



8
November
1989

Volume I
Number 7

MSU's alternative
and truly
independent
voice

WHAT'S UP:



Lethal literature

Elmore Leonard's
latest... p. 12

- The Provoc raves on... p. 7
- Sniff Dog Boy... p. 8
- Classifieds... p. 8
- Out & about... p. 9
- Xtra news... p. 10

Racial incidents fuel fear at MSU

by BARBRA CHEIMAN
and TELAINA MORSE
uR-I Correspondents

Despite constant guarantees of equality by the administration, many students continue to feel that racism still plagues MSU.

And many students have experienced racially-motivated attacks that fuel the fire of their malcontent.

Imran Wadcod, an engineering graduate student, said he has repeatedly been a victim of institutional racism in trying to get an assistanceship. Wadcod said he has passed his preliminary examinations and his English fluency test, yet he still has been denied an assistanceship. He also said he has an F-1 visa which permits him to work for an 18-month period in the United States. Wadcod said Americans with lower GPAs have obtained assistanceships over him.



uR-I artwork/RANDY DEBLER
"I know this thing is happening but I don't know how to eradicate it," Wadcod said.
According to Wadcod,

another pressure on international students is the inability to sign up for job placement interviews.

Paul Burke, assistant director for International Job Placement, said minority students are treated no differently.

"We don't screen international students any more or less than we would American students," he said, adding that the agency has a policy that is open to qualified people regardless of their color, creed, or race.

Wadcod said he still does not know what he is lacking, or how to tackle to problem.

"I'm deserving enough for assistanceship but I don't know how to raise a voice about it," Wadcod said.

However, some students feel not only is there discrimination in academics, but that minorities actually have the upper hand.

"If anything white people are

getting the short end of the stick," said Jeff Brandt, a sophomore. "White kids need a 2.75 to get into the business school while blacks only need a 2.5."

Ernest Betts, director of minority education programs for the college of business, said that is completely false.

"We don't have different criteria for whites or blacks," Betts said. "Students can enter with a 2.5 if they have 56 credits from the time of the last spring term, but no more than 84. Everyone else must have a 2.75."

"Minorities come to par like everybody else," Betts added.

Several students expressed concern over race-related incidents with the campus police department.

Timothy Johnson, a graduate student, said he once was driving on campus, keeping with the flow of traffic on Shaw Lane until a DPS officer stopped his car.

See FEAR, p. 2

Peyton chooses to focus attention on race issues

by BRIAN MARSHALL
uR-I Correspondent

Darius Peyton is a modest man. He refuses to answer questions about himself, yet he is anything but quiet.

Peyton's name became somewhat of a household word as the main spokesperson during last year's black student sit-in at the MSU administration building. Peyton's reluctance to grant interviews about himself indicates his dedication to a cause he feels very strongly about. Peyton wants you to know this — he is not in this for personal glorification.

It is suitable that one would meet Peyton at the East Complex Leadership Workshop. He is Chairperson of

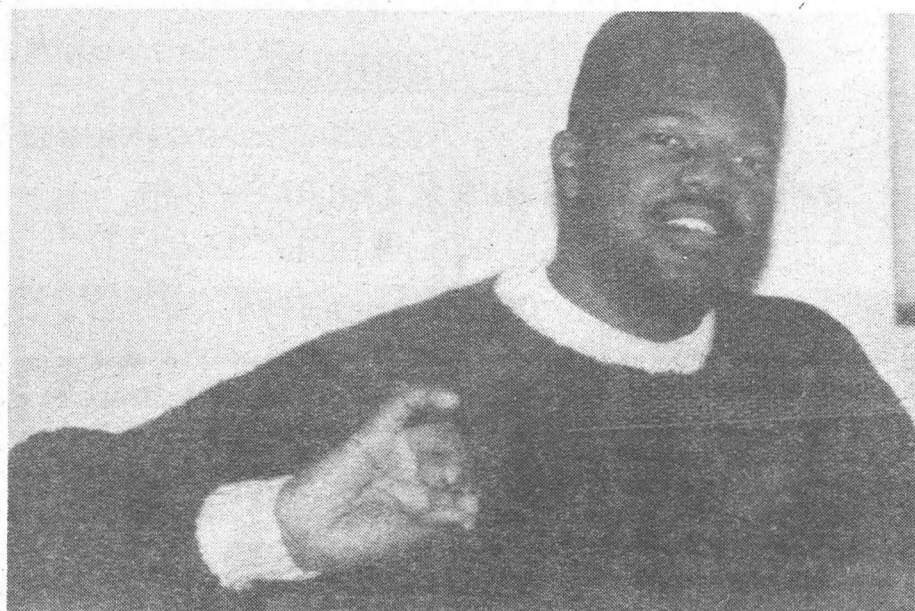
the ASMSU Programming Board, and is looked upon by many as the most important student leader on campus.

Peyton, however, thinks of himself as an everyman of MSU.

"I place myself as grass roots (in the MSU community)," he said.

At the workshop, where he gave a 30-minute keynote address, Peyton stressed leadership as an action word. He said that a leader must "incorporate motivation, communication, delegation, organization, and conflict resolution" to be successful.

Throughout an interview with the uR-I following his speech, Peyton stressed a need for MSU's administration to listen to the students, and to act on these recommendations, and not their own instincts.



Peyton speaks Saturday afternoon

"The good businessman knows how to sell his product to his customers," Peyton said, "not say 'We have a product, take it or leave it.'"

Peyton has serious doubts as to the sincerity of the administration.

uR-I photo/BRIAN KACH

"If they were sincere," he said, "that position (Senior Advisor to the Provost) would have been Assistant

See PEYTON, p. 11

From FEAR, p. 1

Johnson said the DPS officer interrogated him and his passenger past the point which Johnson consider necessary.

"The only rational reasoning why I was chosen is because I'm black," Johnson said.

According to Tracy Mabry, a senior, police officers harass blacks more.

"Police officers pull over blacks because you're black," she said.

DPS Director Bruce Benson said a lack of communication usually is to blame for situations like that.

"Any time someone is pulled over, you're subject to what's on the mind of the person being pulled over," Benson said. "He might say he was only pulled over because he was a student, or some other reason. Nobody likes to have authority pushed on them. This reaction is very normal and we just have to deal with it. But it's not what this department is all about."

While the department is committed to being sensitive to the diverse racial, ethnic and cultural make-up of the campus, Benson said that individual incidents like those described by some black students actually could materialize, but only very rarely.

"Sure, it could happen, but to say generally that police harass a particular category of students is really out of line," Benson said.

The department has initiated several community programs to improve its image and accessibility in the last few years, and has a decidedly equal opportunity hiring policy, he said.

"In the last three years, we've hired all women and minorities for the six positions that have been open," Benson said.

The problem must be addressed from two perspectives — the students' and the police department's.

Students, Benson said, have to learn that police are humans and do not intend to be adversarial. But at the same time, he added that police officers must be more sensitive to the diverse student population.

Racism does not always come from an authority figure down, however. Many times it originates from peers — other students and roommates.

In a recent Wilson Hall government meeting a group-oriented racial question surfaced. Students were discussing whether or not to have a black magazine available at the front desk.

"It shouldn't be an issue," said Simone Mathis, a junior. "I should be

able to have the choice of the type of magazine I want to read."

Paraj Manderekar, a sophomore, found a racist message scrawled in chalk on the message board outside his door in Holmes Hall.

The message read: "Why do you have an accent? Why don't you move home? (India) You're not from East Lansing."

Students on his floor nicknamed him Punjab, a servant character played in Little Orphan Annie. It refers to someone from a region in India and the fact it denotes a servant in itself is degrading, he said.

Earlier this term there was a dinner for the Black Caucus in Holmes Hall. Signs were put on the table to indicate that they were reserved for the Black Caucus students.

Donna Redd, an MSU senior and Holmes Hall minority aid, said several students were offended by this and wrote on the signs: "Reserved for any race, color, or creed."

"We not trying to discriminate," Redd said. "We're just black people trying to get together and have a good time."

Other people believe the issue of racism is exploited.

"The definition of the word has become too broad," said Paul Burnelkis, a sophomore. "It is used as an excuse whenever it can be."

Keith Sandun, a senior, said only a minority of whites are prejudiced. The minorities themselves also may have negative feelings precipitated by the small amounts of whites who are prejudiced.

Redd offered an example of covert racism.

"When a minority student enters an elevator, the majority of the students back away," she said.

Sophomore Craig Sanders said many times covert racism can be just as painful.

"It's not what they say it's what they don't say," Sanders said.

Sang Park, a junior, reiterated Sander's opinion.

"I've probably been called names behind my back. Just got to live with it. It's a hard to take but you just have to take it anyways," Park said.

Karen Brinkley, a freshman, said covert racism is the predominant form of racism — a form minorities don't encounter yet know is still there.

"Racial remarks are not usually made in front of them," she said.

"We're discriminated by being classified as minorities," said Deirdre Sizemore, a senior. "Nothing is going to change. If anything else was to happen it would be something violent."

U R - I

every wednesday!

CROSSROADS



cafeteria

at the
international center

"Good, reasonably priced food with that
little extra care!"

Right On Campus

Serving You Mon-Thurs: 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Also Open Football Saturdays

20% OFF
any purchase
between 4-7 p.m.

(excluding the Coffee Beanery.
Not to be used with any other coupon.)

REDKEN

PAUL MITCHELL
SALON HAIRCARE PRODUCTS

SAVE \$ SAVE \$
LARGE

Economical sizes

Save 20% to 40%
per oz.

+

We will give a dollar
to the Economic
Crisis Center and
the Homeless of the
Lansing Area



337-2023
2767 E. Grand River
next to pistachios

It's No Secret!

MSU UNION
Bowling, Billiards
and Video Games
are loads of fun
for low funds!

