Wayouts are just that...



Abortion debate divides state

by M.L. ELRICK uR-I Executive Editor

It's a decision no woman wants to face, yet thousands do each year.

A decision on an issue so sensitive two highly-charged and polarized sides have done battle in the courts, the streets, and in the media.

Some say the decision belongs to the woman.

Others say there should be no decision and, consequently, no abortion.

Abortion is hardly a new issue, but it is one that was hotly contested for years before the Supreme Court's landmark decision in Roe vs. Wade.

Even the terms generally used to describe the combatants — antiabortion, pro-life — are contested.

"We would have no problem being named anti-abortion if our opponents would be pro-abortion," said Barbara Listing, Michigan Right To Life president.

Listing spoke to the uR-I on the heels of a pro-choice rally in Lansing that drew thousands to the Capitol lawn more than a week ago. The beautiful weather, Dixieland music and giant American flag backdrop belied the seriousness of what was the first post-Webster vs. Reproductive Services abortion rally in Michigan.





Will this effort cost some legislators their jobs?

"I think that's up to the voter. (However), I think most voters don't vote on one issue," Listing said. The anticipated ouster of some elected officals "depends on the other issues involved in the campaign," she added.

Milliken minced no words, telling a cheering crowd to "wage war on lawmakers attempting to deny women their Constitutional rights."

That is where the anti-abortion and pro-life factions differentiate themselves — rights.

The Right-to-Life movement holds that life begins at conception and that their opponents have sought to dehumanize the fetus in an attempt to make abortion acceptable, thereby taking rights from a unborn person. Pro-choicers say the fetus is not a person until months into a pregnancy, and that a woman should have the right to terminate a pregnancy if she sees fit.

p. 12

990

Pro-Choice forces fired the first salvo in what promises to be a bitter fight in the Legislature — and in the voting booths in November 1990.

"We are drawn here by a compelling and common cause — to preserve freedom of choice for the women of our state," said former Michigan First Lady Helen Milliken, co-chair of the Citizens for Personal Freedom.

"We are here to say to our legislators: We cannot, we will not accept a step back to the days when Two of thousands who attended a pro-choice rally in Lansing. uR-I/MARGIE GARRESON

women died from self-induced and unsanitary abortion. We will not tolerate government intrusion into our private lives."

Pro-choice forces are pushing legislators to leave Michigan a "choice" state, claiming to have a majority in this important swing state. Listing — citing Detroit News and Right-to-Life survey numbers giving them a majority — said pro-life legislators are planning to push a fivebill, abortion-restrictive package, through the Legislature. Between the two sides, there can be no middle ground. And some say that may cause voters to base their ballot on a candidate's abortion position.

However, with the exception of some close races, many observers said they didn't believe a candidate's view on abortion could cost them their seat.

But like almost everything surrounding Michigan's abortion debate, that is yet to be seen.

2 • Reporter-Intelligencer

4 October, 1989



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the University Reporter-Intelligencer



Page Three

The Second Front Page

Transfer students feel tuition increase crunch

by SHANNON DRAYSON u R-I Correspondent

The average community college probably has an enrollment as big as one of MSU's dormitories.

But leaving behind the community college can be disorienting in more ways than one. Students transferring to MSU not only leave behind cozy campuses and individualized instruction, they gain the added bill that is the result of this year's tuition increase.

But transfer students still are choosing to attend MSU despite the dizzying rate of rising tuition. MSU transfer students are scrambling to find a way to make ends meet.

This year's 7.9 percent hike hit transfer students especially hard. Many transfer students elected to

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Combined with the prices MSU charges for out-of-state students, many are forced to take on several jobs, apply for loans and obtain financial aid.

Craig Walsh, a sophomore majoring in finance, said he was startled by the increase. The university notified him only three weeks before registration, which forced him to take out an additional loan and find a job.

Meredith Kuntzsch, a senior in advertising who transferred to MSU last year, was sympathetic.

"I have two jobs and I still barely make ends meet," Kuntzsch said. She does not qualify for financial aid and said she feels helpless.

"The nation's top priority is

education, yet they are unwilling to help students like me," she said.

Richard Henson, MSU's associate director of admissions and scholarships, said most transfer students still are choosing MSU despite the rising tuition costs.

"For most, it is education

Interrupted or education delayed, but it normally isn't education unobtained."

Other students, such as Sean Brady, a James Madison junior, said he didn't mind the tuition increase.

"It's just that when I pay the increase, I want to see improvement." Brady said.



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ABORTION: The bottom line is clear

It's up to the individual to decide Without a doubt, there can be few

issues or subjects as sensitive as abortion: there is no middle ground ---you either believe it should be legal or should be outlawed.

