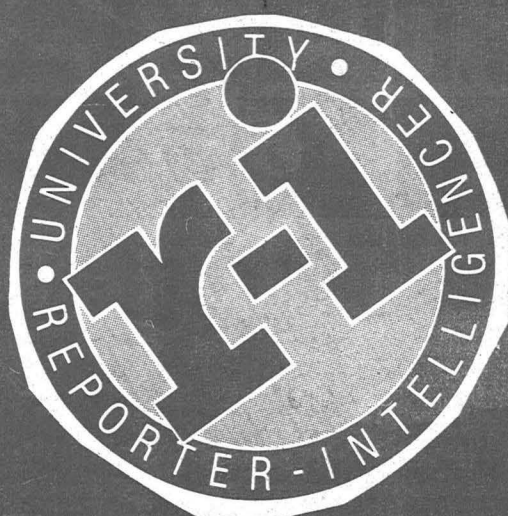


The uR-I dispells some rumors about witchcraft...

p. 3



31  
October  
1990

Vol. II  
No.

MSU's alternative  
and truly  
independent voice



What's shakin': :

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ting dressed up for Hal-  
loween... p. 4

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# Kids go for Jell-o

BY ANGIE CAROZZO  
uR-I EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Patrick Bryant left the stage of the Fairchild Theatre after announcing that there were more people at this performance of **The Spoken Word** than there has ever been.

Then an echoing voice came from nowhere... or everywhere.

"We interrupt this program with a special bulletin. America is now under martial law."

**Jello Biafra** appeared from the side of the stage dressed in a leather trench coat with round black glasses and mussed up hair — he kind of resembled an undercover spy who wasn't doing a very good job of looking inconspicuous.

"All Constitutional rights have been suspended.

Stay in your homes. Do not attempt to contact loved ones, insurance agents or attorneys.



Jello Biafra's Spoken Word is more like a lion's roar. photo by Matthew Goebel

## SHUT UP!

Do not attempt to think or depression may occur.

Stay in your homes. Curfew is at seven p.m. sharp after work. Anyone caught outside the gates of their subdivision sectors after curfew **will be shot.**

Biafra warned the students against the terrors of

an elitist government drawing comparisons between the Third Reich and the present United States of America.

"Look at the origins and propaganda of the Third Reich... the big deal about the desecration of the flag."

Our own government supplies us with drugs says Biafra. He went on to say "Burn, baby burn. Old

glory. The Yankee Swastika."

## Censorship and the PMRC

"I don't think free speech has ever been in as much danger as it's in now," said Biafra of the censorship battles going on in the arts and entertainment fields.

The Parents Music Resource Center wants to ban everything, says Biafra. "I don't have anything against Christians. It's the Christian supremacists," said Biafra.

He went on to tell about how the PMRC and the Eagle Forum look at some of the things that we as college students at a major university see everyday.

"They describe the peace symbol as a broken upside-down cross," said Biafra. "But if ending war is mocking Christianity, then let's mock it some

see Jello p.2

Check out our Halloween horror movie guide on page 7...

from Jello

more."

They also have a blacklist of artists and musicians which is literally just that. These people are very racist.

He went on to give some of the details in Tipper Gore's book, **Raising PG Kids In an X-Rated World**.

"There's a how-to guide on lynching record stores and radio stations," said Biafra.

They get two or three people to call the owner of a mall with a record store that is selling the records they want banned. Then they threaten to picket every store in the mall unless the owner tells the record store to take the allegedly offensive records off the shelves or get evicted.

This gives the owner the idea that they have a lot more people than they actually do.

Biafra also has some ideas on how to prevent these records from being taken off the shelves and/or these record stores from being closed down.

"When they closed down the record stores," said Biafra, "the record companies should have sent bands in to speak up for freedom of speech."

So the record companies aren't really interested in standing up against censorship, if anything they're helping it along.

"When the record company says to the artist 'Either you write stuff that's less controversial or we'll drop you,' that's censorship," said Biafra.

He told the audience to go into the cool record stores and leave their phone numbers with the owners in case something like this ever happens. He said not to wait until the PMRC is already picketing or a record has already been taken off the shelves, because then it's too late.

Biafra then went into the details of his own experience with censorship and going into court. He presented it in a humorous way. But somehow, it just really wasn't all that funny.

Actually, it was kind of scary.

#### The Persian Gulf Conflict

"How many of you are old enough to be drafted?"

When a significant number of people raised their hands he asked, "Are you prepared to die for oil?"

"Burn your draft card. Burn the flag. And burn the Pentagon too."

We don't even need to be involved in this conflict over oil according to Biafra. He says there's probably a patent on a solar pow-

ered car that was bought by Chrysler or some other company, and now it's just sitting in an office somewhere making sure that the owners of the car companies and the oil companies can still make lots of money.

The U.S. is a one party state disguised as a two party state, he told the audience. There are large businesses that are supporting both Democratic and Republican campaigns.

Then he brought up an anecdote about a Russian talking to an American. The Russian told the American, "You know what the difference is between the U.S. and Russia? You think you're free and we know we're not."

#### Elections

Biafra also went into details on the election process and told the audience about his experience running for mayor in San Francisco.

"Even running as a prank candidate, I was offered deals [to bow out of the election]," said Biafra.

