

FLASH

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 14

A SUPPLEMENT TO SIDELINES

Wednesday, February 3, 1999



 Interview with Jon Grayson, host of *The Magic Box*

 SNM on the rocks

CD Review: Maynard Ferguson's *Brass Attitude*

Movie Review: *A Simple Plan*

SIDELINES

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#1 Cause of Suicide
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Quotes of the week

**Never complain,
never explain.
-Henry Ford II**

If you have any stories you would like to see in a future issue of FLASH!, please call Barry at 898-2917. We'd love to hear about your thoughts and ideas.

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1 Memorial



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Stones River Chamber Players

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FREE CONCERT

It started with a Simple Plan

Aaron Tallent
Flash writer

A Simple Plan begins with three guys finding a wrecked airplane on a forest preserve. Inside the plane is a bag containing \$4.5 million. The three agree to hold the money until someone comes looking for it.

After this scene, we, the audience, have an idea of the film's eventual ending but are still intrigued. A Simple Plan never lets us lose our interest or concern throughout the film. Of the movies I have seen from 1998, it is one of the ten best.



Brent Briscoe as Lou, friend to Hank and Jacob

The story takes place in a rural northern town during winter. Hank Mitchell (Bill Paxton), his brother Jacob (Billy Bob Thornton), and their friend Lou (Brent Briscoe) come across the plane. Hank says that he will hold the money until he feels that everything is safe.

Hank and Jacob are respectively reminiscent of George and Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*. That is a major part of the problem with the trio's plan. Lou, like Jacob, also behaves as if he has a two-digit IQ.

The problems begin when members of the town accidentally come across the group's plan.

Lou also starts trying to squeeze Hank for his share of the money. When these problems arise, sinister acts are committed.

Hank's wife, Sarah (Bridget Fonda), is a variation of Lady Macbeth. Once she finds about the money, she begins telling Hank what he needs to do to protect "their" money. When Hank wants to put the money back, Sarah lays a guilt trip on him about how they will be poor for the rest of their lives.

Another problem occurs when Sarah and Hank find out the money was originally a ransom for a kidnapped girl. The girl was found murdered and the kidnappers were never found. That is another problem they will have to deal with in the end.

There are many elements in A Simple Plan that make it a top-notch suspense thriller but the most notable element is the film's screenplay, written by Scott Smith.

Smith's script does not rush into character or story development. We slowly see how they rationalize stealing the money and understand why. We have the same understanding with the other sinister acts that are committed. We may not agree, but we understand. The script also lets us see how the plan unravels thread by thread.

Most of the performances are good. Billy Bob Thornton has rightfully been nominated for several Best Supporting Actor awards and I will not be surprised if he receives an Oscar nomination. Bridget Fonda convincingly shows us how a person

can be consumed by greed.

Bill Paxton's character helps us to see how a good person can rationalize doing evil things. Even though his performance is inconsistent at times, he has come a long way since playing Hudson in *Aliens*.

Sam Raimi's direction is also enjoyable. Raimi's always been known for his intriguing camera shots which enhanced films like *The Quick and the Dead* and *Darkman*. Raimi's best known for *The Evil Dead* trilogy, which has one of the largest cult followings in the country. A Simple Plan shows that he does not need flashy shots to make a great film.