Some, like President George Bush, have sought to establish a moderate position by opposing abortion except in cases of incest, rape, or danger to the mother's life.

However, the bottom line remains: Should women be allowed to have abortions?

We strongly believe the question of whether or not to bear a child --- for whatever reason, be it to abort a disabled fetus or an unwanted pregnancy --- is an intensely personal decision. And we strongly believe that decision should be be left up to the individual.

There can be no debate on this: A woman's body is her own and she alone may decide what happens to it.

It is a simple personal freedom issue. End of argument.

Questions regarding the beginning of life and viability of fetuses is fine for theologians and scientists, yet it is the woman who must bear the unwanted burden, no matter what unanswerable question has been "answered."

To believe abortion is widely used as a means of birth control is fantasy and a tool to dupe the ignorant.

While we have never experienced an abortion or the agony that must accompany the episode, it is hard to believe anyone would take such a decision lightly. And if so, certainly not twice.

Yet some persist with the abortion-as-birth-control and other paperthin arguments for a ban on abortion.

Unfortunately, the trend in this decade has been to restrict abortion rights, with many anxiously awaiting the outlawing of abortion.

While we are disappointed, we are not surprised by the Supreme Court's decision in Webstervs. Reproductive Services which gave states the opportunity to place limitations on abortion.

It was believed politically expedias Mr. Bush has she reversal of his 1980 position on abortion ---- to oppose or restrict a woman's right to an abortion. And by following the largely conservative high court's record - a court stacked with



political hacks by out-of-touch conservative presidents — their decision does not shock us, but disgusts us.

Yet, as politics swirls and changes, woman will still face the same agonizing decision.

We assert that the 1972 Supreme Court Roe decision was correct. Women should be free to have abortions without restrictions imposed by the state.

If it takes a Constitutional amendment to assure this right, so be it.

Once again, the bottom line: It's a woman's choice — let her make it.

See related

Some local offices mute on issue

An informal uR-I survey of East Lansing's representatives confirmed that abortion is a delicate issue many legislators fear may cost them their job. Some of the pols are keeping a tight rein on local offices when asked about their position.

While President George Bush and Gov. James J. Blanchard have staked out their positions for all to see (Bush anti-abortion with exceptions and Blanchard pro-choice), others have been a little less forthcoming.

Of the elected officials representing the MSU community on a national and local level, two local offices could not or would not disclose their boss' stance and one other office was concerned how the uR-I would state its boss' case.

Lansing) wouldn't or couldn't tell the uR-I where their boss stood on the abortion issue.

They instead said they dealt with specific constituent concerns --- which didn't include dispensing information on their boss's abortion position.

Abortion is definitely a concern. The Capitol office of state Sen. William Sederburg (R-East Lansing) did talk, but was cautious --- to the point of suggesting the senator call a reporter to explain his position personally --- but did talk about his position.

The offices of U.S. Sen. Carl Levin and state Rep. Lynn Jondahl (D-Okemos) simply said their bosses were "pro-choice."

It is a disservice to constituents to

graphic, p. 3>>

The Lansing office of U.S. Sen. Don Riegle (D) and East Lansing office of U.S. Rep. Bob Carr (D-East hide on the abortion issue. We urge all candidates to inform their offices on their positions on crucial issues. Without a doubt, abortion is one such issue.



4 October, 1989

LETTERS: you got 'em, and we want 'em

But we have a few conditions, first:

The uR-I encourages all of its readers to participate in the dissemination of information and knowledge across campus. We are accepting viewpoints, letters to the editor or other commentary for publication on this page. Only with your ideas will the uR-I truly be able to serve as the springboard for intelligent, creative and otherwise stimulating discourse.

Please send letters typed and double-spaced (or on a macintosh disk) to our offices at 142 Gunson the Friday before publication. Letters may be edited for clarity and become property of the uR-I. They will not be returned. So get cracking. YOU CAN WRITE OUR STORIES TOO The University Reporter-Intelligencer is looking for motivated people for a variety of positions.

If you are interested, or know of someone who might be, please contact us at: 351-4899 or at our offices at 142 Gunson. Anyone willing to work hard will not be turned away. This may be the break you were looking for!

NEWS • OPINION • ENTERTAIN-GET IT IN THE uR-I

HEY KIDS!

It's a neat-o reader response card! So are we headed in the right track? Please let us know, send this card to our offices at 142 Gunson St. with any criticisms, comments or suggestions or other things you believe will enhance our ability to serve

the MSU community. Remember, this is your paper, too.

