

Booze, smoke, noise—plane nuisances?

By STEPHEN J. AUSTIN
Syndicated Columnist

Dear Steven: What do you think about the attempts of various groups to getting smoking and booze banned on airplane flights? I'm all for it because alcohol is against my religion, and I don't buy the tobacco industry garbage about another person's smoke not having an effect on my health. I'd also like to see some kind of noise ban placed on businessmen who use those fancy recorders to dictate notes to their secretaries. The last time I flew to Atlanta I got stuck next to a guy who didn't shut up for a minute. He belonged

straight up

in a special section for fools who can't wait to get back to the office. What do you think about my ideas? — P.B.

Dear P.B.: Entitled to your own opinions, of course. The tobacco questions are long from being resolved, but at least you can choose to sit in a non-smoking section. Regarding the

alcohol, I haven't heard of any movement to ban it on flights and certainly wouldn't support any. I enjoy a cocktail as I cruise along in my aisle seat. Forcing a person to keep his mouth shut because you don't like what's coming out of it? C'mon, give me a break. It sounds like you're ready for your own plane and some flying lessons. Say hello to Sky King and Penny.

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Rock, pop infuse Lab Theatre play

By DEANNA RUDDOCK
Staff Writer

The combination of live rock 'n' roll and serious drama is an aspect of Sam Shepard's *The Tooth of Crime* that makes it a unique undertaking for the UNC Lab Theatre, which presents it this weekend.

The production, involving live music from the band Neutral Field State, deals with the confrontation between the two worlds of rock music and popular music.

"*Tooth of Crime* is the synthesis of rock and pop culture taken to its raw extreme," said director Charles McKinney, a senior from Fayetteville.

The play, which Shepard wrote in 1972, centers on the life of Hoss, a man from the old world of rock who has killed many men to reach the top and now is marked to die himself. It is a play about fame and cultural images. It deals with change and the fact that change will occur no matter how hard one fights it.

McKinney said the nature of the play mandated that the world of pop come out on top. Still, he said, it is hard to separate pop music from rock because rock has influenced it so much.

John Bilich, a junior from Franklin, Ohio, plays Hoss and said it was difficult to relate to the conscience of a man who had killed more than 100 people and could still be the hero of the play. "I'm not a killer," Bilich said, "but I have to relate to a man who kills for lunch."

McKinney said he had changed the character of Crow,

the gypsy from the new world of pop who has come to kill Hoss. Shepard created a Keith Richards-like image that McKinney said was outdated by the need for a New Wave character.

Doug Wagner, a freshman from High Point, plays Crow. Wagner said Crow was unlike any other character that he had ever portrayed. "For Crow, his self-image is his survival kit," Wagner said. "He radiates a violent arrogance that he uses to intimidate his opponent. And for Crow, everyone is the opponent."

The most challenging aspect of the play was putting the music together, McKinney said. He said most plays did not demand music, let alone live music, but that this play had to have it. Two of Shepard's songs had to be rewritten, he said, because the music did not fit the words. Also, because the play is being performed in the lab, McKinney does not have the equipment to deal with the technical aspects of the play the way he would like.

Still, Wagner, who is also musical director for the play, said the play would involve good music and synthesizers. "It is going to be hot," he said.

McKinney said the play might appeal only to music lovers, both of New Wave or older rock 'n' roll. "This is a play where you'll either like it or you'll hate it," McKinney said. "There's not much in between."

The *Tooth of Crime* will be performed at 4 and 8 p.m. Sunday and Monday in the UNC Lab Theatre.

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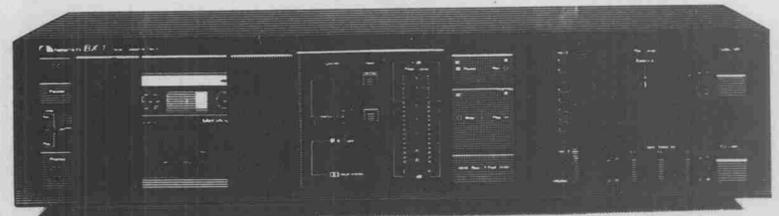
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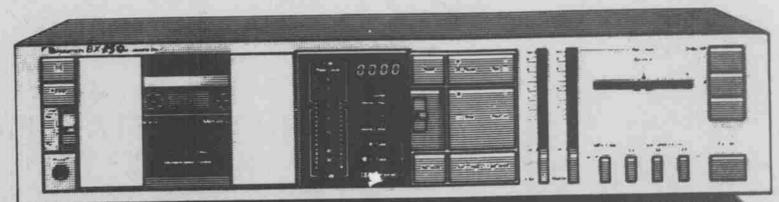
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