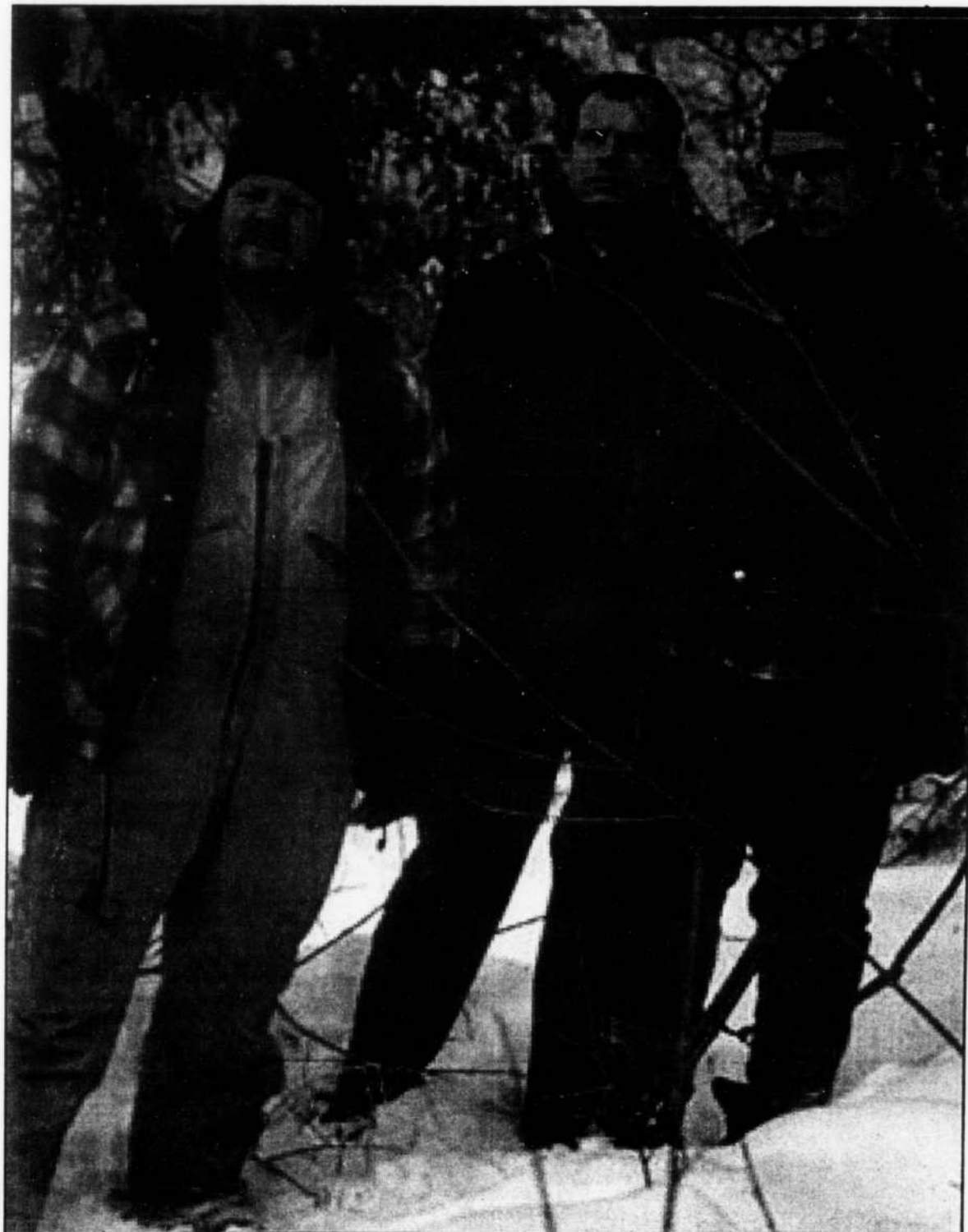
Raimi's shots in A Simple Plan are not as flashy as the ones in his earlier films. They are very subtle but play a vital role in telling the story. The viewer will notice a good shot even though it is not thrown in his or her face.

A Simple Plan is one of the best thrillers of the decade. Its screenplay should be used as example for up and coming screenwriters.

STARS (out of four) ***1/2



Bridget Fonda as Sarah, Hank's wife.



Lou (Briscoe), Hank (Bill Paxton), Jacob (Billy Bob Thornton)

Grayson smokes the competition

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff writer

With Jon Grayson there are two guarantees. First, you can always count on four hours of a well prepared radio show when he sits down at the console. Second, a pack of cigarettes and his lighter are never out of reach.