Biafra was boycotting his right to vote for several years when someone told him that if nothing else he should be voting on the local initiatives. That's what he told the audience too.

He said ballot initiatives should be available nationally, police officers should be voted on, and there should be a none of the above category like in Russia.

"If nobody gets a majority vote, there's another election," said Biafra.

He said there wouldn't be anyone in any of the offices but if nothing else the campaigns wouldn't remind him so much of pro wrestling.

#### On Hemp

Biafra continued by giving the audience a brief hemp history. In the 1760's you could be put in jail for not growing pot. Hemp was first made illegal in 1937 after the invention of a hemp pressing machine which would have levelled Hearst Paper Company.

Funny how things happen when big business tycoons get potential competition.

Biafra said he advocates the use of hemp for paper and clothes because one acre of hemp can make four times as much paper as trees. You also have to wait 70 years for more trees; you can grow more hemp in four months.

Biafra's recommended reading on the subject: **The Emperor Wears No Clothes**.

#### Band Names Vol. II

"Come up with a name for my band," said Biafra. "It's the same old cliché with the same old formula."

Biafra has been wandering around with his list of band names for years, but they'll always be just as useful to anyone starting a new band.

He says the latest craze is the Youth bands e.g. Youth of Today.

"The first step is to start with a good concept. Heavy metal band — **Mondale**.

"On the good end is Stryper passing out Bibles at every show, and on the other end is Slayer and 10,000 other bands that sound just like Slayer."

Then he broke loose and spewed forth some of the most raucous band names ever heard:

Earth Fart, Pork Barrel, Anchovy Smegma, Black Lung, Atomic Utopia, Shut Up and Buy, Chocolate Foetus, The Lone Derangers, The Janitors of Anarchy, Al Sharpton's Hair, John Wayne on Acid, the Ku

Klux Flinstones, and the Manson Surfers.

"But if you really wanna get 'em, you can forget the Dead Kennedy's, that's already been done," said Biafra. "Put Bennett on the front cover and call it **Lest We Forget**, and then hit 'em with the band name — **Lest We Forget by Six Million Jews**.