6 • Reporter-Intelligencer

4 October, 1989



"Wherever there's a sight to be seen, alumni to be milked, exotic MSU program to be visited, or trip to be taken, I'll be there, Ma." -Former UConn President John DiBiaggio

Johnnie, oh, Johnnie, where is you gone? The word at Cowles House last Wedneeday was "John is Back!" But where is back? And, damn,

am I ahead of myself already? Yep.

OK. So, how did this humble undergrad (paying upper division tuition rates) know DiBi was back?

Simple, goofball, I asked. At about 8:45 a.m., a colleague and I pulled up to the mansion and parked (in DiBi's spot, of course). I went to the entrance and rang the bell where I was met by a charming woman with a Bavarian accent.

"Is Dr. DiBiaggio in?" I asked, knowing John likes to be called "doctor.

"No, he's not in right now," the kindly lass replied.

Undaunted, I asked where he was, as I wanted to bestow upon him 10 copies of the newestest and bestest campus newspaper.

(Thought he might want some to send to relatives, what with him being named geek of the week and all, don'tcha know).

I queried if he might still be in Asia, scrutinizing the new MSU program he scrutinized last year.

Being a helpful MSU employee, she said, no, he was back. Backhome, I presumed.

Nein, she said.

Back in Washington. You know, of the D.C. variety.

Since when was being "back" being in Washington, D.C.; home of not Sparty and the John Hannah Administration Building, but home of other folks with ceramic heads and the Pentagon?

I guess it's back when you consider that our prez is a rare commodity on campus. Almost as rare as a condom machine, and almost equally

useful.

But I like DiBi, and I know he loves this university.

I know it's important for him to hit the bricks and tout MSU and maintain its high profile.

I know he'd rather spend the night in Cowles Mansion with a glass of MSU-produced wine and a good, hot, plate of MSU cafeteria food, than in the wainscotting of a ruined European castle or in a strange hotel room.

However, what I just don't know is where he is half the damn time!

Perhaps my great friend Universi-D summed it up best in the lead of one of his administration stories about John's Travels:

"Here today, gone tomorrow." So, have a safe trip, John - and don't forget to write.

- Elrick is Executive Editor of the uR-I



Song to be sung to the tune of "Message in a Bottle":

"A year has past since I smoked that joint;

I should have been cautious right from the start.

Seems I thought only I would know;

Now I'm standing in this bathroom, peeing in a cup...

> I'm being tested for illicit drugs, I'm being tested for illicit drugs. I hope it's not in my

I hope it's not in my system any more

bladder any more, yeah, yeah. (big guitar solo)

My obviously deficient songwriting skills aside, these lyrics are more than

paranoid afraid of the government intruding not only our homes and bedrooms, but now our excretory systems as well.

The question at hand is not whether drugs are bad for you or whether people who use drugs should work while they're tripping or whether drugs are just groovy as long as they're not on my block.

The question is whether or not the government should have the power to enact legislation allowing businesses or other employers (including the government) to test its employees for drug use.

A recent quote from Herbert Kleber, an aide to the federal drug czar, William Bennett, illustrates the direction in which our country is heading. Kleber was defending a proposal to test workers for drugs.

"If Americans are to remain competitive with our foreign competition, we can't afford a workplace that is stoned," Kleber said.

Go piss up a rope, Herb.

Sure, Herb. We all agree that people should not assemble cars or fly planes or navigate giant supertankers while they're on the peak of a peyote trip. But if they like to pop a pill rather than sip a Bud after work, so be it. It's their business, and it's hypocritical to differentiate between after-work martinis and after-work lines - It's all bad for your health and it's all drug USe

The Exxon Valdez captain was

drunk, not wired, stoned or tripping, remember?

But was there a big clamor for breathalyzer tests to be administered to all ship captains after the spoiling of Prince William Sound? Or after the spill this summer in Narragansett Bay off of the Rhode Island coast?

And since when is America the only country bedeviled by drugs? Pardon me if I'm wrong, but I thought people in Germany and Britain and the Soviet Union and even Japan did them, too. If they don't, will someone please tell me how Sid Vicious died? Or why even a nice boy like Paul McCartney admitted once to doing LSD?

We need to ask ourselves, as a country, where do we draw the line between legitimate governmental intrusion and protection of individual privacy? It's a fine line, and a slippery one at that. But the government must prove that its interest to protect the people outweighs the interests of the people to be left alone.

And they have not done that.

The Bushmen haven't even tried to cover their invasion of our minds. and bodies - be it a woman's right to decide whether or not to have an abortion, or anyone's right to decide whether or not to do drugs or submit to a urinalysis test.