"I'm no Morten Downey Jr.," said Grayson. "It's not like I'm smoking three packs a day."

Grayson has been with the Gaylord Entertainment run WTN FM 99.7 since September 1997. Monday through Friday starting at 8 p.m., Grayson is the host of his own talk-show, The Magic Box.

His transition from Tampa's WFLA has been a rather smooth one for the most part. The 29-year-old, self-described "hippest, coolest guy you know," enjoys living in Nashville, is relieved that his boss lets him "just do my show" and for once, he's finally working with a producer who "understands what I'm thinking."

There is one little thing he wishes he could change - his Music City crib is a non-smoking building.

"It's something like 15-feet to the door," said Grayson, about the distance he is, when sitting in his chair, from being able to light up. "I get out there about twice an hour during the news breaks."

Puffing aside, The Magic Box is quickly becoming one of the most talked about shows on the radio in the Middle Tennessee area.

From night to night a bevy of topics can sway from the intense "heaviness" of recreating life to the always emotional topic of religion. Grayson, however, does like to mix in light-hearted things like talking about old toys or one-hit wonders you no longer hear on the radio.

"I like having a good time and I like talking about having a good time," Grayson said. "I'm still a kid. I eat

Fruit Loops for breakfast. I love Raviolis and I still play video games."

Despite the fact that Grayson may spend as much as eight hours prepping for any given show, once he's on the air there are no guarantees that listeners will react the way he anticipated. The fact of the matter is, some shows just don't work. "Sometimes you have a good feeling and (the

topic) just dies," admits Grayson. "Nobody calls or it's not what I thought it would be."

"You have to recognize that and move on. Just bail on it."

One reason Grayson has the ability to just dump a topic and move on is that on any given night he can be toying the ideas for up to 60 different topics.

His topics come to mind in various ways and peculiar places including the obvious: newspapers, other radio shows and news events; Even two women in the checkout line at the grocery store can spur four hours of air time.

"I stay away from locking in on what the show is going to be, until just before I go on the air," explained Grayson. "I just try to keep my mind open."

Whatever the case, Grayson has one ultimate goal with each show - to evoke "human reaction."

In a medium that depends on interaction with its listeners, a sure way to gain their attention is by stirring their emotions.

Don't for one moment think, however, that Grayson isn't willing to do what it takes to extract those reactions either.

"Some people won't call unless they're sure I'm going to tear into them," Grayson said. "It's like a chess match. I have to be three moves ahead."

"Like a lawyer, not only do I need to prepare my side but I have to prepare for their side as well. I have to ask myself in advance of going on the air, what will their response be? And then, prepare a defense or else you'll get blind-sided."