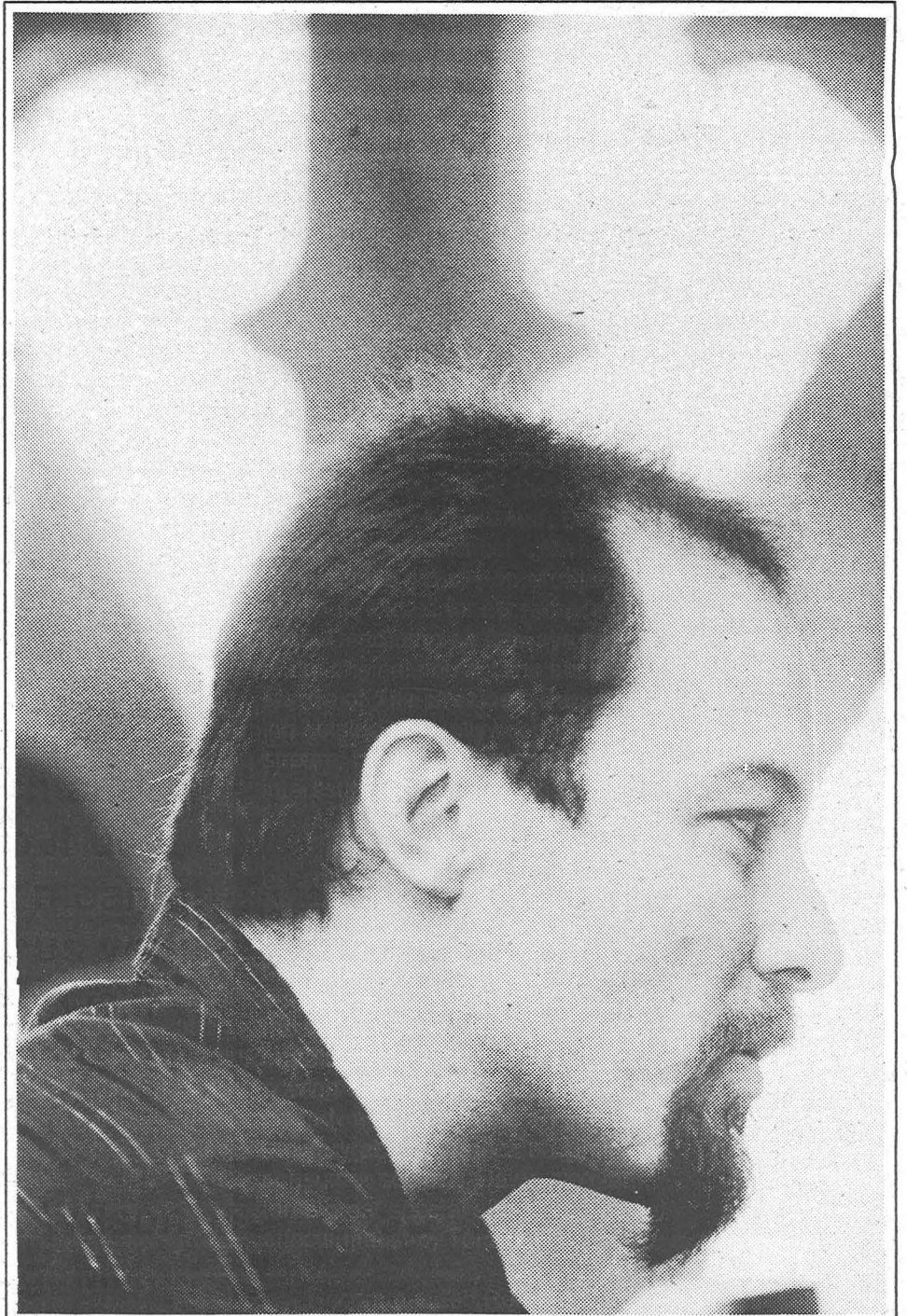
#### Final Words

"Look a little bit more into what can be recycled in the area."

When asked about violent revolutions, he said "I do think there is a place for pranks. Liquid steel is useful. Overthrowing the rich is not just in our best interest, it's a lot of fun."

But he said it best when he said "I want to use my position as an artist/performer to be a journalist and let people know what's going on."

And Jello Biafra has been doing just that since many of us were in junior high school and grade school.



Jello Biafra

photo by Matthew Goebel

# Page Three

The Second Front Page

## Which is Witch

BY STACY LAMMERS AND  
TIM SILVERTHORN  
U—RI ETHEREAL CORRESPONDENTS

In this day and age, it's easy to denounce the practice of witchcraft as dangerous—what with Geraldo Rivera thrusting chicken entrails before America on TV and all.

Some might say we need a War on Satan to clean up these pagans. Maybe so.

That is, assuming that Wicca—the religion of witches, really is satanistic.

About three quarters of the books at the MSU library identify witchery as satanistic.

However, some books—and a witch in Grand Rapids, said early Christians labelled Wicca as evil, and links to satanism are unjustified.

"I don't want to see anyone into satan worship, and satanism is at variance with everyone [witches] I know," said Lorrie Probert, the head witch of a coven in Grand Rapids.

The ABC of Witchcraft Past

and Present, by Doreen Valiente, says wicca began in the paleolithic age—about 12,000 B.C., and was founded to celebrate the goddess of fertility and the god of hunting. Cave paintings tell stories of such worship, the book says.

Wicca holidays include May Day, the Yule and, of course, Halloween.

On May Day, Wiccans traditionally dance around a Maypole and wind strands of cloth around it. In early times, Probert said, the winding was to channel the energy of the universe into the earth for fertility. Orgies were also typical of May Day celebrations, she said.

Another Wicca festival celebrated until the late 1600s was the Horn Fair. Celebrated differently in various places, the Fair invariably involved flagellation of some sort, and was banned for that reason.

In Rome, men called Luperci would strip naked and run through the streets, striking women with straps of leather. Women willingly received strokes on the palms of their hands because they believed

it would make them fertile or procure them easy delivery.

In addition to rooting the term "horny," the festival gave rise to a proverb, "All's fair at Horn Fair."

ABC says it's ironic that, "while strict moralists have no objection, indeed are all in favor, of flagellation being used for penance and punishment, to inflict pain and suffering; nevertheless, the idea of this very ancient folk—rite being used in a magical way, not to inflict pain but as part of a fertility ritual, for some reason upsets them very much."

Probert said that every wicca new year—Halloween, a new god is born, while the previous year's god is sacrificed in the harvest festival. This god is called the the Horn God, and early Christians labelled this horned god as Satan and persecuted Wiccans on this basis, she said.

"They wanted sacred knowledge to only be the property of priests," Probert said.

Witches were typically burned, and about 3,000 executions took place in Southern Germany in 1696 alone. Estimates of all witches executed vary from several thousand to 9 million, but all agree that most witches were killed by decrees of the Catholic Inquisition.

The **Malleus Malificarum**, published in 1489, provided procedures for courts to try witches under the Inquisition.

Defendants weren't allowed to know their accusers—for fear of further witchcraft upon accusers, and "Notorious evildoers, criminals, servants and fellow witches, and perjurers may give evidence for the prosecution, but not for the defense," the book says.

A confession was necessary to convict witches, so torture was used and witches were promised their lives if they confessed.

"The promise to spare her life should be kept for a time, but after a certain period she should be burned," it says.

**Malificarum** gives eyewitness accounts of witches putting thorns,

bones and bits of wood into peoples' entrails just by touching them.

The book was translated in 1927 by Montague Summers, who lauded the book as parallel to today's struggle between the good and the profane.

Summers said every folk—custom, song or country dance masks something devilish and obscene.

Probert said that there are some witches who practice black magic, but there is a belief among most witches that evil deeds never go unpaid.

"Wicca is a very ancient religion that deals with the universal power of God in a more feminine aspect," Probert said. "Witches were the village wise—women, and mostly practiced herbal medicine."

Probert said that she doesn't use herbs daily, but she can make herbal medicines to help with sleep, relaxation or a cold.

Ginseng can be used as an aphrodisiac, an upper, or to relieve nausea and vomiting, she said. Also, jasmine, saffron, English walnut, saw palmetto and savory are good aphrodisiacs, and camomile will relax you, she said.