The drive to remove drugs from the workplace - which I assume would require some sort of drugtesting requirement --- can be accom-

Filling cups just won't do for this lad plished without trampling on our Ninth Amendment rights.

> Perhaps the Bush Administration could see its way fit to invest some money into our decrepit educational system rather than buying little plastic vials. And maybe the minimum wage could be reduced so more people will engage in "honest" labor rather than taking to the streets to make \$2,000 a day selling crack.

> It's not a proposition for the legalization of all drugs, or for workers to endanger lives by building cars when they think they're feeding elephants.

It's a call for the government to stay within its jurisdiction and not interfere with individual privacy.

I'd like to find the political science professor who told me that Democrats like big government and Republicans like small, unobtrusive governments. And pat him on the back, because he was so right.

The almighty dollar rules, and if companies with budgets as big as Third World GNP's want something, you'd better believe they're going to get it. So much for the changes we really need.

I wouldn't hold your breath for those. Or anything else, for that matter.

Most of all, you'd better not hold it in. Someone might be around the corner waiting for a sample.

Stearns is managing editor for the uR-I.

Geek of the Week

Sorry, Zsa Zsa baby. We'd kill to have the chance to slap you, but it appears that privilege has been reserved for a gorgeous Beverly Hills police officer. Too Bad. You should have been walloped years ago for you rterrible acting or a dozen other reasons. It was long overdue, assuming, of course, that you were socked.

4 October, 1989

Lash Larrowe

Lash is through with voodoo doo-doo

Whatever happened to voodoo economics?

I'm out at the supermarket, gettin' mighty impatient as I maneuver my cart up to the checkout. It's piled way up with goodies; my delmonicos, Beluga caviar and South African lobster tails on top.

Ordinarily, now that the 'U"'s retired me I don't mind waiting, but this time I don't want the frozen stuff to thaw out before I get it home. I look up to the front of the line to see what's the holdup, and I see this skinny kid up there fumblin' with his food stamps.

What's takin' him so long, I wonder. All he's got in his cart is a measly bag of generic rice, a couple loaves of day-old bread, some Navy beans. I'm just about to yell at him to get a move on when he plunks down his food stamps on the counter, straightens up and looks around, spots me a the end of the line.

"Hey, Lash!" he chirps. "When we get through here, you got time for just one quick question?"

"How come you got food stamps?" | asks him when I get out ot hte parking lot where he's waiting for me.

"You don't know what it's like being a student these days, Lash," he complains, "You being a fat cat, pulling down your pension, driving your Rolls there and all. First, they cut backoon financial aids for we students, and now the 'U''s raised tuition on us again. The only way I can stay in school is cut back on my food budget.



"What I want to talk to you about, though," he goes on, "is what do you think about Congress cutting the capital gains tax. Isn't it outrageous?" "Negative," I tells him. "It's an example of economic statesmanship at its best. You watch, sonny. The economy's gonna surge ahead when that tax cut goes into effect, like the Rolls does when I give it a shot of high-test gas, OK?

"I don't get it," he says. "If they give America's wealthiest families a \$25,000 tax cut, how's that going to help the economy? People like that already spend as much as they want to on their houses, cars clothes, trips they take.

"Food, too," he adds, glancing down hungrily at my delmonicos and lobster tails in the cart. "They'll just put the money they have left over after the tax in the bank. There's no way they'll be able to spend it."

"You should've listened to the President," I scowls. "Here's how he explained the benefits of his tax cut: " 'A lower capital gains tax rate will

reduce the cost of capital and create incentives for investment in the longterm productive capacity of American industry."

"I still don't get it," he scowls. That's just a lot of words. Could you put it in simple terms for me?"

"OK," I says. "If you're loaded and the government cuts your taxes and lets you keep most of your profit when you sell your stock or a piece of real estate you've owned for awhile, you're gonna do it, right?

So they cut your taxes, OK, you invest your tax savings in a new factory or new machine, right? The new factory produces goods that add to the supply of the product, the price comes down. The new factory provides employment, and the machine your money bought is more efficient, cost-efficient.

"The way President Bush puts it, in no time with costs of procuction and prices coming doen all over place, we'll be getting back too the Japanese and the Germans took away from us when the Democrats was runnin'

Reporter-Intellligencer • 7

things."