Bowling: 355-3357
Billiards: 355-3358

open 7 days

call or visit
to find out
how you can
win free
games!

Page Three

The Second Front Page

Racism afflicts other minorities

by SHANNON DRAYSON
UR-I Correspondent

While blacks are the largest minority group at MSU, other minorities such as Hispanics, Native Americans, Asians, and foreign students comprising dozens of nationalities also feel the effects of racial discrimination.

A Hispanic minority aide, Lisa Garcia, said the changes Hispanics want today are the same ones they have wanted for years.

"The CHISPA president from eight years ago said these are the same things they wanted," Garcia said. "Every year our needs are discussed with the administration and nothing gets done."

She said they will not be overlooked on the minority agenda, nor will they tolerate another school year of unfulfilled promises made by the administration. Among other things, Garcia feels that Hispanics do not receive adequate representation in the administration that they deserve.

This is one of the main concerns of the minority groups on campus. Garcia said CHISPA President Eileen Flores' recent comment

published in *The State News* concerning the hiring of Dr. Lee June as senior advisor to the provost for multicultural and ethnic affairs was taken out of context. As a result, several black groups were angered by the misinterpreted message.

But according to Garcia, Flores was pointing out the fact that the university usually fills minority positions with blacks when there are qualified Asians, Hispanics, and Native Americans.

The statement was not aimed at the black minority, but rather at the administration, she said.

"We don't want to take away the credit from (blacks)," Garcia said. "Advances for them are good, but we need advances for ourselves."

To obtain further advances such as these will require minority groups to work with the administration, faculty and staff. Ralph Maldonado, CHISPA vice president, argued that an uncooperative attitude between different minority groups will definitely not accomplish anything.

It is not enough to point out what is wrong with the system without meeting the administration half-way, he said.

"If you've got balls enough to

say it's wrong, you should get up there and help them fix it," Maldonado said.

Most students say racial tension between non-black minorities and whites is not nearly as intense as it is between blacks and whites. However, discrimination is present in subtle forms. Words and actions with underlying meanings and implications are barely noticed by most.

Trang Bui, an Asian minority aide, said that most Asians at MSU need help in identifying prejudicial remarks.

"If someone calls you a model minority, that is a subtle form of racism," she said.

Asians are not discriminated against as much as other non-black minorities because of their emphasis in education, and past achievements by other Asians, she said.

Bui said Asians usually tend to be passive in reacting to forms of discrimination because they are not hurt physically. She said they tend to ignore discriminatory comments or talk amongst themselves instead of making waves.

However, "it will hurt them in the long run," Bui warned.

Many foreign students also do not want to call attention to themselves. Maribel Garcia will be returning to the Philippines after fall term. Unfortunately, she and other friends have been discriminated against on more than one instance.

One such incident involved a friend of hers going to a local ice cream eatery. "Lisa" was the only customer there when she arrived, yet was not served until a full ten minutes later. A group of whites came in and

were served immediately, even though she was there first.

"It really hurt her," Maribel Garcia said.

People also tend to ask foreigners questions that are unconsciously offensive. Foreigners studying here are well versed in American history and politics. An even greater percentage are bilingual. What people do not realize is that they have many of the modern conveniences present in America.

"People ask if we know who Columbus is...or do we have styrofoam in the Philippines, things like that," Garcia said.

Binod Sundararajan has been a MSU student for two years. He is familiar with discrimination because of the caste system he grew up with in India. In the states, the racial prejudices are aimed not only towards himself but also toward his American girlfriend.

"If there was ever a marriage between us, I would be mocked and she would also feel the effects," he said.

Sundararajan said prejudiced people make generalizations about a certain race and overlook the personality of an individual. The couple has concluded that discrimination began in ancient times.

"It's a territorial, primitive thing. Someone has come to invade the territory and they feel they need to protect it," he said.

For whatever reason people are prejudiced, they are wearing blinders. To overcome such discrimination, Sundararajan said people need to be aware of each other.

"Don't turn away just because you don't want to know or are afraid of asking," he said. "Find out what people are like."

BUDGET PRINTING CENTER

Save your time and \$MONEY\$!

Bring your copies to:
BUDGET PRINTING

...where copies are still 5¢

Printing services include:

- Lamemaling
- Announcements
- Brochures
- Menus
- Dissertations (hard/soft cover)
- Mailers
- Rubber stamps
- Typesetting
- Stapling
- Pick-up/Delivery
- Office forms
- Custom color ink
- FAX service
- Letterhead
- Booklets
- Business cards
- Carbonless forms
- Newsletters

974 trowbridge
(by Shop-Rite)
NEAR CAMPUS
351-5060

4¢
copy special
(8 1/2 x 11)
exp. Dec. 22

Faculty, staff offer answers

by ANGIE CAROZZO
UR-I Correspondent

Several MSU minority faculty and staff members say the university must create an environment that both minorities and non-minorities will benefit from to alleviate recent racial tensions.

The present situation exemplifies a state of unrest between minority and non-minority groups. Each side lacks an essential understanding of each group's needs.

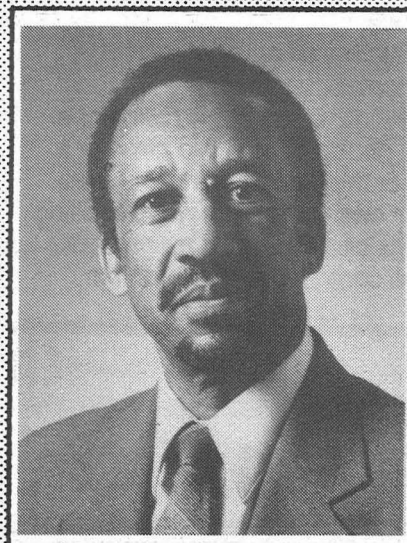
But the problem extends beyond the boundaries of MSU's campus, said Harry Carswell, assistant director of student life.

"I don't think there's any more of a racial problem on campus than there is in our society," Carswell said. "We must remember that the campus is a reflection of our society at large."

Carswell said that as a learning institution, MSU is one of the best places to examine the question of racism and teach people about each other.

"We need to do more talking, teaching and sharing as opposed to yelling," Carswell said.

Students need to bridge the gap



Dr. Lee June that exists between minority and non-minority groups, said Karen Griggs, Wilson Hall manager.

"The goal is to try and get people to learn more about each other," she said. "The students have

See ANSWERS, p. 10

Op:

These are the final words on racism:

WAKE UP!

There are many ugly things in the world. Some things are more sinister and uglier than others.

Perched righteously atop the heap of ugly things in the world is prejudice.

We're talking about:

Bigotry.

Ignorance.

Hatred.

But whatever word you choose, it's evil and we don't need it.

And, unfortunately, it would be sheer naivete to say prejudice doesn't exist and thrive here at Michigan State.

In some places it is as obvious as a slur sprayed across a wall. In other places it is buried in the way we look at and treat each other.

However, over the past year students have developed a heightened awareness of the existence of the problem at MSU, as an organized student effort has arisen to notify us that we live in a poor state of race relations at Michigan State University — an institution created to offer opportunity to all people regardless of their walk of life, skin color, religion, sexual preference or culture.

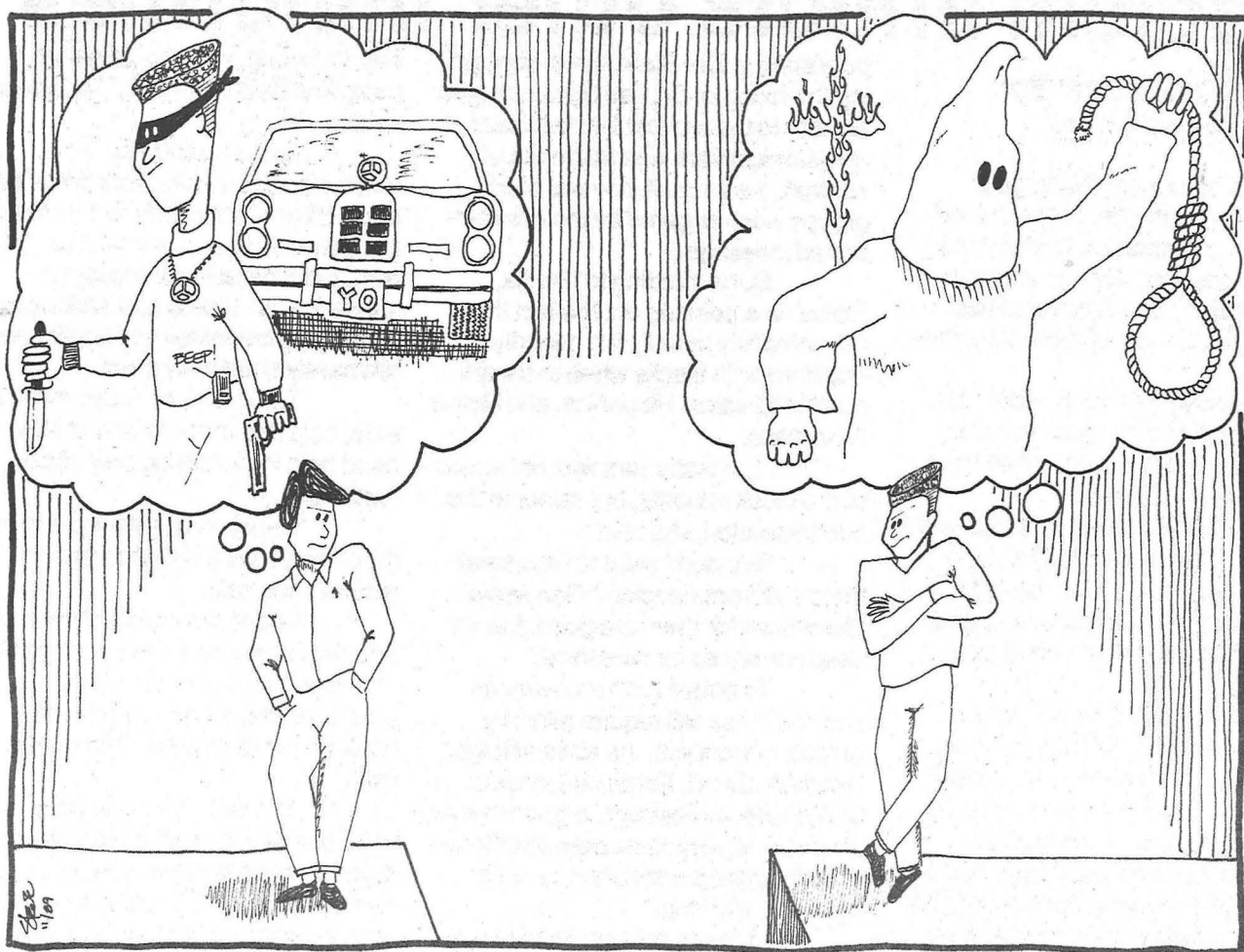
It is at such an institution filled with supposedly enlightened people that we find the pernicious practice of discrimination and the problems that revolve around race and the groups and individuals who cannot exist in harmony with someone who is different from themselves.