Not only is Grayson unlikely to be blind-sided on the

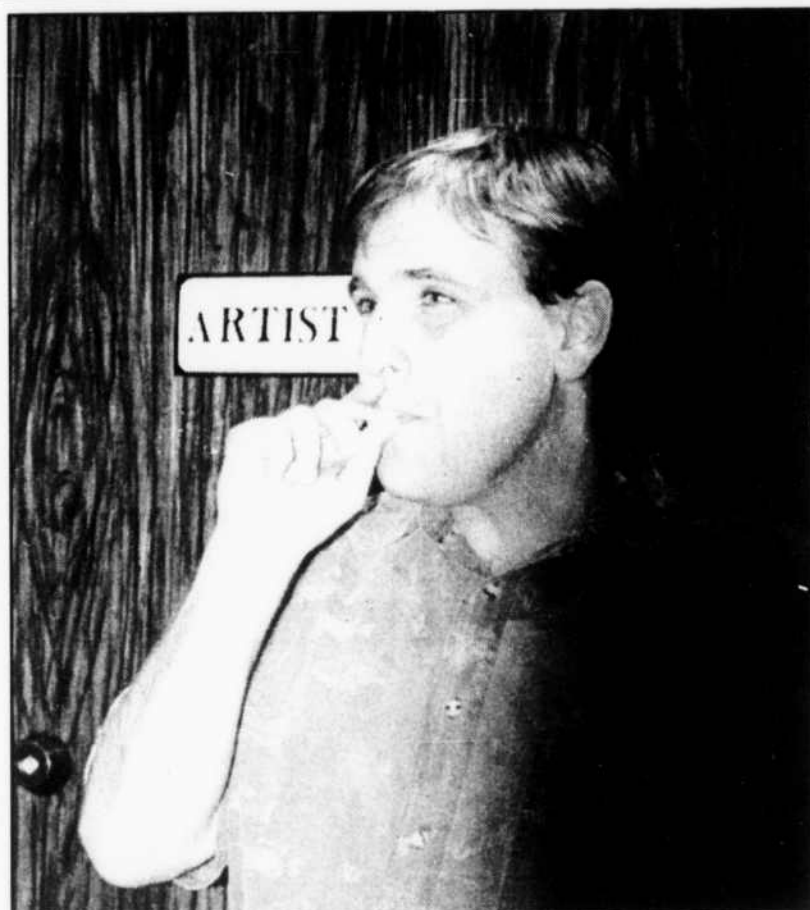


Grayson doing what he loves.



Lou Sender/producer looking on at Grayson's excitement over being in FLASH.

Staff photos by Claudia Lombardo



In a smoke free building, news breaks also serve as smoke breaks.

air, but also he's not likely to be blind-sided when it comes to his future in radio.

Well schooled in the reality that many radio personalities wind up moving around the country more frequently than they would of had they chosen an alternate career, Grayson isn't afraid of what's in store.

Though he's willing to accept what the future may hold, he's not dwelling on it either. Once you're finally able to get him, however, to contemplate possibilities, you may be surprised at what he aspires to.

"Once I finally retire," Grayson speculated, "I'll probably buy a house (in Rehoboth, DE). It's the most beautiful place I've ever been. It would be one of those summer homes where I live there three months out of the year."

Professionally speaking, Grayson

would one day like to host a show similar to the one Tom Snyder hosted the last time he was on the radio before moving to his current role in network television.

Essentially Snyder would start by interviewing a celebrity guest for an hour or so and then turn the phones over to his listeners and as Grayson puts it, announce with ease, "okay, it's just you and me. The lines are open and we can talk about whatever you want."

"Tom's a goof. A friendly guy. Really, he's such a geek that he's almost cool. It worked because it was him. He was approachable and that's what allowed people to call in. He had been around so long he could get away with doing that. So, I think I have a ways to go."

Where ever Grayson may go, listeners are sure to lend an ear.



Grayson evokes a little "human reaction" in his listeners.

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Large man with little trumpet sets the mood

Keith Ryan Cartwright
Staff writer

Maynard Ferguson is one of the last links to an era of jazz which included the likes of Dizzy Gillespie, Duke Ellington, Jimmy Dorsey and Stan Kenton.

So when the large man with the little trumpet decides to record an album, the jazz community definitely takes notice.

With the release of *Brass Attitude* the attention is well deserved. Ferguson once again teamed up with his band, Big Bop Nouveau, for their third release via Concord Records.

In keeping with his traditional style, Ferguson once again has left listeners pondering the question of how he continues to create such a "big sound."

Through the years Ferguson has become the bench mark in which other jazz artists are measured. *Brass Attitude* is another extraordinary effort capturing the new standards of comparison.

Just as he has so many times before, Ferguson eloquently melds together a rich tone enhanced by his capability of still being able to pull off the high notes on his trumpet, which made him a legend in his own right.

From *Just friends* to *I Love You* to the 16 minute long *Misra-Dhenuka*, *Brass Attitude* maintains a classic big band sound throughout.

Since first beginning his recording career, the 70-year-old Montréal native has now released more than 60 albums.