"I get it now!" he yelps. "You just described what the prof in my econ class last year called 'supply-side economics,' right? The way he explained it, when Reagan rammed through those whopping tax cuts in the early 80s and ran up the deficit, he justified 'em the same way your pal Bush's, is doing now, isn't he?" "Our prof had us read an article in the Altantic Monthly where his budget director - a guy named David Stockman --- admitted that Readan wanted to reward his rich friends who'd put him in the White House by giving them a big tax cuts. Reagan needed a way to cover up the obvious giveaway, so Deaver or somebody came up with a highsounding name for it: 'supply-side economics,' as if they'd discovered a new economic theory. Bush called it 'voodvoo economics' in those days" "Let's see how much you remember from that class about the rest of it," I says, the teacher coming out of me even though I'm retired.

"How did they answer the question why the deficit wouldn't go up when they cut those taxes?"

"I do remember!" he says. "They claimed when all the tax savings were invested the way they said they would, there'd be such an increase in economic activity, tax revenues'd skyrocket and thh government'd end up with a surplus instead of a deficit! "Course it didn't work out that way," he says. "When Reagan left the White House, the deficit was more than twice what it'd been when he started. We never got those new factories, either.

"And now," he concludes disgustedly, "your pal Bush is selling the country the same old snake oil Regan peddled when he was president!"

That rotten little kid is back...

"crusade for the little people" against the handsome but unruly Beverly Hills police force.

It's hard to imagine when the airlines refused to let her take a pet aboard (her last crusade) they weren't You might say whaley. refering to the dragon lady herself

Speaking of newsmakers-we'resick-of, it's good to see Blake Ezor finally found a place he won't get in any trouble - the accomodating and recently remodeled ELPD pokey.

Inexpensive and close to the watering holes that helped bring little Blakey to his present plight.

We hate to take a shot at good ole president to "Prexy" in newspaper Blake, but it seems the only thing he headlines? can't outrun is the law. Good thing, too. To certain of those who made the Hope to see him and his humonuR-I baptismal party last week and left gous ego back at Dooley's harrassing a christening check: would Mr. Bill, the womenfolk and generally annoying John Wayne, Sir Larry Oliver and the already delicate clientelle. someone named Ms. Seka please call us so we can get you to sign those That brings us to another kind of generous checks you left!

neutrality after one side of the issue (and a potential source for future stories) footed the bill for this excursion

Seems more than a bit fishy to us.

And why is it that plumbers, electricians, et ceteraa never wear underwear? Is that some kind of union thing?

Just where can we get one of those belts that just lets the top quarter of the pale moon rise?

Don't you hate the shorting of

jacket George was wearing during Saturday's MSU-Miami thriller? Mrs. Perles shouldn't let him leave the house without checking his gym bag next week. Gosh, lookin' spiffy, brudder

each week the Provocateur will take cheap shots at just about anyone he thinks he can outrun. If you think that includes you, WATCH OUT



Hey, mucus-breath, it's another week and time to get the adrenalin flowing with a few merited cheap shots at the people making this world just a little more unbearable ...

This week the Provocateur cannot help but start with the beautiful, witty, entertaining first lady of Hooterville (speaking of which, she used to be Miss Hungary and they don't give that to no gals from Pancakeville)...

Of course, we refer to Zsa Zsa (need I say Ga-more?). Rag of the week, hands down.

The Provoc is tired of her wasting the taxpayers money, time and cluttering up the court docket with her

clientelle; clientelle of a lobbying sort. Enter client John Secor, editor-inchief of The State News (uh-oh, he's going to think this is one of those personal attacks they were afraid of!).

Seems Big J went on an expenses-paid trip to Israel this summer, courtesy of the Jewish Anti-Defamation League. Now he's writing about problems in the Middle East.

Quite a globetrotter and superman...able to leap borders and ethics in a single bound.

While we realize first-hand experience is helpful when grappling with issues, we have to question J's

And on keeping checks: as the 54-B District Judge race heats up, it will be interesting to hear what the such as being concerned about their rights and pertinent issues - and then contrast that with their adherence to the overbearing open alcohol and noise ordinances.

Hey, Jordie, hey, Heos --- go easy on us, babes.

> Back to babes for a minute. Just what was that horrible tan

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONALS:

Hey, Louis S. Kastely! See, now your name is in the paper, Grandpa.

Happy 4th birthday, Monsieur Provocateur.

Yo, Leah, guess what? You stink. And you're going to get a punch in the nose.

Thanks, Val - for the art, of course. You're a doll but you already knew that, you conceited bitch.

Mishari: To the brother I never had, I'm really going to miss you. Tresevgene

Yo, Moosh; don't start any wars without us. Mike

No, really, have a safe trip and come backsoon.

D-It has been a long time and I have grown quite a bit, but I am even cuter than before. As for lunch if I have time I'll consider it. Tell Tiff to look out. Mattie.