"I draw energy from both the earth and the universe overhead," Probert said, "then hold the herbs in hand and release the energy—with what I want the herbs to do in mind."

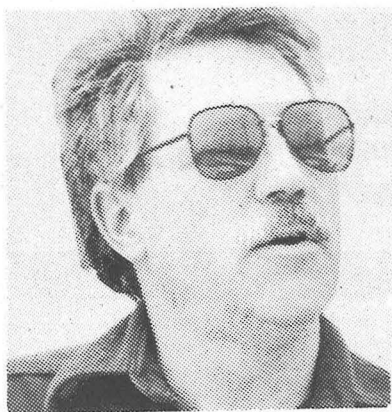
This energy helps medicines work better, she said, and can be focused purely on the self for healing as well.

The feeling of the energy is hard to describe, Probert said, but she breaks out in a sweat and her face blushes during the ceremony.

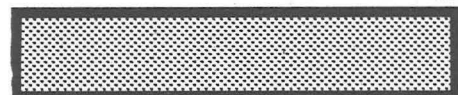
Probert said the classic conception of a nasty old woman muttering spells over a caldron—and out to get everybody, is false.

"It would be nice if people heard 'witch' or 'witchcraft' and didn't have a negative image associated with it," she said.





**Dr. Andrew Barclay**



It is very interesting that Halloween comes at the end of the harvest season and, of course, because of all the merchandising in the stores, we really don't get much of a chance to figure out what or why the holiday is all about. We think of ghosts or goblins, getting dressed up in weird costumes, and going from door to door looking for candy or treats and, if we don't get the treat, it is time for a TRICK, if you get my drift. Hey, in Dr. Sex's world, tricks are good things to do, but, of course, in the straight world, tricking is not such a great idea. So since this IS my Halloween column, I decided to run two letters which I had been saving for just such an occasion, one about dressing up, and the other about the difference between *real* trick or treating.

Dear Dr. Barclay,

I know you are a real doctor and not just a mad creation of this silly newspaper so I have a real question for you. My husband often wants me to dress up in some strange clothing he obtained through a catalog. He has a couple of wigs (which he wants me to wear at different times) and some crotchless panties, mesh stockings with seams that run up the back of your leg, and these silly push-up bras. He says it would be a real turn-on if I would wear them but I keep asking: A turn-on for who? I wouldn't be very turned on and I have not been willing to do it especially since I feel it is more like he doesn't like the way I am normally and wants me to be someone else. That doesn't seem honest or real to me. We have had a couple of "spats" (not real fights, if you get my drift) about this and I don't understand why this is so important to him. Any ideas?

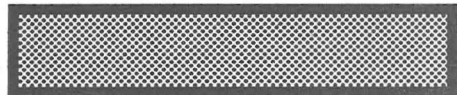
Elizabeth

Dear Elizabeth:

In the first place, the correct question is, "A turn-on for *whom*?" Does that help you any? Oh, I see what the problem is, you don't understand what perverts men are at heart. John Money (the great sexologist from



**the Provocateur**



Man, I sure am tired. I was up way past my bedtime last night putting bologna on my neighbors cars. I can't wait to see them come home from work in their polka dotted cars. Not that they would notice on a woody station wagon.

# Hollow Weenie

Johns Hopkins University) used to say that men were really lucky if they were homosexual because if it weren't men, it was just as likely to be CHICKENS! What he was describing is that men have strange attachments which we come be early in our developmental career and once we have been attached, it is difficult to break away from them and it is also difficult to have a complete sexual turn-on without them.

You are describing a mild form of a fetish in which a man attaches sexual arousal to an inanimate object and needs this object to get really turned on. I am sure you have all heard stories about men who have shoe fetishes (they often work in ladies' shoe stores, by the way) and can't get turned on unless their lover dons a pair of black, high-heel pumps and walks on their back. Just that your lucky stars that your husband isn't this kind of guy because then there's REALLY nothing in it for you unless you get off stomping around on a guy's back with your shoes on, and most women don't. That is why these men often have to engage the services of a prostitute in order to get off. That is also the reason I encourage you to at least try what he wants once before you reject it completely — if you refuse him, where do you think he will go next? I mean, you know how men are. Do you think it will stop tight here?

His attachment to these objects or even the idea of these objects really has very little to do with you. It is something that happened to him as a child, long before you became a part of his life. He trusts you and is willing to share this aspect of himself with you. I think the trust aspect is really what is critical here and it is better to focus on how much he loves and trusts you (to even bring the idea up, as it were) than to focus on how it doesn't appeal to you.

Very often, when someone does put on whatever their partner wants them to wear, his excitement may be so great that it infects them and they find themselves doing or saying things they might not if they were in their actual self, not all dressed up as someone else. In other words, it can be liberating for both partners and not a problem unless it becomes compulsive for him and he can no longer have sexual arousal without you being dressed up.

Then you would have a problem but now, all you have is an opportunity. Besides, maybe if you do this for him, you can get him to do something for you like a candle-light dinner or foreplay. Good luck.

Dear Dr. Sex,

I had the strangest thing happen to me about a week ago. I am a college senior and

I was at a bar (which I do not want to name for reasons which will become obvious) having a conversation with a man I had met there several times. We have sort of gotten to know each other over this term and we were talking about one of *my* problems for a change. I needed some money to complete my term and I work but my car had broken down, I really don't want to tell you all my troubles, etc. all over again.