Throughout that time, there's one constant that has remained - whether it's sipping a martini or enjoying a few cocktails with friends, nothing seems to set the mood like Ferguson.



Jazz legend Maynard Ferguson is back with his latest release, *Brass Attitude* Photo Provided

Horoscopes

By Linda C. Black
Tribune Media Services

Aries (March 21-April 19). If you have the urge to be impetuous, curb it. Your lesson to be learned right now has more to do with structure, discipline and obedience. Thursday and Friday, negotiations are underway to settle an old argument. Stand up for what's most important, but let the rest go.

Taurus (April 20-May 20). An initial resistance should fade as the week continues, so don't take no for an answer Monday, especially if it's the first answer you get. Somebody you love, or a small child, possibly the same person, will lead you. Besides that, it looks like you're scheduled to get a lucky break later on.

Gemini (May 21-June 21). Odds are good whatever you're thinking about doing is not going to be easy, but it is going to be possible. Pay attention to the details and stay well organized, and you'll be able to accomplish quite a lot. Thursday and Friday are much better for romance than just about anything. The weekend looks like it could be quite busy.

Cancer (June 22-July 22). You're hitting a bit of a tailwind concerning your career. A dear friend could give you a push in the right direction. Fix up your house on Thursday, so if company drops in Friday it won't be a problem. Romance looks excellent from Saturday night through Sunday. An unusual but solid commitment is quite possible.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22). Get your finances into order on Wednesday, so you'll know how much you can afford to spend by Thursday. Looks like there's something you could invest in that day or Friday that would improve your chances of success. This would be a great weekend for staying home and cleaning out the closets.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Your workload is intense. Wednesday, you'll be much stronger. You'll still have to crank to keep up with the workload, but it should be easier. The money doesn't start coming in until around Thursday or Friday. By the weekend, you should have enough to spend on a treat for yourself.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). There will be a lot of competition for your time Monday. How about delegating some of your responsibilities? Wednesday the pressure is intense. Thursday and Friday, you're much stronger, and you're in a better position to negotiate. Saturday and Sunday are good for buying and selling, not necessarily in that order.

Scorpio (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). It looks like just about everybody wants to tell you what to do. The odds of your success improve on Wednesday. More people will be willing to go along with your suggestions then, which also improves your attitude. Stick close to home this weekend, though. Looks like you'll have a house full of company.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). There could be a slight difference of opinion between two people you respect and admire. You get to be the referee and help them come to a compromise. It's the little details that will help you advance in your career, or anything else you're trying to do brilliantly. Friday's appropriate for scheduling a party.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You should be watching your money Monday. Don't let somebody talk you out of it without getting the very best possible deal. Gentleness wins over bravado on Thursday; on Friday, stash your money in a safe place. Visiting with friends is highly recommended for this weekend.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Thursday and Friday, you'll be in the mood to play, so plan travel and interesting conversations then. Saturday and Sunday, you could come into some opposition. If you are just respectful to the older person who's trying to boss you around, everything will go just fine.

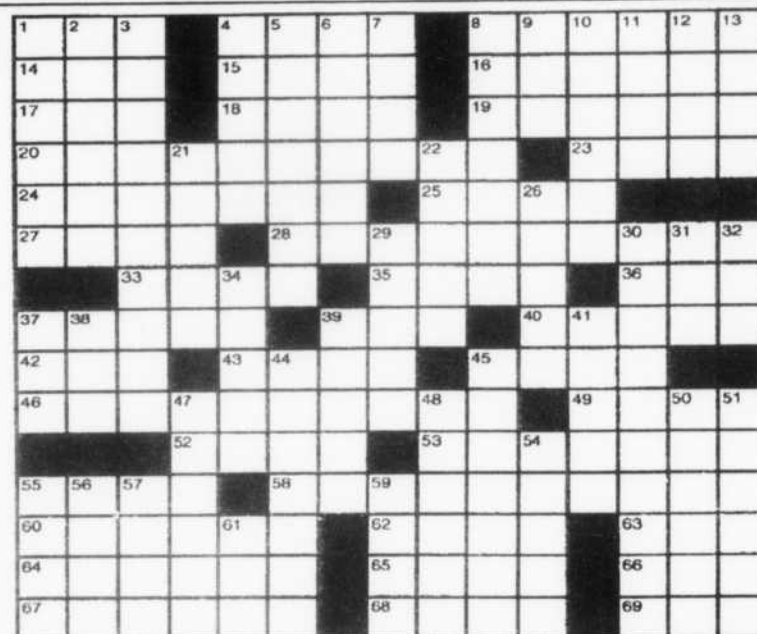
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20). You're learning lots of important things that you'll be able to use later. Tuesday and Wednesday will go best if you're working with a partner. Saturday and Sunday, looks like you're going to be up for some travel. If you go out of town, try to get home before dinnertime, if at all possible.