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY, the uR-I will be offering classifieds free of charge! What a total bargain, folks. We will accept classifieds in many categories, including: personals, wanteds, lost and founds, services (sought or offered), roommates or housing. Ads must be delivered to the uR-I offices at 142 Gunson, no later than 5 p.m. Wednesday to appear in the following week's edition. Ads should be legibly printed on lined-paper, preferably a 3-by-5 index card. Ads should be reasonable in length and the uR-I reserves the right to make any necessary editorialchanges. This offer is for a limited time only, so TDO HOT RECORDS has brought East act quickly.

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FARUK ART GALLERY adds a touch of culture to downtown East Lansing. Visit us in the lower level of the Campus Mail on Grand River Ave. See our ad elsewhere in the UR-I.





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Out & About

<u>out and</u> About:

Each week, the uR-I will feature a section called Out And About. In it you will find listings of local entertainment happenings ranging from bands playing at local nightclubs to plays on and off campus. We also will include concert updates for theatres and arenas in East Lansing, Ann Arbor and metro Detroit. Considering our relatively "unhip" ways, please contact us about other happening places, events, etc.. so that we may include them in this section. Bars, read: This is basically free advertising, so send us some press packets.

St. Andrew's Hall, Detroit: Oct. 6, Friday: Adrian Belew

Nectarine Baliroom, Ann Arbor: Oct. 9, Monday: Bob Mould (Former lead singer of Husker Du).

Michigan Theatre, Ann Arbor: Oct. 5, Thursday: Bobcat Goldthwait

The Palace, Auburn Hills: Oct. 6, Friday: Jethro Tuli

Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor: Oct. 11, Wednesday: Jethro Tull

208 Bailey St., East Lansing: Oct. 6, Friday: Laughing Hyenas and Just Say No Reach an alternative market by using an alternative paper.

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Hey, man, you ever get out and about? Well let us know what's hoppin', dammit! We got space to fill, dig? SO...if you know of a groovin' joint, please spread the wealth and let us know! (write us at our Gunson Street offices) of 10 readers say: "I wouldn't line the bottom of my lizard's cage with that other paper!" K e e p your

10

your lizard happy, read the uR-l

'DBM from p. 12

Why not add some spice to the special programming with a show like the one featured in "Talk Radio?" Some good old-fashioned tug 'n pull would be a thrill to listen to. And don't use the FCC as a rock to hide under. A properly produced format won't offend anyone.

And if that thought is too radical for you, how about a world-beat show?

Any pseuddeadhead can tell you that some of the world's coolest music is <u>not</u> being programmed into a Synclavier. Artists like Baaba Maal and Fela Kuti blow away that Orca Haza chick. You could use this show to be truly cutting-edge and play Zvuki Mu, the most interesting band I've seen in a long time.

WDBM uses a rotation of music that is similar to that of a CHR (Top

Forty) radio station. A good idea, but it only takes one mindless jock to mess things up. Either its as obvious as playing thrash (trash?) after Phranc, or as stupid as playing Bauhaus, Tones on Tail and Peter Murphy all in the same hour. Do your homework, kids, don't st,st,stutter.

While we're talking about the band(s), there are other songs done besides "Ball of Confusion" and "Ziggy Stardusty." Let's not forget that Jane's Addiction only has one song, right Laura?

While we're talking about the airstaff, pleeaassee, if you have nothing better to say...then shut the fuck up! i'd rather hear dead air than constant banter about somebody's spring break, roommate's girlfriend, etc... And don't step on (talk over) lyrics of songs. The other day instead of Joey Ramone, I heard Kevin C. Ramone.

There seems to be a lot of music that is truly original and alternative missing from the repertoire. Next time someone gets ready to put on a Smiths record, how about Bongwater, Spacemen 3 or The Residents instead? If you're worried about losing your geek listeners, fear not. They seem to have made the transition from Kool & the Gang to Depeche Mode, they'll survive this.

Then we'll have the management that doesn't seem to want to graduate and get out into the real world. This is fine for them, but the station is supposed to be *progressive*, not *regres*sive. There are at least three people in management positions who have been at similar posts for more than three years. Go get jobs, guys, stop playing with our toys. Let's get some fresh meat in there.

So as not to sound like a nit-picky bastard (thought I am), let me commend the news and sports departments. Great job people. You're probably the only redeeming constant at the station.

Listen up, WDBM, you have a hell of a lot of potential, you don't have to worry about nasty old ratings, irate owners or penny-pinching advertisers. But you still have ambitions to compete in a market as cheezy as Lansing. Make them play your game, don't play theirs.

C'mon, show some balls. If you're gonna assault us, give us something we haven't already heard. Liberate the People!

