

FOCUS: Burnout 1985

Burn, Baby, Burn!!!

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One week after Easter, UNC students worshipped their own trinity of gods — sun, beer and rock and roll.

The gods were kind. A 30-foot high inflated beer bottle atop the Pi Kappa Phi fraternity house was the mecca that attracted more than 5,000 restless students. It was Burnout, an annual party appropriately celebrated on a warm Friday afternoon in spring.

By the end of the afternoon, people had consumed 1,162 gallons (75 kegs) of beer and left a dumpster full of empty cans and bottles.

Rocker Marshall Crenshaw was the high priest presiding over the crowd with his upbeat guitar numbers that got the crowd singing and clapping along.

Cars were crammed in every available spot — some even parked in Durham

County, a mile away. Stern-faced owners of neighboring businesses stood guard over their lots ready to confront non-paying squatters.

The ritual began in 1977 — three years after a fire destroyed the fraternity house. All proceeds go to the N.C. Memorial Hospital Burn Center.

The Burnout was sponsored by radio station 94-Z, Domino's Pizza and Miller Beer.

"We were very pleased," said Eric Tellefsen, Burnout co-chairman. "We made a few changes this year to make it more organized, including a more serious effort to collect donations. The radio station, 94-Z, helped a lot in selling T-shirts and in advertising. We sold about 400 more T-shirts this year than last.

"We are still tallying, but we are counting on about \$4,000 profit," Tellefsen said.

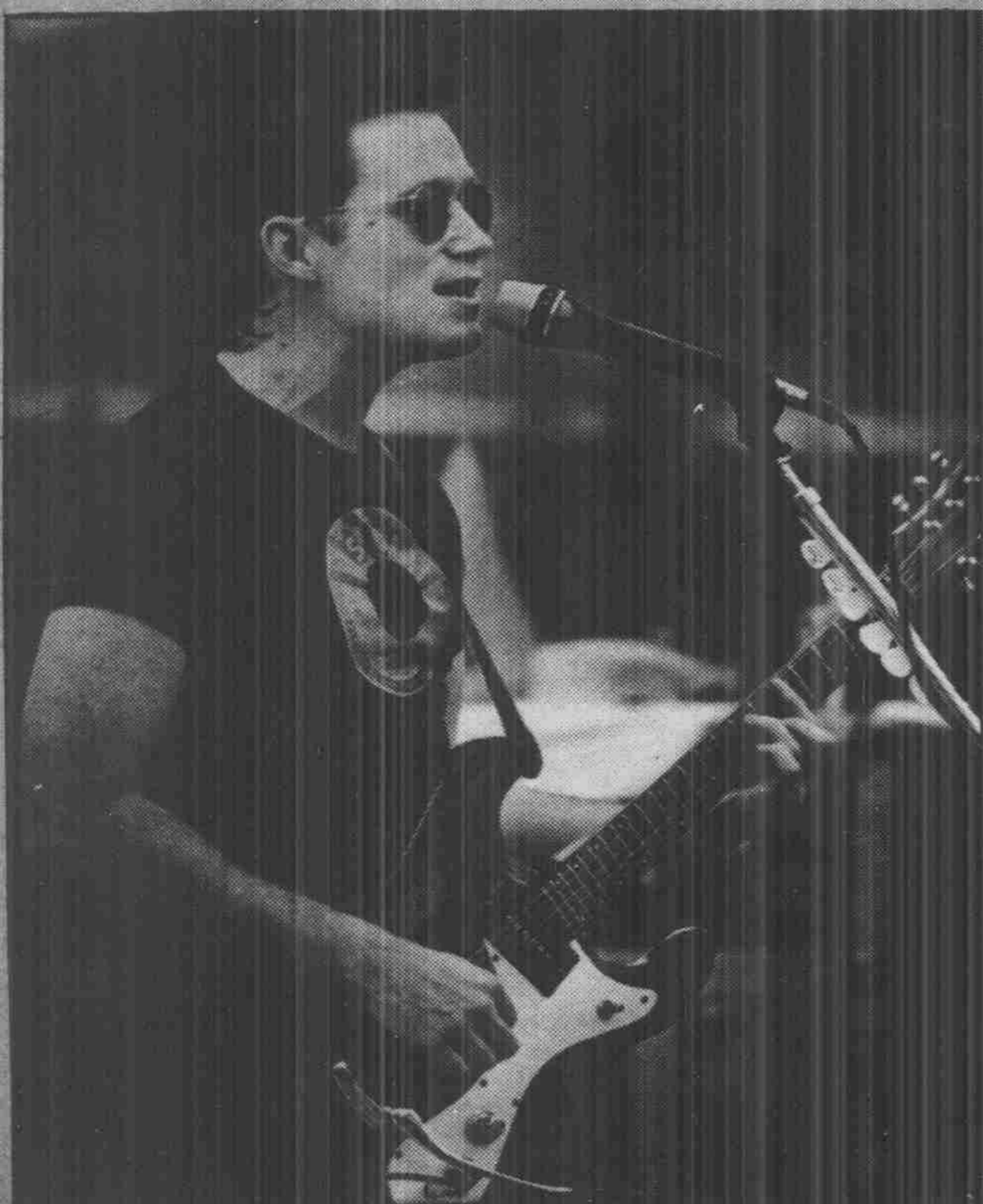
Staff writer Kay Flanagan contributed to this story. Victoria Allgood contributed to the photography.



The 75 kegs went fast even by the cupfull.



Cars were crammed into every available inch along N.C. 54. Some people had to park more than a mile away from the party.



Marshall Crenshaw led the crowd of 5,000 in song.



The Ninth Annual Burnout is history. We have only next April to look forward to.