ACROSS

- 1 Rainbow shape
- 4 Eve's youngest
- 8 Exploded
- 14 Lion's name
- 15 Beginner
- 16 River gorge
- 17 Rafael, CA
- 18 Authentic
- 19 European peninsula
- 20 Duplicity
- 23 Answer to "Shall we?"
- 24 Fired clay
- 25 Authorize
- 27 Estrada of "CHiPs"
- 28 Virulence
- 33 Hardy heroine
- 35 Shift-worker's shift
- 36 d'Iserre, France
- 37 Slur over
- 39 Want
- 40 Church congregation
- 42 Old card game
- 43 Dice toss
- 45 Potential plant
- 46 Generous
- 49 Be a bookworm
- 52 Capital of Norway
- 53 Corrode
- 55 Common ailment
- 58 Nova Scotia island
- 60 Lake near Utica
- 62 Unemployed
- 63 Lodging house
- 64 Word with ball or fodder
- 65 Endeavor to obtain
- 66 High card
- 67 Starts
- 68 States further
- 69 Showed the way

DOWN

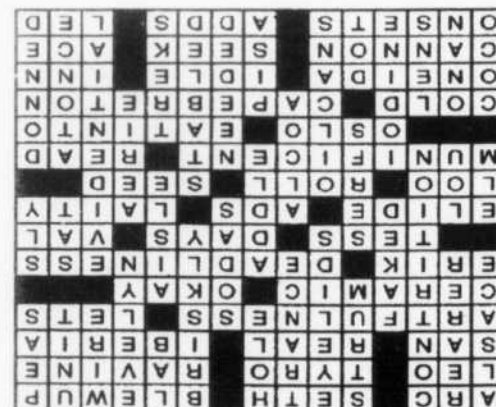
- 1 Strasbourg's region
- 2 Parent, e.g.
- 3 Penitence
- 4 Banjo beat



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2/4/99

- 5 Sleeper's covers, of a sort
- 6 Stupefied state
- 7 Empty space
- 8 Energetically
- 9 Research rm.
- 10 Writer Waugh
- 11 Cable
- 12 Modular component
- 13 Garden vegetables
- 21 Pretended
- 22 Fountain orders
- 26 Audience divider
- 29 Muddle
- 30 Offering proof
- 31 Fri. follower
- 32 Crafty
- 34 Feudal lord's peons
- 37 Shade tree
- 38 Rawls or Reed
- 39 Aluminum company
- 41 Eagle's home
- 44 Containers with



- 45 Like sheltered horses
- 47 Thyroid treatment
- 48 Required
- 50 Immediately
- 51 Put on
- 54 "Enterprise" travels
- 55 Designer Chanel
- 56 Son of Judah
- 57 Telescope part
- 59 City on the Arno
- 61 Period

S.N.M. on the Rocks

Lamont Gholston
Special to Flash

Welcome to another fun-filled, hardcore edition of SNM on the Rocks. This week, I have good news and bad news. Let's start with the bad news, specifically more rappers in trouble with the law. I thought I was writing a hip-hop news column, not a crime report. Maybe next week I won't be writing about any MCs or DJs getting pulled over or locked up (Yeah right.) But until then...