4 October, 1989

Reviews....

Big Audio Dynamite: Megatop Pheonix

When the Clash emerged from England's punk scene in the late 70s, it was primarily because the band had the talent needed to combine killer melodies with serious, introspective lyrics. So when the group eventually broke up, Clash fans had reason to be hopeful that its leaders would continue to churn out good music.

This faith was somewhat justified when Mick Jones formed **B.A.D. Joe Strummer** reunited with his former bandmate on B.A.D.'s second album, No. 10 Upping Street to handle production chores.

Overall, the band has churned out three fairly good albums with a unique style, mixing Jones' punkish vocals with hot dance beats and band member Don Letts' strange pop culture voiceovers.

The group's new album basically continues in this vein, while adding a few more reggae-like touches. Jones' lyrics are still up to par, but the music, for the most part, doesn't keep pace.

Jones excels when his lyrics are personal, and this record is no different. Two of his best efforts, "Union, Jack" and "London Bridge," relate directly to Jones' feelings about Britain, and his attempts to make sense of it all. He fares worse when attempting other types of songs, such as his pseudo-parody attempt "James Brown" and the Asian-bashing "Dragon Town," which is reminiscient of the band's earlier "Sony."

While the music does have its high points, it is dissappointing. The band sounds as if it is simply using the same drum beat for every song, a practice which gets tiresome very quickly. Only when B.A.D. tries something different does the sound really take off. Two such high points are "Rewind" and the instrumental sample-fest "Mick's a Hippie Burning,"

This album was put together after Jones' long stay in a hospital. Fittingly, the problem with Megatop Pheonix is, to paraphrase from Jones himself, that although he may be feeling fine, the beats definitely aren't fresh.

And while the album isn't terrible, neither is it anything for Clash fans to write home about.

- Joel Schoemmeyer

Texas Southside

Although the group Texas has a name and a sound which could've come straight from the Lone Star State, the band actually hails from Scotland. Their name simply reflects one of the band's primary influences: Ry Cooder's soundtrack for the film *Paris, Texas*.

On their first album, Southside, the spotlight definitely is centered on this quartet's two principal members, vovalist Shauleen Spiteri and guitarist Ally McErlaine, and they definitely deliver.

Spiteri's voice sounds reminiscient of Maria McKee, former lead for Lone Justice, on several songs, most notably "Thrill Has Gone." But Spiteri's seems much more confident and controlled.

McErlaine is an original, whether he's playing slide on the album-ending "Future Is Promises," or revving it up for the heaviersounding "Fight The Feeling."

Despite being almost secondary to these two talents, this album's songs are also surprisingly strong. The best of the batch is "I Don't Want A Lover," the first single. However, each of the LP's other songs is almost as good.

All in all, Texas impresses as much as any new band of 1989. Their sound is amazing by nature and consistent, especially considering that this is their first effort. And in the future, more is certain to be seen of them, and of their two talented leaders.

- Joel Schoemmeyer

Each week we take a look at hot and not so hot wax.....



Giving you the lowdown on local and national alternative sounds So put the needle on the record each week with the uR-I — your new music source



Entertainment

Wayouts: A groovy sound 'Sensation'

by JENNIE BODDY uR-I Music Correspondent

The fabulous **Wayouts** hold onto the crown of cooldom, even as they rise to new heights.

About five feet high on stage at Sensations last Wednesday, that is ba burn, cha!

"What's really the wierdest about playing Sensations is the feeling of looking out into the audience, and because everyone's on the dance floor, all you see is empty chairs and all these little heads bobbing up and down in front of you," says drummer The Steve.

Truly, the ideal backdrop for the group is crowded together in a pool of grunginess, with lots of stinky bopsters tripping the dark fantastic. No matter. When a trio has the sound so many have searched for, "the British invasion on 70 cups of coffee," any place could kinda, sorta in a way be the London Palladium, where bassist Eric Apczynski would like to rock. But the moody maverick also says he prefers to play in a basement alone, where no one can hear him.

Alas, so many might feel so lost if this was allowed, though. Like Dan Cogswell, MSU landscape architect junior, who expressed his deeprooted love for the group.

"I'm glad the Wayouts are playing," Cogswell says.

So even if guitarist Jim Diamond expresses a yearning to give the whole thing up and concentrate on good clean living, fans are lucky the tragedy in his life just won't let him stop.

And hopefully things are gonna happen with the trio well-deserving of a Dick Clark special and much, much more. With a new manager, Jim Potter (a swell and aggressive fellow) the cats will, if they don't anger the gods too much, continue to play way too fast and way too loud for all, especially third world countries and any others who haven't heard the Word.