It is disappointing, but not surprising; no one seems immune from the ravages of racial bias.

Not the whites. Not the blacks. Not the Hispanics. Not the Asians. Not the Native Americans. Not Anyone.

We are all guilty of racism in one form or another.

Whether it is in the telling of a joke, choice of seat in a class or a bus, or the blank or dirty looks we shoot each other with while strolling across campus and through town, we all contribute to the problem.



And that may very well be the most dangerous aspect of prejudice; no one is immune.

Unlike a virus or disease, surviving prejudice does not make us less likely to fall victim to it again. Rather, it gives us rationalization for our own personal hatred.

Last year's sit-in forced many students to face the facts: Not all is well here.

Unfortunately, the sit-in failed to come up with real solutions to the problem. It is apparent that there is no quick fix. No one knows how to solve the problem, and students live on, frustrated and bitter.

Minority students feel little or nothing is being done to improve their plight. That is probably true, given the size and slowness of this bureaucratic university.

Non-minority students feel they can justify their prejudices by pointing at the sit-in and saying how, once again, minorities are causing trouble and whining.

We all must scrutinize the situation and re-assess the position.

There are no immediate solutions to the problem minority students face, but the lines of communication must be kept open by de-politicizing the

problem and dealing with it person-to-person with open minds and swift action.

To minority leaders: We caution that grandstanding and metaphor-filled speeches for the television cameras will solve nothing, and only widen the already considerable chasm between where we stand today and where we want to be tomorrow. Continue to challenge the administration as you have been, but don't fall victim to the trap of rejecting every proposal by the administration. All sides must be willing to listen with open minds in order to bridge the gaps that currently exist.

To non-minorities: We are disgusted and saddened, and urge you to abandon excusing your hang-ups with paper-thin rationalizations for utter prejudice and stupidity. While we recognize that racism is a two-way street, the bottom line is this: most of the time non-minorities (white males) are behind it. Hundreds of profound changes by the university administration will mean nothing unless the attitudes of the student body start to coincide with our supposedly educated intellects. This is not only aimed at those of you who choose to paint graffiti on dorm rooms. It means

uR-I artwork/Steve Jablonski

everyone who ever has made a racial remark, and that means most of us.

To university and government officials: We urge you to buck the status quo and be imaginative and daring in your efforts to help improve the situation, while warning you to quit hiding behind THE SYSTEM and using its slowness as an excuse for the lack of progress we have seen. The addition of Dr. Lee June is a step in the right direction (though we don't want to get tied up in the semantics of his title). And while MSU Idea looks fine, that only looks like lip service to us. It's time to put your noses to the grindstone and initiate some tangible changes at this university.

To everyone (since we are all living in the same world) we ask you to reconsider the next time you want to laugh at an off-color joke, search for a seat surrounded by empty seats, or stare straight ahead as you walk through life.

Call it cliché, but we are all brothers and sisters and this is our world. Let's make it a better one.

the university Reporter-Intelligencer

142 Gunson St., East Lansing, MI. 48823

517-351-4899

©1989, uR-I Publications

Executive Editor
M.L. Erick

Graphic Artist
Raechel Bery

Managing Editor
David Stearns

Technical Advisor
Detaine A. Wright

Advertising Manager
Tresa Baldas

Advisor
Dr. Stephen Lacy

Graphics Editor
Matthew Goebel

Editor Emeritus
Dr. Hunter S. Thompson

The Reporter-Intelligencer is published weekly and distributed without charge to the MSU community and environs. So there.

Ask and ye shall receive

Dear uR-I staff,

Just as you asked, first the praise, then the criticism.

I just finished the Nov. 1st issue of the paper. There was a lot more to like than there was in the Oct. 25th issue. You are improving. I reserve my greatest applause for your stories on Des Pennington and the Adolescent Diversion Project. They were insightful and well done. Please keep giving us stories like these two.

Another feature that I think is very well done is your "Out and About" section. You offer a good mix of activities and alert your readers to happenings they would otherwise not be aware of. Keep it up.

Now for the criticism.

First a word about the layout. Must all the ads be at the bottom of the page? They are no longer as bunchy as in the past, but every page that contains advertising copy has ads at the bottom and print at the top. Experiment a little, see what you can do. Also, why is it that stories start on one page, and then make readers turn back to a page they have previously read to find the rest of the article? Most people read the paper starting at page one and working through to the back. The constant flipping of pages in order to find the end of an interesting article tends to be irritating. Though I would never ask that uR-I staff members become conventional, this is one convention it might be useful to observe. So please, try doing page layout with stories starting at the front and being continued on later pages.

Another problem I have with the uR-I is the absence of articles about any of the arts except music, and if the article deals with music it is generally rock and roll. Now I have nothing against rock music, but don't publicize it at the expense of all the other local art. There are plays, classical concerts, musicals, art shows and dance presentations that also deserve newspaper space. Widen your horizons a bit. Try attending a play or writing about a local theatre group.

My last and perhaps slightly picky criticism deals with *The State News* bashing that goes on in your publication. In every issue I have seen, you have, at some point, gone into great detail about how *The State News* is a conservative newspaper, paid for by university funds and quite probably under the thumb of the MSU administration. This is of course in contrast

to the brave staffers of the uR-I who are unfunded, unsponsored and are the truly alternative campus voice (it says so right on the front page). We get the message. The only thing you are accomplishing by bashing *The State News* is giving them free publicity. If *The State News* is truly in the wrong, as they were in the case of Des Pennington, they need to be called on it. There is, however, no need for slurs on their editorial policy, integrity or staff. That's free publicity and you don't see them giving you any space in their paper.

All in all you seem to be on your way to having a good publication. Please keep working at it.

— Kristine Shreve

Police misunderstood

Dear Editor,

I am writing in response to your front page story ("Letter Garners Deadly Response") in the Nov. 1 1989 issue. I strongly support and admire Des Pennington for standing up for what he believes in, and for protecting his freedom of speech. However, I think the issue discussed in his letter to *The State News* should be looked into a little deeper before such strong accusations are made. While it is true that the two incidents were treated differently and probably in neither case correctly, the situations had difference circumstances that are not exclusive to the color of skin.

Any time there is a large gathering of people, regardless of race, color or creed, it's bound to make the authorities nervous and probably a little over-anxious. The situation also tends to be more volatile when the group of people are bound together by a common element, whether that element be color of skin, special interest, common religion or nationality. When a large group of people with the same goals and values are united together, emotions tend to run high. The authorities probably sensed that on the night of the picnic. This, together with the fact that they had forewarning of the event probably caused them to over react to the situation.

The incident at Cedar Village is not to be excused or to be made light of. The actions of the students were deplorable. However, that authorities had no forewarning, they had no way of preparing themselves. If they had,

I'm sure the situation would have been handled much differently.

By no means am I trying to make excuses for the way police handled either situation. They were both handled poorly. I am merely trying to suggest an alternate way of looking at the two incidents without making such strong accusations as to the correlation between race and the way the police reacted. The scene is much broader than that.

Good luck, Mr. Pennington, and thank you for not being afraid to stand up for what you believe in. Your silence is exactly what your cowardly callers are trying to achieve.

— Dawn Piper
Poly Science Sophomore

Urbana where are you?

I saw the best band in East Lansing at a Halloween party last Friday Oct. 27th. They used to be called *Lessons in Theory*. Now I think they are called *Urbana*. How come no one talks about them? They make every band I've seen in this town look ridiculous. Yes, even bop (harvey).

— Fred Chapman, Con-
cerned Chap

Don't raise kids here

Dear Editor,

The Nov. 1st issue of your paper is the first I've seen. I was thrilled to see Lash in print again. Keep up the good work!

I have my own commentary on the Cedarfest business. I am an adult student. I first came to MSU in 1980 with my youngest son, then 12-years-old. I was given an apartment in Spartan Village, and my son went to Hannah Middle School. We came from a farm, and had not lived so close to so many people before.

It took about two years for my son to start changing. He would come home later and later each day. By the time he was 15, the DPS knew my voice well, for I called them many times on the whereabouts of my boy. He would walk home, stopping at each party he saw along the way for a drink or two, and there were several times when he was found in a gutter or on a lawn passed out by an officer.

My son also indulged in other drugs, and developed methods of obtaining money for these drugs that

included breaking into soft drink machines and apartments, as well as university buildings. The DPS was onto him and his cronies, and when they caught them, they would bring them home to their parents. I tried several times to get someone to bring charges against my son, or lock him up, or some way to stop him, but it all I got was that it was my responsibility. I could not handle him, and could get no help. Some of the officers were sympathetic, but none would do anything.