But the upshot (if you get my drift — God, I'm starting to even write like you) was we went home to my place together and we had a very good time. It was a really nice evening for us both but when he left, he paused at the door and took the money I needed out of his pocket and gave it to me just like that. He kissed me and said he really liked me and left. I was so shocked, I didn't know what to do or what to say. I feel so weird, like I'm a whore or something. What should I have said?

Linda

Dear Linda,

How about "Thank you?" Probably Miss Manners or Ann Landers would have something different to say but I believe women who are not married to the guys they are having sex with should always ask for money. I try to teach this to my class in love and maturity but most of the women feel just as you do... wouldn't that make me a whore? Shoot, how else can you find out how much they like you? Guys always say, "I love you," but the real question is: "How much?" I get the impression the amount he gave you was more than \$50 and less than \$250 which seems like a really nice thing for him to have done. I think he really likes you and is willing to put his money where his mouth is, if you know what I mean.

As long as he doesn't come back and tell you you owe him something for what he did for you, I think you are really one lucky person. Somehow, I am willing to bet you are really attractive and have a nice personality too. Some people have all the luck.

Best regards from your  
Uncle Dr. Sex

The real holiday we are celebrating is All Hallows Day which is a great day for the witches among us. All Hallows Eve (or Halloween) is supposedly the night that ghosts or witches come out to run around for their special day the next day. Straight people especially born-again types, have a real hard-on going about the holiday because of the witch-like overtones so they won't let their kids go out and have special God celebrations just to counteract the evil. Talk about superstitious... I'm sure the witches

are laughing like hell. Write me a letter, all you witches, and have a happy All Hallows Eve.

## the university Reporter-Intelligencer

© 1990

a publication of *very, LTD.*  
131 E. Wilson Hall, East  
Lansing, MI 48825  
517-353-0040

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*the uR-I is published weekly  
and distributed — free of  
charge — throughout MSU  
and its environs.  
So there.*

## Gimme some Candy, Man

I'm dressing up as Pete Rose tonight, and after I get my candy at each house, I'm gonna do a little batting practice on their jack-o-lanterns. And when I'm done with that, I'm gonna hide in the bushes and jump the other kids and take their candy.

The only thing that's worse than a bunch of us kids scammin' for loot on Halloween, is you drunk shithheads wandering the streets the weekend before in those stoopid costumes. You don't even get any candy, you nimrods.

And was that just a bunch of bufugly girls walkin' around last weekend or did all the closet transvestites decide to go out in their preferred garb(age)?

Guess everybody already picked up their copies of The Rocky Horror Picture Show and watched it a few too many times. LuLu looks better.

Tricks are always cool when you get the treats. I always look through my sister's

candy and point stuff out and say "Hey, I didn't get any of those. Can I have a bite of yours," even if I do have three or four. When she says OK, I take a bite and make sure I slobber all over the rest of it. She always gets grossed out and doesn't want the rest of it.

The other kids on my block come up with such lame-ass tricks though. They throw road-kills in the mailboxes. I like to chuck 'em in the yard next door and watch the dog run to the end of his chain and choke himself. He makes the coolest gagging noises when I do that — kinda like the garbage disposal when I drop my sister's hamsters in it.

I'm outta here, and you doods better hope I don't come to your door looking for some goods, 'cuz I know lots of other tricks too. Besides, I'm goin' out packed with a carton of grade A extra-super big eggs.

UR-I  
FUN  
PAGE

# Tired of Melba-Toast-bland Halloween Garb?



Don't reach legendary geek status in yet another plastic pumpkin-suit, or worse yet, as a clichéd witch or vampire. Use your imagination—  
or pick from the

## U-R-I MacAbre Costume Wardrobe

1. Dress up as Squiggy from Laverne & Shirley. Carve a swastika in your forehead and you become... Squiggy Fromme. ooOh, scary!
2. A tie-dye, some funky crystals and an M-16/gas mask combo makes you a New Age Survivalist. Argue that killing all humans is one possible environmental benefit of a Nuclear Holocaust.
3. Roll in the mud with a nice suit on—and go as the dreaded Incumbant.
4. Or combine above with pointy teeth 'N ketchup to be the BLOOD SUCKING Incumbant.  
also known as:  
Count S.L. BRIBES.
5. Speaking of which, a goofy clown suit and a congressman makes Ronald McDonald Riegle.

6. Write lies, lies, lies on your lips and go as George Bush. (Wear a "read my lips T-Shirt.")

## Remember "DEVIL'S NIGHT"?

- Help burn down Detroit.
- Outfitted as New Age Survivalist, perch atop an E.L.P.D. cruiser parked outside 7-Eleven on Albert. Handcuff yourself to the lights and fire blanks at returning officers to make them gag up donuts. Don't make plans for Wednesday.
- Buy some Teenage Mutant Embiciles Retromutagen OOZE, shown here, which is really just a marketing scam for old SLIME. Tear off globs of the OOZE and stick them:
  - under doorknobs.
  - under water fountain knobs.
  - on public phones.
  - Get a pubic hair from the nearest convenient source, and stick it in a glob under the toilet seat where a hand is likely to grab.
- "Borrow" a spree and try to do a loop in the sculpture by Wharton Center.
- Collect roaches from PinBall Pete's bathroom and turn them loose in a box of Lucky-Charms in the cafeteria. Close box and replace on shelf.
- Throw tiny bags of dope all over behind DPS, where they train the K-9 dogs.
- Penny all the IN doors at Meijer shut, then put up "USE OTHER DOORS" signs.



