



Record Reviews

By Allen Patterson

covered by modern lyrics, provide a relaxing and uncaring background. This may be another point in the

band's favor. "Rhythm of Youth" may never become a classic, but it has served its purpose as a "ground breaker" for Men Without Hats to pursue a productive career. However, their future and success lies within their talent or lack of it.

- CONCERT NEWS -

The concert schedule has been bleak for the past several months, but some mild relief has arrived. The Grateful Dead will play at the Greensboro Coliseum at 8:00 p.m. on October 29. (Tickets have been on sale since 9/14/83.) Iron Maiden

will be in Charlotte in mid October, but will not be in Greensboro as previously announced. (Have a nice trip to Charlotte.) The Talking Heads will play in Chapel Hill in October although the date has not yet been announced.

(Note: A column dealing with music will be featured in High Life throughout the year. Any ideas, comments, or suggestions are appreciated.)

Men Without Hats, the latest Canadian group to reap success in the U.S., has been called "trendy, annoying, and lacking in imagination," but some listeners may tend to disagree with these harsh statements. Their only hit so far, "Safety Dance," is said to be somewhat "...ridiculous..." (J.D. Considine, Rolling Stone) but it has still managed to gain acceptance by many discriminating members of the pop/rock audience.

Men Without Hats has lacked success with the critics because of their use of sounds and effects such as those used by Duran and Duran and After the Fire, and their seemingly meaningless and "light" lyrics. But these present downfalls may be large contributions to the band's longevity. Their combination of musical styles does give their music mild distinction from the rest of today's music; and the lyrics, which do not come close to dealing with the serious matters

Cheerleaders Defend Title

By Alan Biller

Grimsley cheerleaders successfully defended their cheerleading title on Saturday September 9, at the WQMG FM 97 Cheerwine Cheer-Off at Four Seasons Mall. Grimsley, Page, Dudley, Smith, and High Point Andrews competed Saturday for "bragging rights" of the city.

The competition is based on a five minute routine of cheering and dancing. Each team can receive a maximum of fifty points based on originality, appearance, crowd appeal, and difficulty. The top four teams compete again for first place. Four plaques are awarded to the top four teams, T-shirts and the Cheerwine victory bell go to the winner..

As the Whirlie cheerleaders won the crown, Gina Russo said, "All the hard work has paid off." The Whirlie spectators were very jubilant as Grimsley was announced once again the champions.

A few unfortunate happenings occurred at the competition. Some of our Whirlie cheerleaders pocket-books were stolen along with the winning T-Shirts. Good luck in recovering your lost items.

Here are the standings of the competition, first place went to Grimsley while Page and Dudley tied for second and Smith took third place.

Congratulations to all the cheerleaders, and keep up the good work!

Shocking Stats

Teenage Suicide

By Jay Floyd and Carrie Milgrim

Between 1950 and 1980, the percentage of adolescent suicide has increased by more than 200 percent. The pre-teen suicide rate (ages 5 to 14) was even more dramatic. By 1978, suicide had become the number two killer of adults ages 15 to 24, a deadly trend which effects people of every race and social background.

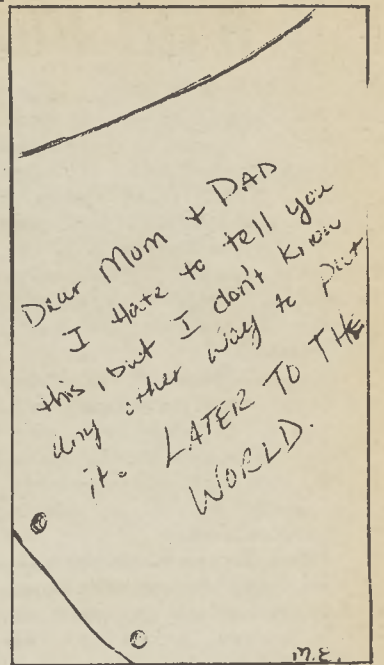
Statistics show that the rate of successful male suicides is 4 times as high as that of females; however, females attempt suicide 3 times as often as males. Females tend to rely on pills and other less lethal modes of suicide, whereas males tend to make use of more violent means, such as firearms or hanging. Homes which contain firearms pack an incredibly higher risk for a male suicide than homes without firearms.

The guidelines used to trace the pattern for a potential suicide victim are indeterminable. Not all suicide attempts spring from a massive depression. Many suicides are spontaneous acts committed when the mind is suddenly exposed to a mental shock. Most teenage suicides are alcohol induced.