My son is an alcoholic. He dropped out of high school, and though a brilliant and talented computer hacker, he is working off a long, poor track record as a teenage delinquent. I did not raise him in a vacuum. Parents who raise teens in the East Lansing area all have this scenario to look forward to. I believe if the DPS had dealt with him, and with other children early on, this would never have happened. The problem of underage drinking is magnified when the parents get no help from the community.

Thank you for your indulgence,

— Nancy L. Spencer

Stearn(s) criticism

I am writing in response to David Stearns' article, "Hats off to Derby Days? No way!" (1 Nov., uR-I No. 6) and I am not even Greek.

First of all, in his attempt at making a justifiable argument of why fraternities can get away with serving beer to underage students, while the rest of us GDI's are slapped in the face with a felony charge, he made some very close-minded generalizations along the way. (i.e. "have you ever seen a Greek that can dance?" "pink and green L.L. Bean outfits," "cute bomber jackets," etc...). Let's face it, there is a high percentage of students involved in the Greek system at MSU, but the uR-I is already quickly heading towards limiting its audience.

For your information, since this "truly independent" paper is a so-called local music supporter, the bands whose names Mr. Stearns did not know were Skor, The Hold, Second Self, and Huntunes. There is nothing conforming with trying to gain a little exposure in E. Lansing, whether it's at Rick's, in a basement, or at a fraternity house. In my opinion, the uR-I should have recognized Derby Days because of the talented musicians involved. Instead of ignoring their presence there.

The intended message of the article was a noble cause which resulted in yet another act of senseless stereotyping. There is no room for any kind of prejudice at MSU, whether it be aimed at blacks, yellows, or oranges, purples or Greeks. Prejudice is prejudice no matter which minority is targeted. Where are we (the students) supposed to turn if our alternative newspaper discriminates?

— Amy M. Hippensteel
Advertising Junior

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.

WE WILL PRINT EVERY LETTER WE RECEIVE!

There will be no more for-our-eyes-only letters; we are not here to act as your pen pals. What you have to say should be something all our readers can see and respond to. So be forewarned — if you send it, we'll print it.

Cowardly roommates spread racial plague



David Stearns

"Go home, you liberal bean-eater."

The words were scrawled sloppily on a piece of ripped-out notebook paper and taped to my younger brother's Wonders Hall dorm room.

It was the first evidence of overt prejudice that I had ever experienced at MSU. To be honest, I wasn't surprised. I knew it was there. It just hadn't slapped me in the face.

Last year my brother was a freshman here, living a freshman's nightmare: he was tripled with two football players.

They seemed nice enough when I first met them as I was helping my

brother move in to his cramped accommodations. It was bad enough that he was tripled.

It was even worse that the two lunkheads he had for roommates had been living there for two months already and were best friends since elementary school. They went to high school together at one of suburban Detroit's supposedly prestigious, all-boys, private football powerhouses. Birmingham Brother Rice.

That they were too dumb to even get a racial slur correct is beside the point. You probably can tell from my picture that my family is not Hispanic, although my brother does wear a Mexican-style cloth poncho that he bought on a summer vacation in California.

Well, we should give them some credit. He is liberal, whatever that means. If you take it to mean someone who likes change, they were right.

At least my brother changed his underwear once a week.

They figured out he was Jewish several weeks later. I don't know how, because neither of us are devoutly religious.

Maybe it was the horns growing out of my brother's head that only reveal themselves at night.

I've got a pair, too.

Not that he wanted to stick

around, but when the university sent all three of them a letter saying another room had opened up in Akers Hall, my brother was not quick to respond.

He just didn't want to live in Akers. He had visited me when I lived there, but he just didn't like it. It was his life and my parents' money, so why should he?

Of course, the university didn't realize the situation, they just knew that a room on the sixth floor of Wonders Hall was tripled and they could alleviate the uncomfortable living situation by moving a body.

Of course, in this case, that meant my brother.

The threats started when he didn't jump to take the Akers room. He started getting notes from his oh-so-understanding roommates saying things like, "take the Akers room or we'll beat the living shit out of you."

Real challenge, guys. My brother weighs just over 100 lbs., and two football players feel it's necessary to threaten him with physical violence. What's next, a nunnery? Hannah Middle School? My grandmother?

Getting on with the story, my brother ended up taking a room in Landon Hall and having a very successful year. He goes to school in New York now.

He probably didn't leave behind the racism or bigotry. It's a pervasive stain on our society that won't disappear by moving across the state line. You can't run from ignorance.

This could be construed as a very self-serving column, with me crying and bellyaching about my poor little brother and the big, bad goons he had to live with.

But if embarrassment will quell just a little bit of this idiocy, then so be it. So often, incidents like this happen that get reported and then are forgotten just as quickly. Just ask Shelly Washington, or Jeffrey Robinson or dozens of others.

Well this time, you got caught with your pants down, boys. I'm going to abuse my journalistic privilege 'till I'm blue in the face.

For the life of me, I can't remember the wide receiver's name. Mike or Mark or something.

The quarterback? He just got cut from the travel squad as the third-stringer because he had to undergo arthroscopic knee surgery. John Gelselman. Sorry if I spelled your name wrong.

You know what you are.

Step right up! Bozo Bono struts his stuff for Bud



Ralph Helbutzki

Has the earth reversed its axis? U2 only captured two Grammys this year, while their *Rattle & Hum* epic neither rattled nor hummed the box office. Instead, hungry CD players embrace Tracy Chapman's slow-motion manifestos of talkin' revolution, while Bono appears more like Bozo — leading a Grand March that only strains our indigent patience, swinging his pigtail while we linger near the bar. Would Cookie fast ten days while

Bozo preaches a sermon about self-denial between pizza orders? I doubt it.

Even U2's answer to Colonel Tom Parker, Paul McGuinness, seems confused by the critical turnabout. Long used to open-mouthed devotion at the tip of a shamrock and a pound note, Mr. McGuinness actually *praised* Guns 'n' Roses at this year's New York Music Seminar. "Nothing can stop a good song," quoth the man named after an alcoholic beverage, in which case his proteges need not fear... unless Bono wraps his squeals around Steve Winwood's ageless classic, "Don't You Know (What Michelob Can Do)."

Even so, the whole "I-Wear-Jeans-I'm-Sincere-And-I-Will-Never-Slut-Out-Even-Though-A-Budweiser-Endorsement-Is-Just-Around-The-Corner" movement bores me. Haven't we had enough seriousness in the wallpaper blah-blah-blah, alias the 1980's? Mr. McGuinness, and U2's adoring legions, seem to forget why those of us around in the Seventies regard them as special, even *treasured*.

Bring back rock 'n' rolls bottom-of-the-gutter thrift shop images...SYPHILLIS SORES RE-QUIRING A THOUSAND DOLLARS IN PENICILLIN FOR THE GROUPIES!...BRIAN JONES' BAG OF BONES!...KEITH RICHARDS' TORN SCARVES AND BLOOD CLINIC BILLS!...COKE SPOONS WITH GOLDEN NECK CHAINS FOR EASY WEAR, DAY AND NIGHT!

How can today's pampered transvestites like Motley Crue and Poison hold a candle to Bonzo choking on his vomit, and leaving behind a massively-selling Led Zeppelin catalog?

How can Bono, or even Tracy, or even Sinead "It's-So-Cool-To-Say-Fuck" O'Connor, possibly compare with Guns 'n' Roses coke-soaked charisma? I'll stand behind the brain-fried ticket youths oversellin' Guns 'n' Roses tickets, because \$35 to hear Slash's one-note guitar school lasts longer in my wax-damaged eardrums than Bono's Collected Commandments ever would. And for those who ignore my admonitions, let me remind

you of that zinger in "Death or Glory," (the Clash):

"I believe in this, and it's been tested by research/He who fucks nuns will later join the church."

Judging by that couplet, Mick Jagger's ready for a comeback solo tour of Catholic convents any day now.

FED UP?
write a
letter, and
quit your
bitchin'!



Geek of the Week

Sorry, Mark Grebner. You're hippie-dippie antics earn you geek of the week honors for this half of a fortnight. While we enjoyed reading your analysis of the candidates for East Lansing's recent election, (especially the one on Bobby Mitchell), you're otherwise antiquated behavior is really passe.

Would-be hippie? Just come out of the closet, Grebner, or is it Grubby? Take a bath, will ya fella?

The only would-be hippie elements you share are bell-bottomed jeans and long greasy hair.

All kidding aside. We appreciate your dogged efforts aimed at responsible government, although your political stances actually are much more libertarian than most people realize.

Now about that grading the profs thing.

Lash
Larrowe

Bush's drug war: Another Vietnam?

It's been a week since the sarge in the marine corps recruiting office gave me the bum's rush when I showed up to enlist for Bush's drug war, so I figure it's time for another visit.

He wasn't impressed last week when I appeared in my old WWII combat jacket with my medals pinned to it, so this time I'm wearin' civvies. He remembers me anyway.

"Back again, Pops?" he chuckles when I breeze on in. "You're still too old to enlist, but I've got time on my hands right now if you want to pursue the conversation we were having last week about how the U.S. oughta be fighting the war against drugs."

"That's what I'm here for, sarge," I says. "You convinced me last week Bush ain't winning the war by tryin' to dry up the supply."

