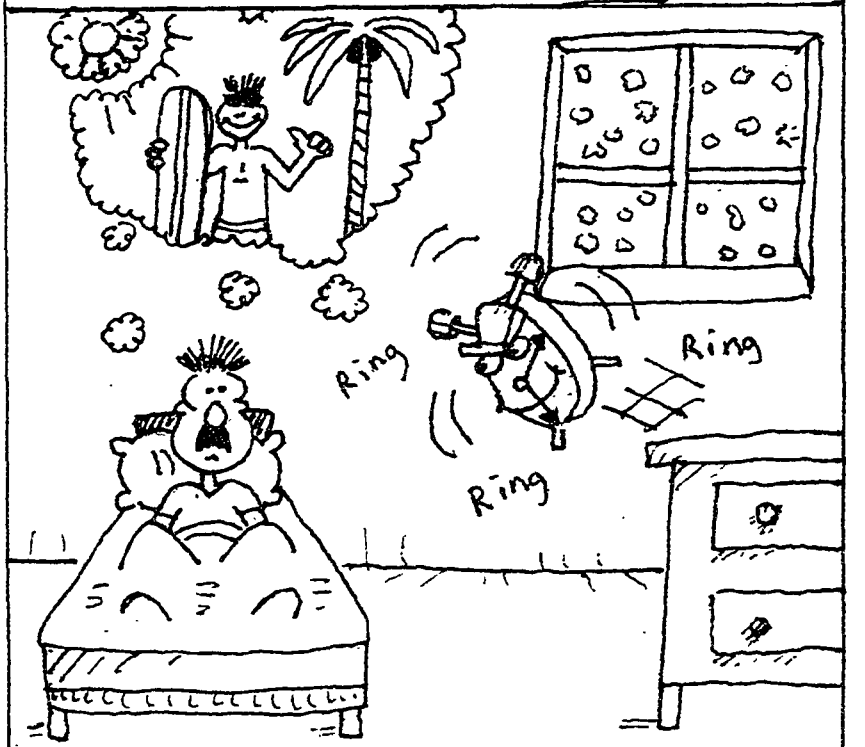
- 5 That woman
- 6 Negative prefix
- 7 Force
- 8 Cooling device
- 9 Roman 51

The Weekly Crossword Puzzle



COLLEGE PRESS SERVICE

LAPSE OF REASON BY Jeff Lydon



REALITY!?!?

Well, as I live and breathe....a gift of life and sight!

Get YOUR donor card today
Call the Greater Erie Eye & Organ Bank



459-3545



National Organ Donor Awareness Week
April 23-29, 1989