Before most victims attempt suicide, they have usually mention-

ed to a friend, jokingly or otherwise, that they are going to kill themselves. When a person is confronted with a potential suicide victim, if the subject is offered by the victim it is often profitable to talk to them in rational terms such as, "How do you intend to kill yourself?" The degree of violence with which he or she replies is often an indicator as to the seriousness of the problem. Often, a person contemplating suicide will go through sudden mood changes. The person in question may give an object of great sentimental value to a close friend, accompanied by a statement such as "I don't need it anymore." If a manically depressed individual suddenly becomes fully energetic and radiant with happiness, many times this can mean that the person has definitely decided to take his own life, thus relieving the unbearable pressure that has weighed on his mind.

Massive depression leads to a low energy level. Many times, a severely depressed person who contemplates suicide, lacks the energy to actually carry out the act. The time when suicide is at the highest probability level is when the severely depressed person regains energy.



Impulsive suicides are related to traumatic incidents in the victim's life. Most impulsive suicides are brought into reality by artificial stimulants.

It has been theorized that suicide potential for people of all ages may be an inherited trait brought on by inherited chemical depression. Many families who have experienced a suicide have a strong history of manic depression and suicide in their family histories.

If an adolescent makes a "cry for help" attempt - a suicide attempt so organized that death is a remote possibility but the attempt is inevitably discovered - it is the responsibility of any person who recognizes the traits listed to acknowledge the cry. Parents should be notified or professional counseling should be sought, for after an attempt is made the potential victim is twice as susceptible to a successful attempt as he or she was before the preliminary attempt was made.



Tracy Taft and Xan Wise (left to right) went with A.F.S. as exchange students this past summer.

Summer Exchange Program

'We Don't Realize How Much We Have'

By Jackie Quinet

Do you ever want to just get away from the dull routine of summer? Well, Xan Wise and Tracy Taft wanted to - and they did something about it.

Xan went with a foreign exchange program, AFS (American Field Service), to Columbia, South America. "I wanted to get away for a change, to break away from the dull routine," Xan says. His first choice was Italy, but he was sent to Columbia.

Xan met "his family" at the Colombian airport and spoke a few words in Spanish which he had learned from some friends in Miami. His "mother", in return, spoke some English. Each assumed that the other could speak their language! After spending only a month in Columbia, Xan could communicate most any thought, however, his grammar was unacceptable.

Xan associated well with his Colombian family, becoming close to his "older brother". His "parents" were both dentists and his "father" also was vice president of a large company.

The Colombians are much more personable than Americans and do not get upset easily. The friends made are valuable friends. "The kids our age don't resent school like

some kids here do. To them going to school is a privilege and it is very hard to get into a university." School is from 7:30 until 1:00 and the teachers change classes, not the students. All of the schools are parochial (run by the church), not public.

Colombians have very high moral standards. There is no drinking age but there is no problem with alcoholism. Kids do not get drunk, and they would never consider going to school drunk.

The high school age kids seem to hang out at country clubs. They play tennis, swim, and just, "hang out". They have parties and dances. The radio stations play music from different countries and most movies are in English and subtitled in Spanish.

A lot of families have coffee farms in the mountains and often go there for relaxation and get away from city life.

The people dress more formally, usually nice jeans and a button-down. They called Xan a "hillbilly" because he dressed casually.

Tracy wanted go to with AFS for a different reason. She wants to pursue a career in International Relations and she also wanted to gain a greater appreciation for America.

Tracy's first choice had been Australia, but AFS sent her to England as part of a special work program. AFS assigned her a partner, Antje Heese, from Germany, to work with-her. "We became very close because of all the things we went through together. We gained confidence in ourselves while traveling from one job to the next." Some of their job projects included: building a fence to protect trees from wandering sheep, dry stone walling, and building a path in a national park.

"I was always meeting new people," says Tracy, "and it caused me to find out more about myself." The people seem reserved, pessimistic, unexcited about life, and unfriendly. They are prejudiced against Americans and resent them because Americans have so much more than the English.

Tracy's favorite area was London. "You hear more languages walking down a street in London and its full of extremes," says Tracy. "Someday I would like to take people where I've been, especially to see London." One thing Tracy has gained from all her experiences is a greater appreciation for her country. "We have so much, we just don't realize how much we have."

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