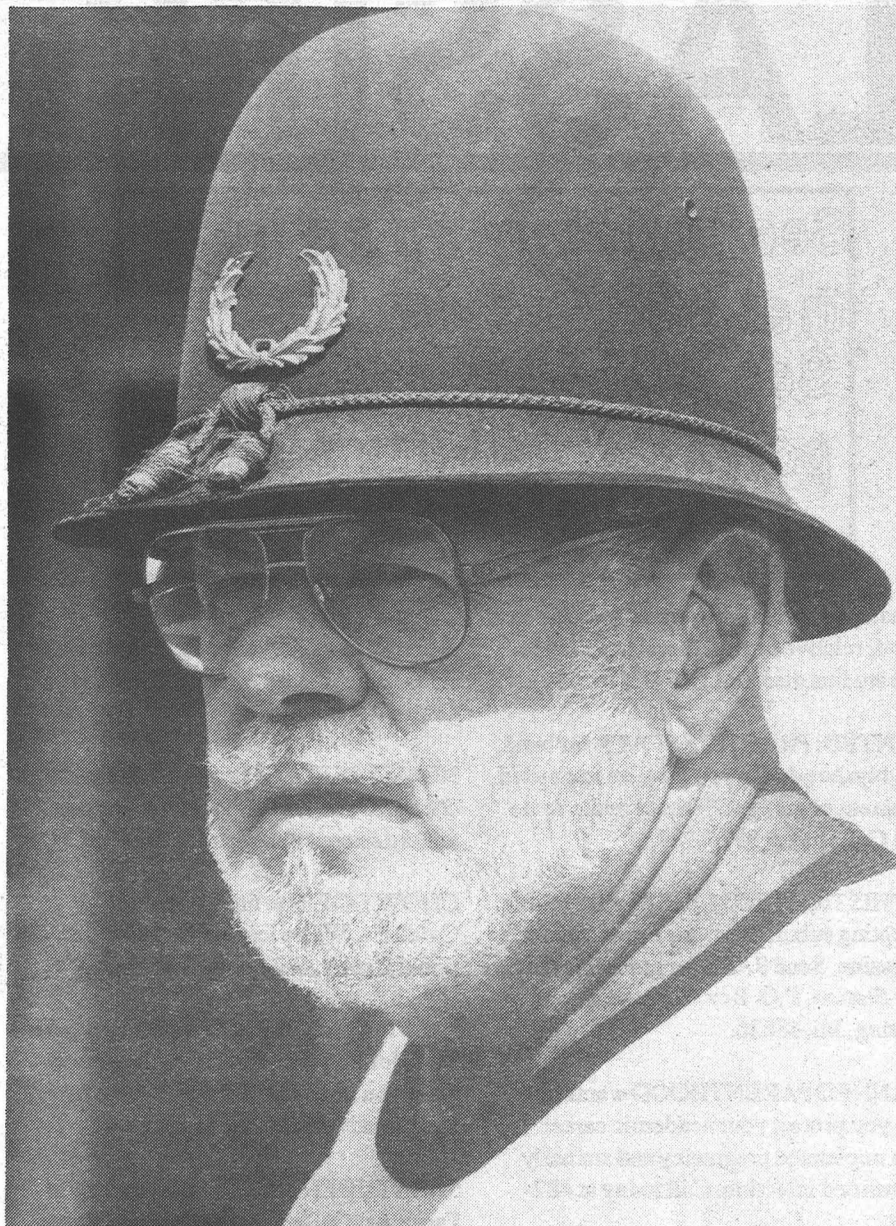
"But just when you were gonna let me in on the strategy you'd use to win it, you decided it was time to close the office and go home, so you told me come back next week."

"So what's your strategy?" I asks.

"First off, let's talk about what we can agree on, OK?" he says. "For starters, we should've learned from our experience with Prohibition you can't stop people from getting something they're determined to have by passing a law. No matter how many people you put in jail or how tough you get on the folks who supply it, right?"

"I'll have to agree with that," I says sheepishly. "I was in high school during the tail end of Prohibition, and I took my first drink when one of my schoolmates got some home brew from a blind pig. Real powerful stuff, too."

"Did you ever try hard liquor during Prohibition?" he asks curiously.



"Negative sarge," I says. "Too many stories were going around about people who'd gone blind from drinking bathtub gin or their nervous system was paralyzed when they drank what was sold as Jamaican rum but was actually made in an oil drum in somebody's back yard."

"We used to see 'em comin' down the sidewalk like they had St. Vitus's Dance or somethin'. I never knew the technical name for it," I adds. "We kids called it 'Jake Step'. When they'd get to the corner, it seemed like it took 'em five minutes to get across 'cause they couldn't control their feet to get down off on curb and up the other."

"Prohibition gave a big shot in the arm to organized crime and the Mafia when they moved in to supply bootleg booze, didn't it?" he says grimly. "Just

like the drug lords today."

"Put Al Capone on the map," I agrees impatiently. "But what's all that got to do with how to fight the drug war?"

"Isn't it obvious, Pops?" he says. "If we legalize marijuana and cocaine the way we did beer and hard liquor when Prohibition was repealed, we'd stand a chance of winning because we'd be working on the demand side. The present-day counterparts of the bootleggers wouldn't have any business."

"I don't know, sarge," I says doubtfully. "Wouldn't legalizing drugs be an admission we've lost the war? And wouldn't it put the government's stamp of approval on the use of drugs?"

"There are times when you have

to cut your losses and pull out of an unwinnable military situation," he says with a faraway look. I figure he's thinking of Nam or Beirut, so I don't interrupt.

"And when Prohibition was repealed," he says after a moment, "the government wasn't saying booze is good for you. It was merely recognizing that when you can't stop people from buying it, it's better to regulate its sale. That's the way it is with tobacco, too. Quality control, eliminate illegal profits."

"Legalizing drugs still seems like a moral weakness to me," I objects. "There's gotta be another way."

"You look like an educated man to me, Pops," he says. "Maybe I can convince you if I show you the economics of legalization. Trying to enforce the present drug policy is costing the nation billions, right? And nobody thinks the victory's in sight, do they?"

"We could save those billions in law enforcement costs if drugs were decriminalized. Break the logjams in the courts, too. And think of the billions in tax revenues the government could be taking in on sales of marijuana and cocaine."

"You may have something there, sarge," I says cautiously. "If you're right, revenue-wise, we could use those extra monies to help our friends in Central America hold back the commies without having to worry about breaking the deficit barrier, too, couldn't we?"

"I was thinking we could use it to treat addicts, and for drug education," he says disapprovingly. "For improving the schools and making jobs available for kids growing up in the inner cities so they wouldn't get on drugs in desperation or push 'em 'cause they don't see any alternative as a way of making a living."

"You've just about got me convinced," I says reluctantly. "I'd feel better, though, if the U.S. didn't have to be the first country to experiment with legalization. What if it didn't work?"

"You can relax, old-timer," he says. "They've already tried legalized drugs in the Netherlands, and the number of users is going down, and it looks like drug lords are in full retreat."

Same ole crap, but there is a silver filling, er, lining

take my temperature orally, the cold-handed bastard) I chanced upon two fire trucks and a police car in front of a residence on Gunson Street. No report of what was going on, but rumor has it there was a blind pig roast that got out of hand.

Also this weekend, MSU had a happier note as President John "The Prexy-Nine-Out-of-Ten-Dentists Recommend 'cause He's Our Friend" DiBiaggio received the Fauchard Gold Medal at the American Dental Association Annual Session, which was held in Honolulu. (I wonder if he spends enough time at MSU to have residency?)

Seems our esteemed leader — who has an extensive dental background (besides having teeth, snapperhead) — was honored for his achievements in the advocacy of flossing AFTER you brush, and not before as was commonly presupposed. Nice going DiBi! And nice smile!

A quick note to the bubbleheaded couple (a Chi Omega and Pi Lambda Phi-guy) who were making party

invitations in the Union computer lab Saturday night. Get a room, wouldya? The next guy who used your computer had a hard time standing up when he tried to leave, the seat was so sticky. You two nimrods swapped more spit than a doctor taking a throat culture. I know Apples are an aphrodisiac, but that was one sickeningly disgusting public display of affection.

Speaking of the computer lab, ye olde Provoc would like to know when the lab assistants are going to stop playing those computer games and start helping those of us who need help. I know, I know, the assistants aren't there as technical advisors or as tutors. But what the hell else are they there for? To get paid to play Falcon?

Pull up! Pull Up! (Maybe it should have been pull out, pull out, in reference to the previous lovebirds.)

The employees always are very strict in making sure that people with their own software still sign up to use computers. When someone is assigned one that somebody else is using, they kick them off. And well they should. One time, however, a guy

came in and was assigned a computer that a lab assistant was dorking around on. The assistant got all pissed off that he was going to have to move and end his game, so he bitched at the guy to go and get another computer.

What a byte in the ass.

Now it's time for a new feature in the Provoc Column: Rappin' with M.C. Provoc and the Gerber Crew Go Provoc! Go Provoc! Go Provoc!

A long time ago, in a faraway land Lived a crabby little boy who you could never reprimand

He always had a crabby look stuck on his crabby face

The def young boy looked like someone had cold sprayed him with mace.

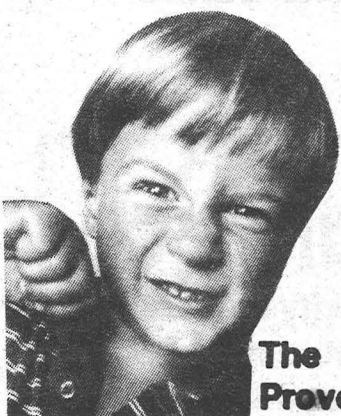
No matter where he went, no matter what he said

The other M.C. rug rats always hit him in the head.

So now it's time for The Provoc to get some fresh revenge

Give it up for M.C.P., the kid who has the bends!

(My apology to Sir Mix-A-Lot for the mace line).



The
Provocateur

Welcome once again to my House of Diedain, Kingdom of Crankiness, Land of Contusion; or as those buggers who drink beer upside down and chase koalas might say: Good day mate, get buggered! But not so fast — first there are some things I have to get off my young, hairless chest...