Unlike the very hip Lime Giants manager, music aficionado Jamie Depola, who said of Wednesday's show, "Like, like, like (while hitting the back of her palm for emphasis), I could not get over the hugeness of the guitar, man, but the bass is pretty rockin', and of course we all know about the drummer."

Playing in cooperation with 89 Fk Impact Radio's radio-active-type promotion Wednesday nights at Sensations, and soon to be seen Oct. 10 and 20 at The Landshark, the boys also will release a tape by Christmas at latest.

Plenty of songs for your grandmothers, Diamond says.

Locally, though, they continue to please people like Luke Breken, studio art senior, king of the hipshake and finely oiled machine, who says, "These cats are highly original and power-packed, not to mention ginchy."

Sooo, put some notches on your dance shoes, cuz the Wayouts love you and you love them, too.



Dave Weier

'DBM stands for dumb.

Al-ter'na-tive — n. 1. affording a choice.

Well I guess if you put it that simply, that's what WDBM does.

I suppose I should consider myself lucky to be in a market that affords a choice. Detroit doesn't, not even New York does. But I must be an ingrate because I feel irritated, not lucky.

Oh boy, finally a radio station on which I can listen to The Cure, The Bunneyheads and the stylized moaning and groaning of Morrissey. Sorry guys, you're falling pretty short in length and width (see Webster's under eunich).

Don't misunderstand, these guys are fine, but they got their airplay seven years ago on stations like WLBS. You might as well play The Who.

Oh, I forgot. 'DBM (Dumb?) is the only place to hear bands like Nuclear Crisis and Circus of Power! Well my skateboard must be broken, and I can only pick my nose to it for about 10 minutes.

Please allow me to speak my mind, 'cause i'm gonna anyway.

Let's start with programming; hello in there, anybody home? You've got a load under your noses and you can't even smell it.

I'm talking about the minimal exposure local bands get. I don't think you're very accessible to them, unless of couse they're on staff there. Why doesn't someone come up with a feature format show for Michigan bands both new and old? Gee Wally, I dunno. Wouldn't it be great to hear The Doe Boys back of a dusty old Stooges record? Or maybe the MC5 back the Lime Giants? As a favor to me would you have one of your mixmasters mix Wally Pleasant with Alice Cooper. Wickee, wickee, wickee. We've heard some commendable long-format programming so far like "Total Chaos" and "Straightaway." We've also heard some slop like "Hour O' Slobber." There's nothing worse to study to on a Monday night than noize by guys who think Vivaldi is a brand of french tickler. This is programming for the pre-pubescent.

(Lime) Giant Hit

Lime Giant lead singer Mark Demming croons to a housefull of partygoers at a Gunson Street bash Saturday night.



Ted White's ego overshadows his talent

Preceding the **Wayouts'** performance Wednesday was a warm-up by **Ted White** and company.

While White obviously did not benefit from the same crowd partisanship the Wayouts enjoyed, his performance still lacked. More or less, White is just too uptight.

He can play the guitar. But when paired with the de rigeur ripped jeans, (they probably cost \$80), song selection and the feeling the audience gets of "I'm bad, so watch me so you can tell your grandkids someday," White dissappoints.

White's song selection left a lot to be desired, too. Too many slow cover songs and not enough funky originals. His best songs featured slap bass combined with a hardedged guitar. The others sounded like watered down **Chic ago** covers. White wasn't helped, either, by several technical glitches during his set, as he and his bass player broke strings during the set.

But engineering aside, White's stage presence and overall choice of instrumentation (why electronic drums?) enticed most fans to wait patiently for the headliners from Bedrock.

For the most part, White's tremendous ego served to eclipse his musicianship and the talents of his back-up band. And they were talented. While White sat offstage dragging a cigarette and repairing his broken string, the other members of the band (the drummer, sax player, bass player and trumpet player) jammed with no vocal interruption. They actually took off, until White came back onstage for a cover of a

now-forgotten song by INXS.

Musically-inclined concertgoers stageside predicted this combination of flash with little originality coupled with his family ties, (his mom is **Aretha Franklin**), will be enough to propel him to success on MTV (or at least Star Search with **Ed McMahon**.).

The prediction here is that White will follow the recent trend of 60's makeovers and hit it big with a cover of **Sly and the Family Stone's** "Thank You Falletinme Be Mice Elf."

One final note to the emcees from WDBM. It's understandable that you want to promote the station and the concept of radio-active Wednesday is a good one (even though most people would opt for a different venue), but tone it down and save the shades for a sunny day.

- David Stearns

See 'DBM, p. 10