## Reviews

## Shroomin' and Groovin'

BY JEFF FIKE  
UR-I MUSIC CORRESPONDENT

With the three chord noise of the **Stooges**, the weirdness of the **Pixies**, a freshly aggressive attitude, and an original sound, **MUSHROOMHEAD** hit East Lansing on Saturday September 20, 1990.

They didn't play Rick's, The Dollar, or even a frat party (God forbid!). Better, as tradition would dictate, and as all the great bands before have, they played at a house. The place on Collingwood was attended by well over 200, and the basement (where the band set up) was constantly packed.

Vocalist Dave Giles said this was one of the best gigs the band has played yet. And to give the reader an accurate idea of the band's scope—they will be playing at seminal underground-hardcore-punk club Blondie's in Detroit on Halloween. Other bands to grace the Blondie's stage have included: **Slayer**, **Poison**, **Necros**, **Dag Nasty**, **Agent Orange**, **All**, **Seduce**, and countless other illuminaries of the alternative harsh rock scene.

The only cover they played in their two 40 min. sets was a fitting one, "Gauge Away", originally done by the Pixies.

Some of their songs included "Skin", "The City", "Gillespie", "Casey and Finnigan" (yes, named after the two puppets on children's T.V.—Mr. Dressup or the Polkadotdoor, I think), and the band's personal favorite "Barbs of Your Freedom".

"The City", begins with a thumping bassline (courtesy of bassist John Hobbs and drummer Jim Ward) and gritty vocals before turning into a sort of (if slightly acidified) thrash song, where Giles exhorted the crowd to "start jumping around, and shove the dude next to you!". The crowd obliged, and for a few minutes, the basement was turned into a tiny pit.

Guitarist Dave Rickfelder kept the crowd begging for more all night, but never played the "solo" that they kept egging him on for. The licks were light and airy when needed, and full of power at other times. Solos weren't needed past what was already written into the ungammish songs. Feedback, harmonics, and a good melodic ear does a lot more (for me anyways) than "the fastest fingers on earth".

Look for **MUSHROOMHEAD** to come out with a tape and CD some time in the very near future (perhaps around January or

February). Until then watch local and Detroit clubs for future trips.

Just think, you could be playing with all these boxes and shades and lines. Be a UR-I ad exec!

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Olive Burger	1.90	
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	small	platter
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I'D SAY WE'RE  
BEYOND THE POINT  
WHERE I COULD  
TACTFULLY ASK  
HER NAME.



# Reviews

## Dismemberment, Gore and More

Whenever Halloween rears its blood-soaked head, people for some reason feel the urge to rent horror films on videotape. Movie critics also get caught up in the Halloween spirit by compiling lists of "the scariest films ever made."

Unfortunately, these lists always seem to include the obvious choices of cinematic pabulum like **Friday the 13th**, **Nightmare on Elm Street 4** or **Halloween 5**. I however, have taken the liberty of recommending some alternative choices for frightful viewing on Halloween.

### David Cronenberg

This Master of Splatter hails from the Great White North and elevates the Horror genre to new heights. Even though he has coined the phrase "More Blood!" on the set, most scenes from his films are unsettling even when there is no bloodletting.

**The Brood** — B movie queen **Samantha Eggar** stars as a woman under therapy at an experimental psychiatric institution. Under the guidance of her doctor (played by **Oliver Reed**) she learns to physically manifest her rage into gruesome killer dwarf zombies (the brood) who carry out her bidding. Cronenberg creates disturbing mood throughout the film. The scenes involving the brood are

quite chilling. While this isn't Cronenberg's best film, it is genuinely scary and a change of pace from the typical Friday the 13th-like flotsam Hollywood churns out.

Recommended Cronenberg films: **Videodrome**, **The Dead Zone**, **Scanners**

### Sam Raimi

This MSU alumnus is one of the freshest voices in cinema to come around in a long time. With only a few films under his belt Raimi has achieved what most other horror film makers fail at. He has managed to blend head-bursting, eye-popping splatter and slapstick comedy into a winning combination.

**Evil Dead II** — Those expecting a straight horror story or a continuation of the first **Evil Dead** are looking in the wrong place. **Evil Dead II** is more like a remake of **Evil Dead** than a conventional sequel. In a nutshell the plot consists of an assault by the forces of the undead against the hero Ash (played with amazing comic ability by **Bruce Campbell**). Sam Raimi's quirky direction is the real star of the film. Raimi loads the film with tons of sight gags and gruesome special effects making **Evil Dead II** one horror film not to miss.

Recommended Raimi films: **Evil Dead**, **Crime Wave**

### Dario Argento

In Italy, Dario Argento's home, he is considered the Italian Steven Spielberg. This is very odd because

Argento's films are not about cute aliens nor whip toting archaeologists. Actually, it is often hard to tell what his films are about (maybe something is lost in the translation). Maybe it isn't even important. Argento's films are about 80% style and 20% plot. But who cares, his films are a visual treat. The way a choreographer treats a dance scene is the way Argento treats a murder on screen.