Another weekend, another case of studential malfeasance! Just last Sunday (on my way to get some of those cheap tacos that drive my pediatrician crazy — now maybe he'll

CLASSIFIEDS

PERSONALS:

FORGET HURRICANE HUGO AND THE FRISCO QUAKE; help local disaster victims! Please send marshmallows and 100-percent cotton or wool (NO POLY BLENDS PLEASE, like, really, I'm sure) major-maker label clothing to the Sigma Kappa house, Who Litta Fire chapter, MSU. All donations will be gratefully accepted or thrown back in your face if we don't like 'em. **THE CHICKS OF SIGMA KAPPA.**

I DON'T WANNA BE BURIED in a pet semetary. Dig?

Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday to you. (So, I'm a traditionalist. We can't all be creative geniuses.)

SERVICES:

ESPRESSO ROYALE now accepting applications for energetic individuals willing to work hard with and for fun people! Evening and night positions. Serious applicants only.

VIDEO POSTCARD — send your

See Dick buy an ad in
that other paper...
See Dick stuck with that
polyester leisure suit..
DON'T BE A DICK

videotaped message, event or location to a friend, relative or sweetheart worldwide. 15% student discount. 517-339-0509.

WANTED: PRACTICE SPACE for band, two days/week. Do you have an unneeded basement or garage? Want to make some \$\$\$? Call Kurt at 337-7139.

SOPHISTICATED SCRIBBLERS! Now accepting submissions for a new quarterly magazine. Send SASE for guidelines to: *Way Station*, P.O. Box 6250, East Lansing, Mi, 48826.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD wants to help you protect your academic career from unplanned pregnancy and sexually transmitted infection. Call today at 482-1500.

CASTELLANI'S MARKET offers a wide variety of gourmet and international food, and deli sandwiches, too. Stop in for a snack or a meal.

BENNY'S PIZZA IS accepting applications for manager. Apply at their East Grand River store.

NEED YOUR COPIES done fast and cheap? Go to Budget Printing. See our advertisement elsewhere in the uR-I.

CHOW DOWN at the Crossroads Cafeteria. We're located in the International Center. See our ad in the uR-I.

JAM THE HOUSE with a selection from Too Hot Records. This live store has just what you need for your next house party. See our advertisement in the uR-I.

SEE STUDENT ART displayed now at Faruk Art Gallery, in the Campus Town Mall. Also available are T-shirts, incense and a variety of literature. See our ad in the uR-I.

IT'S THE EAST LANSING renaissance at Renaissance Hair, for all of your

hairstyling needs. See our ad in the uR-I.

COPIES, COPIES and more copies. If you want 'em, Paper Image has them. See our ad in the uR-I.

GARY'S CAMPUS Hair Salon offers reduced prices for hair cuts. See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.

RECEIVE \$3 OFF your next visit to Clearwater Spa's hot tubs with our coupon elsewhere in the uR-I.

ITOP DOG for chili fries, nachos, hot dogs and other late-night munchies. See our advertisement in the uR-I.

THE LANDSHARK: where you won't feel like an uncool fish out of water. See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.

SPEEDY PRINTING DOES it faster and better than the rest. See our ad in the uR-I.

CAPUCCINO? PASTRY? Espresso Royale on Abbott Road offers unique international coffees and other delicacies. See our ad in the uR-I.

NEED A NEW LOOK? Come to David Zumberg, hairstylist, for your beauty needs. See our ad in the uR-I.

CLEARWATER SPA has the key to relaxation. See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.

MARIA'S offers the best full-service beauty care in the area! See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.

FARAH'S gives the best keg deals in town. See our coupon elsewhere in the uR-I.

UNIVERSITY HOUSING puts ease and convenience at your disposal. See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.

BUY TODAY AND PROTECT YOURSELF TONIGHT with a personal alarm. See our ad elsewhere in the uR-I.



BIG BABY DOG BOY

BY C. BURNS © 1988

DOG BOY'S TIRED... DIGGING FOR BONES REALLY TAKES IT OUT OF A GUY... BUT HE'S GOT A FEW THINGS ON HIS MIND... IMPORTANT THINGS!

LATER...



IT'S NO USE, I CAN'T SLEEP... I KEEP THINKING ABOUT... ABOUT GIRLS!

HOW COME I CAN NEVER FIND A GIRL THAT REALLY UNDERSTANDS ME?



SOMEHOW I ALWAYS SEEM TO MAKE THE WRONG IMPRESSION...



MY LIFE WAS GOING ALONG JUST FINE UNTIL I WENT TO SEE THAT CREEPY DOCTOR...



AS FAR AS I CAN TELL YOU'RE IN EXCELLENT SHAPE EXCEPT FOR ONE THING...

YEAH? UH... WHAT'S THAT?

YOU'VE GOT A BAD HEART...

GEE... WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT, ANYWAY?



IN MEDICAL TERMS? WELL... IT'S... IT'S ALL MESSED UP... IT'S GOTTA BE YANKED!



NEXT: THE HEART OF THE PROBLEM!

Wanted:

Minority students interested in a career in journalism, photo-journalism, or advertising, the uR-I is just what you're looking for!

We are seeking minority students to help make this paper a truly representative voice of the diverse MSU community.

Call us at:

351-4899

Out & About

Each week the uR-I features a section called "Out & About" (look at the top of the page if you doubt us, mush-face).

In this section, you, the valued reader, will find a listing of local and other happenings ranging from bands playing in nightclubs to plays on and off campus to art exhibits.

We will also strive to include concert updates for venues in the East Lansing, Detroit and Ann Arbor areas.

But, as we are relatively unhip in some areas, please give us the skinny on any other hoppin' places, up-coming events, etc.... We want to include them in this fresh section, dig?

So if you know of a groovin' joint, spread the wealth and let us know, holmes. Contact our Gunson Street offices (on a 3x5 card or neatly written on lined paper) by Thursday of the week prior to publication.

House parties are fair game, too. But, hey, don't tell us if you got brew and how much it will cost, 'cause we'll print it and the uninvited John Law will show up.

Got it? Good. Let us have at it...

EAST LANSING

BoarsHeadTheater

Nov. 8-11: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Center For The Arts.

Nov. 16 - Dec. 10: *Lion In Winter*, Center For The Arts. 8 p.m. Call 484-7805.

Nov. 29: *Macbeth* (a staged reading). 484-7805.

Classic Films

Nov. 9 & 10: *This is War?*
Call 355-0241 for locations and info.

Connxtions Comedy Club

Nov. 8-11: Mac King (also appearing: Michael Orenstein & Ken Brown). Tues.-Thurs. 9 p.m. \$7; Fri. and Sat. 8-10 p.m. \$9.

Nov. 14-18: Ronnie Bullard (also appearing: Rickie Beechum & Eric Kirkland). Info: 482-1468.

Faruk Art Gallery

Nov. 11: The Lime Giants, 9-11 p.m. \$2. The Loudest Pop Band in the Land.

The Green Door

November schedule: (all shows begin at 9:30 p.m.)

Mondays: Blue Avenue Delegates. \$2.

Tuesdays: Capital City Band. No admission

Wed.-Sat.: Toys. No admission.

Sundays: Uptown Band. No admission.

Hill Auditorium

Nov. 10-11 & 17-18: *Life With Mother*, performed by Lansing Civic Players. Call 484-9191

Kreage Art Museum

Nov. 19: Pashami Dancers perform traditional African dances. 3 p.m. Call 353-9834.

The Lansing Center

Nov. 17: *A Taste of House* featuring Sybil. 9 p.m. \$8 in advance.

Reach an
alternative
market by
using an
alternative
paper.

Advertise in
the
uR-I

CALL 351-4885

or write us:
142 Gunson St.
East Lansing, MI
48823

The Landshark

Nov. 10: The DeadBeats.

MSU Fairchild Theater

Nov. 10-18: *Noises Off*, by MSU Performing Arts. 355-0148.

Nov. 30: Just Kidding presents their national tour, "Where's My Thermos." 7 p.m. Call 353-5255.

MSU Auditorium

Nov. 20: Bop (harvey), with guests The Front, and Third Estate. 7:30 p.m. \$5, available at Wharton Center.

Nov. 27: the B-52's.

MSU Union

Nov. 10 & 11: Triple Play — presented by MSU Dinner Theatre. 7 p.m. Call 355-3354.

Odeon Theatre

Nov. 10-Nov. 16: *The Second Animation Celebration The Movie*, featuring Bill Plympton's newest film, "25 Ways to Quit Smoking."

Rick's American Cafe

Nov. 8: J.D. Lamb.

Riverwalk Theatre

Nov. 9-19: *My Three Angels*, based on 1955 Humphrey Bogart movie, "We Are No Angels." Call 483-1623.

Sensations

Nov. 8: WDBM Radioactive Wednesday, Passion Nouveau with The Lime Giants. 9 p.m. Cover is \$3 at the door.

Nov. 12: Michael Hedges. 8 p.m. Info: 372-0200.

Wharton Center — Call 355-6686 for any information

Nov. 9: American Indian Dance Theatre.

Nov. 11: MSU Symphony Orchestra, with guests Walter Verdehr, violinist and University Chorale. Free admission. 8 p.m.

Nov. 12: MSU Wind Symphony. 3

p.m., free admission.

Nov. 13: MSU Chorale/State Singers. 8 p.m., free admission.

Nov. 14: MSU Campus and Concert Bands. 8 p.m., free admission.

Nov. 15: Jazz Band II. 8 p.m., Festival Stage. 8 p.m., free admission.

Nov. 16-17: Les Grands Ballets Canadiens presents *Coppelia*. 8 p.m., Great Hall.

Nov. 17: Gerald Glickstein, guitarist, guest recital. Festival Stage.

Nov. 18: Les Grands Ballets Canadiens, Great Hall. 8 p.m.

Nov. 18: *Ebony Reflections 1989*, by Akers Black Caucus. Festival Stage. 8 p.m.

Nov. 20, 21 and 22: *Cats* Call 355-6686.

ANN ARBOR

The Ark

The Marcia Ball Band

Blind Pig

Nov. 8: Fetchin' Bones

Hill Auditorium

Nov. 17: Squeeze w/ Katrina & the Waves

DETROIT

Fox Theatre

Nov. 15: Eurythmics

Nov. 26 & 30: B-52's

Nov. 25: 10,000 Maniacs

Latin Quarter

Nov. 22: Red Hot Chili Peppers

Majestic Theatre Center:

Nov. 16: Bo Diddley

Royal Oak Music Theater

Nov. 18: Canadian jazz group Yuzeb, and Larry Coryell.

Nov. 21: Billy Squier

St. Andrew's Hall

Nov. 10: 24-7 Spy

Nov. 11: 7 Seconds

Nov. 15-16 The Pixies w/ The Zulus

Nov. 17: Buzzcocks w/ Grievance Committee

Miscellaneous

Association of Chinese Americans, Young Professionals Group. Social organization. For more information about activities call 351-7403.

The uR-I is published weekly each term (30 issues a year) and is available free on the MSU campus and environs.

It is also available by mail for an annual subscription rate of \$31, with discounts made for non-profit organizations and multiple subscriptions to one address. It is posted weekly via first-class mail.

Subscriber's name:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Qualified for Discount? Why:

Make checks payable to: University Reporter-Intelligencer

MSU Greeks: Separate but equal OK

by BILL FRISCHLING
and BARBRA CHEIMAN
UR-I Correspondents

Ever since the Supreme Court ruled that segregation was illegal in 1954, the United States has attempted to integrate our multi-racial society on every level. But, within MSU, fraternal organizations mostly have remained segregated.

These fraternities and sororities are composed of three governing bodies: the National Panhellenic Council (NPHC - predominantly black), the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC - predominantly white fraternities), and the Pan-Hellenic Council (PanHel - predominantly white sororities).

These organizations stress that they, although separate, stand on equal ground, performing similar campus and community services and having similar social functions.

"It is not intentional that they are segregated," said Tyler W. Brassie, a senior and Vice President

of Internal Affairs at IFC. "Anyone can rush a fraternity, regardless of their race."

Although anyone can rush a fraternity, Brassie estimated that there no more than 15 black members in IFC fraternities.

"It depends on the individual," said Russell Ford, of Delta Upsilon. "I'm black myself. I love it for the diversity. This house appealed to me."

But not all fraternity members feel the same way.

"It would be intimidating for a black to rush an all white fraternity," said Charles Proctor, a senior and a Alpha Tau Omega member. "For instance, I would feel out of place in a black fraternity."

Fraternities originally were established for whites only in the mid-1800's in the deep South. Black fraternities were founded later to offer black students the advantages of being in a fraternity. Up until the 1960's, many fraternities would not admit black members. Since there were fraternities for both races, they

stayed essentially segregated.

Harry Carswell, advisor to the NPHC and assistant director of student life, said the three separate organizations fill the diverse needs of MSU's student body.

"You have three organizations [IFC, NPHC, PanHel] so that it can meet the needs of all the people on campus," Carswell said. "The NPHC was formed to serve different needs."

When questioned about integration, Carswell said that anyone can join an NPHC fraternity. He specified that there are some non-black members of NPHC fraternities.

Although the organizations try to serve the needs of all the students, they often have trouble dealing with one another.

"We make an effort to attend their meetings," Brassie said. "NPHC does not make the same effort."

But Carswell said the NPHC has a different view on the problem.

"The National Panhellenic Council has been receptive to working on different things with the IFC,"

Carswell said. "However, what is planned may not meet the needs of all organizations. All organizations might not want to participate."

The different fraternity organizations perform different services in and around the campus, like hunger projects.

For instance, Delta Sigma Theta, a service oriented sorority and a member of NPHC, distributes Thanksgiving baskets to the needy. Pi Kappa Phi, an IFC fraternity, feeds underprivileged people every spring as a community service.

"We're a public-service sorority, and we like to provide for the community," said Sharon Booker, a senior and a Delta Sigma Theta member. "Most of NPHC is like that."

Although equal, these fraternity systems remain separate. Brassie offered a possible reason.

"People go where they feel most comfortable. There's a place for everyone (in a fraternity). If you look hard enough, you will find a place or a niche for yourself."

From ANSWERS, p. 3

to accept the challenge of learning about different people."

As a hall manager, Griggs sees many of the problems between minority and non-minority students. Griggs said she's had parents call and complain about their son or daughter having to share a room with a person of another race.

Griggs is strongly against prejudice in these issues.

"If I see any prejudice involved, I won't go," she said. "I just want to be fair."

An economics professor, Dr. Edward Montgomery, also has noticed the racial tension between students. He said that the university must provide more role models for students.

"We need to increase some of the diversity, so that minority students feel

more at home in the community and majority students see competent, well-qualified professors from all races and genders."

Dr. Lee June, recently appointed senior advisor to the provost on multicultural and ethnic issues and long-time counseling center director, agreed.

He said MSU needs to recruit more aggressively, particularly in terms of faculty.

But June said students are the ones who have to work the most to change things.

"Both minority and non-minority people must create an environment where racial incidents will not be tolerated," June said.

Billy Dexter, assistant director of the career development and placement office, said most problems arise from students' lack of understanding

about other races and cultures.

"We need a dialogue, to talk about differences and clear things up," Dexter said. "That hasn't happened for years. Racism problems are nothing new to MSU — they were here before I was here and before you were here. They're getting more attention now."

As Harry Carswell said, "It's 1989. Wouldn't it be nice if we didn't have to address these issues?"

WE WANT AD EXECS!

interested?

call 351-4899
for details

Laruk
ART GALLERY
541 E GRAND RIVER
E LANSING, MI 48823
351-7933

Also features incense and body oils.

HAIR A MESS?
Let us help you out—Come to
GARY'S CAMPUS HAIR SALON
\$9.00 uni-sex hair styling
"A Cut Above Yet Priced Below"
351-6511 549 E. Grand River
(next to Confection Connection)
M-F 8am-7pm Sat 9am-2pm

Italian Sodas:
orange, raspberry, mint,
grenadine, tamarind.

2 FOR 1 TUESDAY
7:00 P.M. - MIDNIGHT

Castellani's Market
332-6667
557 E. Grand River

The Land Shark
Raw Bar & Grill

Nov. 10 Fri. LIVE FROM CHICAGO
The Dead Beats, featuring double
percussion section and tunes from the
Grateful Dead
Nov. 14 Tues. The Wayouts

Sunday Special
Stallion burger w/fries (half lb.
ground beef w/bacon, swiss, cheddar,
onion, lettuce, and tomato)
draft and shot 'o' schnapps
ONLY \$2.99
(til 10 p.m.)
Shot 'n' beer \$1.50 all night
101 E. Grand River Ave.
Home of the SHARK BOWL!

NEAR WATER SPA



For Reservations
Call The
HOT TUB
HOT LINE
332-6318
(located corner of
Grove and Linden
near Dooleys)

\$3.00 OFF
Your Next Hot Tub Rental
(With Coupon)
Exp. Nov. 15, 1989
(Limit 1 discount per visit)

Also Wed. Special
Two People \$15/hr.
Regular Price \$20

Get
\$5
off your next haircut
or
any other services
at **Maria's**
specializing in:
•jerrie curls
•weaving
•manicures
•relaxers
•haircuts

523 E. Grand River Ave.
482-2639

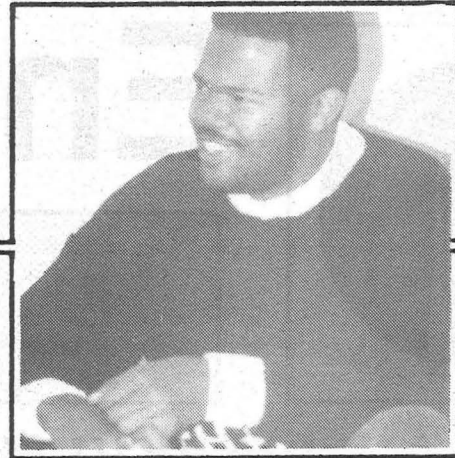
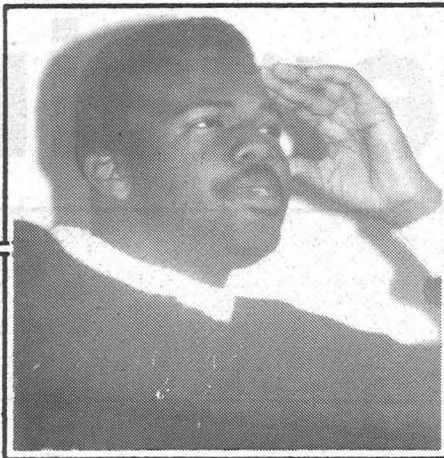
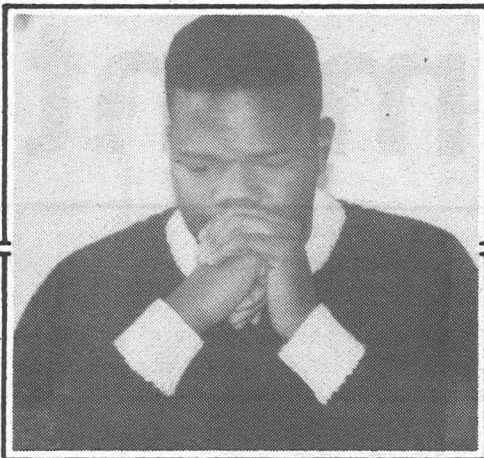
Eat Cheap
All U Can Eat Cones
\$1.99 Tuesdays noon-9

Mexican Plate Special \$2.00
2 Quesadillas, beans & salad
All week until 9 p.m.