**Suspiria** — The film's shoestring of a plot features **Jessica Harper** as dance student attending an elite dance school that just happens to be a witches' coven. Needless to say, it isn't long before Argento begins his surreal onslaught of blood soaked mayhem. Argento's use of colors, sets and music enhance the mood of this suspenseful and eerie film. This film was originally released in 1976 and was cut to receive an R rating. **Suspiria** is a bit slow at times but is a unique cinematic experience. Today it's available in an uncut letter-boxed version on videotape.

Recommended Argento films: **The Unsane**, **Creepers**, **Demons** (producer and writer)

### George Romero

Hailing from Pittsburgh, Romero is responsible for bringing the term zombie into popular culture with his **Dead** trilogy (**Night of the Living Dead**, **Dawn of the Dead**, **Day of the Dead**). Although most known for his gory zombie flicks, Romero has rarely sold out (except for his remake of **Night of the Living Dead**) and has always tried to make original horror films such as **Martin** or **The Crazies**. Thus remaining outside the Hollywood mainstream, but remaining one of the most interesting directors around.

**Dawn of the Dead** — The quintessential zombie film of all time. **Dawn** features a band of humans fighting for survival inside a shopping mall against an onslaught of flesh eating brain chomping zombies. On the surface **Sawn** appears to be a gratuitous film with buckets of blood flowing freely. However, Romero has cleverly woven in some social commentary about America becoming a consumer society. **Dawn** also features great special effects by special effects maestro, Tom Savini.

Recommended Romero films: **Martin**, **Creepshow**, **Night of the**

### Living Dead

### Brian DePalma

When it comes to film-making, DePalma attended the "It's a homage, not a rip-off" school of film-making. In a stylistic way DePalma comes closer to Alfred Hitchcock than anyone. However, he does it so well it has evolved into his own style.

**Sisters** — DePalma borrows from Hitchcock's **Psycho** and **Rear Window** in this suspenseful tale of twin sisters (one good and one evil) played by **Margot Kidder**. **Jennifer Salt** plays the voyeuristic reporter that witnesses one of the twins murdering a young man. Creepy musical compositions by Hitchcock's main composer **Bernard Herriman** add to the suspense. DePalma also interjects moments of quirky humor into the story. This is one of his earlier films and is a bit hard to find but definitely worth the hunt.

Recommended DePalma films: **Body Double**, **Dressed to Kill**, **Carrie**

I would be remiss if I failed to mention the following titles on a Halloween film list:

**Re-Animator** — Stuart Gordon's retelling of H.P. Lovecraft's classic tale of pre-med students bringing the dead back to life.

**Halloween** — John Carpenter's classic slasher film. This film was responsible for the slasher films of the 80's.

**Hellraiser** — Horror author Clive Barker's impressive debut film about S&M demons from beyond and Rubik's Cube-like puzzle.

**Beetlejuice** — Tim Burton's wacky tale about yuppie ghosts who employ the services of Beetlejuice (a bio-exorcist) to get rid of the humans residing in their home.

**Make Them Die Slowly** — To be honest, I haven't gotten up the nerve to sit through this little ditty that was banned in over 30 countries. Highlights include castration and various other dismemberments. If you do see this write me and tell me how you liked it — on second thought keep it to your self.

—Faran Thomason

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# Entertainment

## Thirsty for Tunes

BY MIKE PFIEFER  
UR-I ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Just when you thought East Lansing was going to drown in REM cover bands and screaming fools,

**Thirsty Forest Animals** have arrived to quench your thirst with a refreshing, "happy rock" sound.

The Birmingham area based four member band recently released their first album, *SCULPTURE*, a six track independent release, with a sound that's sure to attract a following. The bands' style, a definite upbeat rock and roll, is similar to that of **Throwing Muses** and **Mary's Danish** but with male vocals.

Their tunes slowly entice the listener to put on their dancing shoes, and maybe even the dusty old combat boots: It's not a Sensation's instant club hit and yet the music wouldn't draw a heavy slamdance crowd either.

Some of the notable tracks on the album include *Sliding*, *Cracked Streets* and *Serenity*, the bands' most popular song. These tracks have catchy guitar and drum sequences with almost haunting vocals hidden amongst the music. Each song has its own personality, but the band's before mentioned style is apparent in each tune.

**Thirsty Forest Animals** concentrates on the faster, consistent drum beats and more speeded, higher range guitar twangs while leaving the vocals in a somewhat undecipherable state.

"It might be better that you can't really understand the vocals immediately. I think it takes a couple listenings before (the listener) really understands (the song's) meaning anyway," said Matthew Baker, bassist and vocalist.

Baker said most of the lyrics have a more serious

but non-specific dimension.

"I think a lot of the songs are about realizing mortality. There is a big difference between death and mortality," Baker explained. The album isn't necessarily a theme album, each song just aids in developing a mood.