Delivery 332-2381

Top Dog
Coney & Mexican
DELIVERY
332-2381

213 Grand River Ave.
Downstairs
The Original Home of Chili Fries



uR-I
photos/
BRIAN
KACH

From PEYTON, p. 1

Provost or Vice-Provost?

Peyton thinks that the position of Senior Advisor to the Provost is powerless. Thus, Dr. Lee June, who was appointed to it, cannot be effective. Speaking metaphorically, Peyton elaborated.

"You can have the best carpenter in the world," Peyton explained, "but with no tools, he can't build a house."

Peyton feels the number one problem facing minority students is graduation and retention.

When asked if he had any advice to a student who was thinking of leaving MSU before graduating, Peyton responded: "Knowledge is king, so in order to be king, get the knowledge. Not just the texts and classes, but all that is there."

"Learn about the things that influence you," Peyton continued.

"Learn it in a university setting, a place made for learning."

Peyton said he feels there is an extreme lack of leadership among appointed officials.

"There is no leadership in action," Peyton explained. "There is a need for them to mobilize on the issues, and they don't."

Peyton said he feels the highest officials should be held accountable for this lack of action on the part of the administration.

"By title, you have to look to the President," Peyton stated, "and if you say he's just for public relations and fund raising, you look to the Provost."

Peyton thinks the progress in race relations the university officials claim is misleading.

"The administration thinks hiring the Senior Advisor to the Provost and starting the MSU Idea is progress, not the students," Peyton continued.

"They say they're 'keeping late hours' on things the students know won't

work.

"(The administration) keeps pressing the MSU Idea, when the ethnic community still fails to acknowledge it. They don't even give the black faculty and the alumni association recognition for the concept of the MSU Idea."

"The students want to work with the Trustees in bringing leadership and responsibility to people appointed to positions of power. Sometimes they respond so stupidly that they are bound to go in one direction. They know what the answer is but they refuse to acknowledge it."

Peyton said he also feels the administration is "Spending more time, energy, and money trying not to do right (by the students) than to just do right."

He feels the administration is getting an "uneasy feeling."

"They know it's not just the ethnic community that's fed up with them," Peyton explained. "The non-ethnic

community is upset with them as well."

But Peyton does not feel his only function is as a critic to the university.

"(The students) go out to educate. We raise the consciousness of the community, not just the university," Peyton stated. "We help people realize there is a support group, that there are people experiencing the same problems everywhere."

"The position of the entire ethnic community — I mean all the Hispanics, Indians, Asians, Blacks, and Native Americans — is that the individual groups all have got issues and demands to address their concerns. However, (the various ethnic groups) collectively have a common agenda. There is an active dialogue between the entire ethnic community. There is a unity between us all."

89 out of 100 students
say the **ON-CAMPUS**
Residence Halls snackshops
make living more attractive

The On-campus Residence Halls
where the living is easier.

10 % Student Discount

CURRIE'S UNISEX SALON



408 E. Grand River Ave.
372-5521

Mon-Fri 8am - 8pm
Sat 8am - 5pm

Walk-ins welcome
Appointments preferred

COUPON SPECIAL COUPON SPECIAL

Copy Sale

Buy one,
get one free!

Self-serve, 8½x11,
up to 25 free copies

Paper Image
print & copy

619 E. Grand River
351-4321

Let the people who care,
take care of you.

Present coupon when paying.

COUPON SPECIAL COUPON SPECIAL

Your partner in printing.

- Announcements
- Booklets
- Brochures
- Business Cards
- Carbonless Forms
- Custom Color Ink
- FAX Service
- Letterhead
- Mailers
- Menus
- Newsletters
- Office Forms
- Pick-up and Delivery
- Stapling
- Typesetting



EAST LANSING

514 MICHIGAN AVE.
1/2 MILE EAST OF FRANDOR
PHONE 332-7171
FAX 332-5729

©1989 ASPC, Inc.

STUDIO 241, inc

241 East Saginaw • East Lansing
lower level 241 Building

hair/nail care for women/
men, children

- beard/mustache trims
- foil highlighting
- spiral perms
- facial waxing
- complete nail care
- manicures/pedicures
- sculptured nails/nail tips
- silk nail wraps/repairs
- French manicures
- French braiding

351-9330

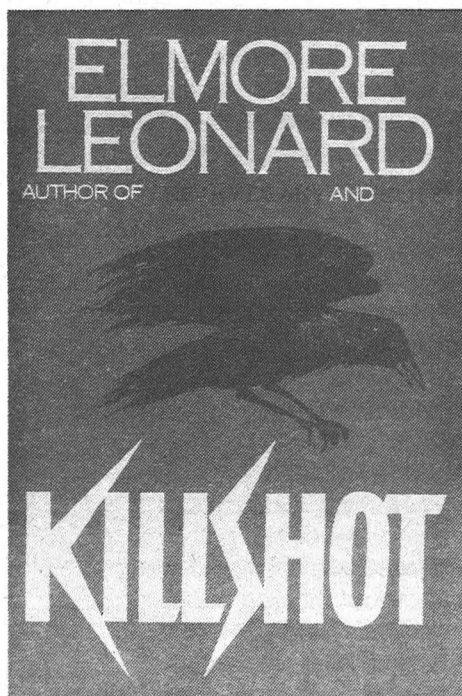
8-8 Mon-Fri

8-4 Sat



Entertainment

Leonard's *Killshot* scores a bullseye



...The plot twists and turns, winding from Algonac to as far as Cape Girardeau, Missouri...

KILLSHOT

By Elmore Leonard
287 pages New York: Arbor House

by AARON HALL
uR-I Literature Critic

Detroit-area author Elmore Leonard has written another first-rate crime story with his latest novel, *KILLSHOT*. Once again Leonard indulges our fascination with the deranged, and produces a wickedly entertaining tale.

Killshot centers around the Colson's; Wayne and Carmen and a pair of criminals; Armand Degas and Richie Nix. The Colson's are a happily married couple who live in Algonac, Michigan. Wayne is an impatient and quick tempered ironworker. Carmen is an ambitious real estate agent. She is more patient than her husband, and has a strong dislike for violence.

Degas, otherwise known as Blackbird, is a half Ojibway, half French-Canadian from Montreal. He is a 50-year-old hit man for the Toronto

Mafia. Blackbird is cool, composed and level headed. Nix is an impulsive, trigger-happy, punkish ex-con, with a record six feet long.

His life long goal is to rob a bank in every state.

After meeting in a unique way, Blackbird and Nix become partners in a crime Nix has devised. However, the crime is thwarted by Wayne as Carmen looks on. Thus, Blackbird and Nix feel they must eliminate the Colsons to avoid being incriminated. From this point the novel takes off. Murder, theft and suspenseful moments seem to appear on every page.

However, Leonard does not stray into monotony or boredom. The plot twists and turns, winding from Algonac to as far as Cape Girardeau, Missouri. And while there is a twisting, turning plot, Leonard does not lose or confuse the reader.

Leonard displays his ability to create malevolent characters that fascinate and take hold of the reader in creating Blackbird and Nix. The amorality of these two is vividly presented throughout the novel. From the stories of their pasts, to their actions while in pursuit of the Colsons

and finally their relationship with Donna, a woman who houses the criminals, the amorality on the part of Blackbird and Nix is unmistakable. But although these men are amoral, and seem to have no redeeming value, there is a certain ingenuity, even if it is warped, that these men possess. Whatever steps the Colsons take to avoid them, Blackbird and Nix catch on.

A final interesting point concerning these criminals is the tension between them. This tension stems from their differing personalities, and grows throughout the novel.

In the end, the tension between Blackbird and Nix is ended, though not by a change of attitude or tolerance towards each other. Also, Carmen overcomes her dislike and fear of violence while being held captive, and saves herself and Wayne.

Leonard's ability to create characters and an adventure that grab the reader is once again in top form. While writing crime fiction is a heavily traveled path, Leonard opens new avenues with *Killshot*, another in his list of fine novels.

Hammer of Rain falls short of nailing down excellence

The Hannibals: *Hammer of Rain*

"A Wish For Distance" may be the best song on the new tape by The Hannibals, *Hammer of Rain*. But, fans of this local band won't want to stay away from this new release.

Although *Hammer of Rain* lacks the quality production and polished sound of professional

tance" prove the tightness and talent between the group's members.

The guitar parts fall short of adequacy, often sounding lackadaisical. On parts of "Little heads" and "Elsewhere," the guitars have a tendency to sound off key. This is the only major disappointment on this compilation.

Despite its one downfall, *Hammer* contains a fine collection of quality music. This release possesses diversity and originality with many subtle intricacies thrown in. Fans of The Hannibals will definitely want to pick this one up. Those who have never heard the band should definitely take the time to listen.

— DAN FRIEDMAN, a frequent uR-I music critic, has worked with rock and jazz musicians for the past three years in his home state of Florida. His musical tastes run from Mozart to Metallica.

uR-I exclusive

tapes, the music, reminiscent of REM with a hint of U2 should help the group gain the exposure necessary to expedite their journey on the road to stardom.

The band's performance is very impressive. "Cluttered Again," with its abrupt time changes, and the melodic bass lines of "Naiobi You" are highpoints on *Hammer*. These songs as well as the previously mentioned "A Wish For Dis-

Wayouts come close, but miss final cut for EMI-Snickers album

Local faves the Wayouts had a close call with fame recently, just missing in their effort to land a track on the EMI-Snickers New Music Search album.

Of those competing, only 16 bands made the album, with the E.L. three hanging on until the final cut.

That showing gives them bragging rights to the title of "One of the best 20 bands in America." The hip boys made it further than any other local contestants, including the winner of the WDBM-conducted search.

What's next for the trio?

Probably just playing around East Lansing, for the time being. They have made regular appearances to packed houses at the Landshark, where many a bootie has been shaken.

— JENNIE BODDY