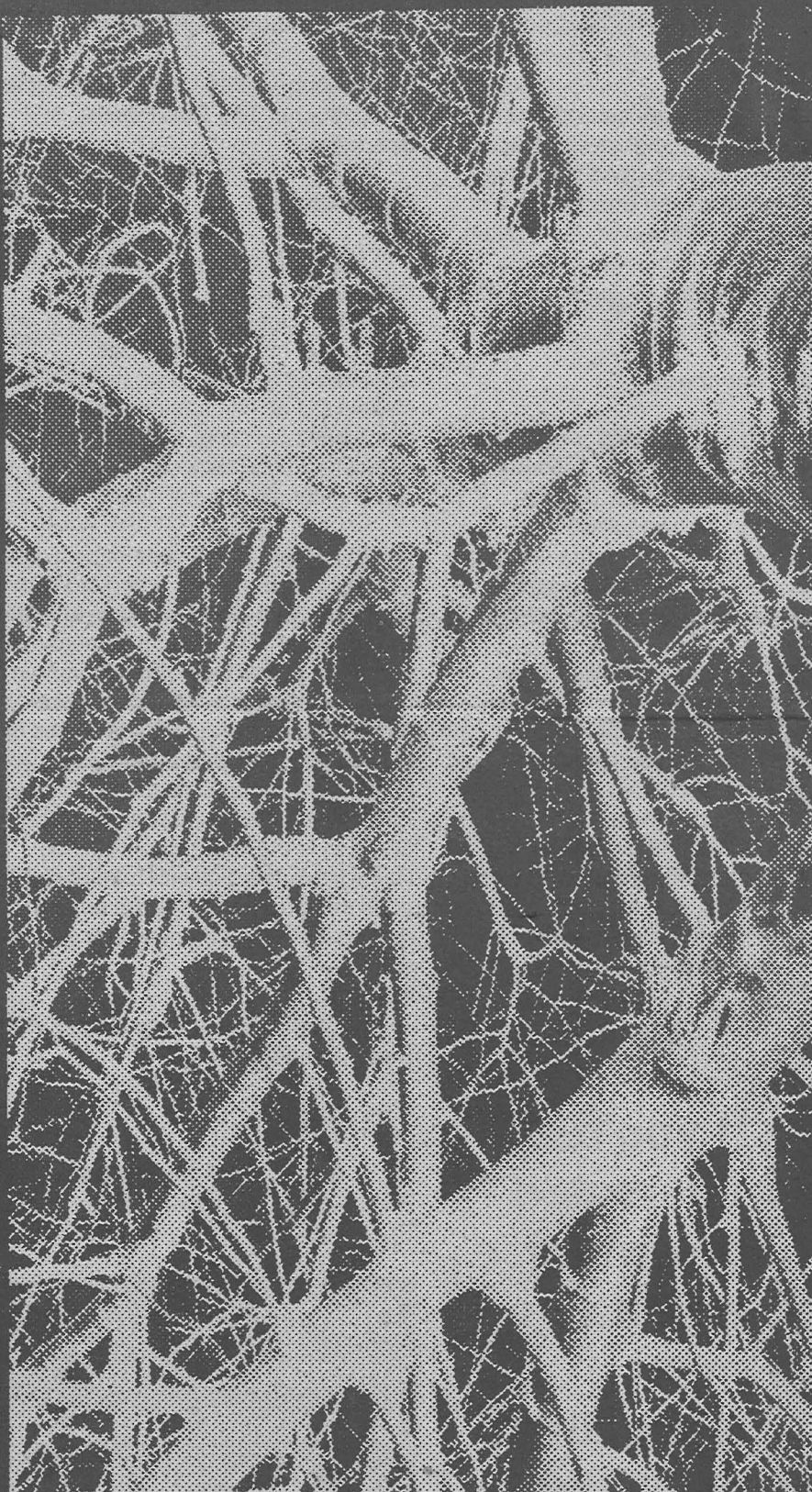
**Thirsty Forest Animals** have been playing for two years in and around their home town. The band has funded all of its own ventures, including renting halls, printing T-shirts and the cassette. Their album has been ranked first, second and third over the past few months on Detroit Public Radio. **Thirsty Forest Animals** opened for That Petrol Emotion last summer at St. Andrews, and a return visit to Detroit is planned for Nov. 11 at The Shelter.

This hard work has earned the band a large following in suburbia and future plans include live shows in the Ann Arbor and East Lansing areas. As for now, the group is unsigned, but cassettes have been sent to 30 different labels.

This pursuit of success comes from deep inside each member of **Thirsty Forest Animals**. This band is serious and doesn't want to be taken any other way. The name, which originated from an eccentric friend of the bands', may be a little on the silly side, but remember Echo and the Bunnymen. Maybe a silly name, but a very serious band nonetheless.

"I think we would all drop everything if something happened with the band," admitted Spartan guitarist Andrew Peters. "It's something we need," added drummer Mark Patterson.

**Thirsty Forest Animals** has started their climb, but the members relize a long road stands before them.



Their cassette, *SCULPTURE*, is available at Wherehouse Records and Flat, Black and Circular for a measly \$5, and they will be playing live at The Shelter Nov. 11 for a mear \$3. If you plan on adding their

cassette to your collection or attending their live performance, be prepared for some energy and some cool tunes.

Just when you thought you got rid of us, we come back. Right in your face...

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