Bizzy Bone from Bone Thugs in Harmony was cleared from assault and disorderly conduct charges on January 25 in Columbus, Ohio. It was alleged that Bizzy had dragged a barber school student down a flight of stairs for spreading rumors about him. He was found innocent after four days of testimony. The defense maintained that Bizzy's bodyguards, who were not charged, were responsible for most of the injuries to the plaintiff, Terrance Harden and that Bizzy Bone was only minorly involved in his physical abuse. Harden's lawyer, Robert Caplan says they still intend on filing a civil suit against the rapper and his bodyguards.

Can I get a Wu-BANG! Compounding the Wu-Tang Clan's infinite legal problems with ODB, the rest of the Clansmen might soon be in trouble with the law. ATF agents and local police are investigating the deaths of two Wu-Tang affiliates, one in Ohio and one in NY, in connection with gun running charges. According to the New York Post, the Killa Bees allegedly hired friends to purchase guns in Steubenville, Ohio (RZA's family hometown, where various Wu members have been known to engage in target practice) and bring them back to NY, both for personal protection and sell to their friends. Coming back to the music, all of you that can't get enough Wu-Tang in your tank will be checking for the "Wu-Chronicles" to be released in March. It will be a compilation of previously released, hard to find joints. In addition, two new joints will appear on the LP. The featured tracks will include collaborations with Biggie, Mobb Deep, The Alkaholiks, as well as some of the Clan's banging solo cuts. I'm already trying to get my copy now.

The world famous DJ Premier has been busy since the release of the new Gang Starr album "Moment of Truth." Last year he did remixes for D'Angelo and Janet Jackson, and this year he finished lacing tracks for Nas and Charli Baltimore, and is preparing to work with Sauce Money, Big Shug, and Rakim. Let's not forget the two new tracks for Gang Starr's greatest hits album. Yo it looks like Primo is going to stay blazing 'til the year 2000!

In other news... Word on the street is that WWF tried to get Big Pun to wrestle or just make an appearance. Pun declined the offer, but the WWF may still have a chance to get the rapper in the ring. Can you imagine Pun teamed up with "Stone Cold" Steve Austin? Where's my "PUN 3:16" shirt?...Krayzie Bone's debut album is slated to drop in April. It will feature guest appearances from Treach, Fat Joe, Big Pun, Cuban Link, Juvenile, Eightball & MJG, and Mariah Carey. This looks like some hot ish!...De La Soul is trying to release a three album series later this year, one in June, the next in September, and the third in December. The album will feature mad guests, some not artists. Stakes is high. Well that's all the hip-hop for this week. Tune in to SNM for more hip-hop news, music, sex, mayhem and other assorted S#\$! every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 4-6 PM on 88.3 WMTS.

Club List

BAR NASHVILLE
114 2nd Ave. South
Nashville 248-4011

BIG RIVER GRILLE
111 Broadway
Nashville 251-4677

BLUEBIRD CAFE
4104 Hillsboro Rd.
Nashville 383-1461

BONGO JAVA
2007 Belmont Blvd.
Nashville 385-0575

THE BORO
1211 Greenland Dr.
Murfreesboro 895-4800

BOURBAN ST. BLUES
220 Printers Alley
Nashville 24-BLUES

BUNGANUT PIG
1143 Columbia Ave.
Franklin 794-4777

BUNGANUT PIG
1602 W. Northfield
Murfreesboro 893-7860

CAFE COCO
210 Louise Ave.
Nashville 329-0024

THE CANNERY 1
Cannery Row
Nashville 251-0979

THE CLUB
207 Broadway
Nashville 244-8173

DENIM & DIAMONDS
950 Madison Sq.
Madison 868-1557

EASTSIDE CAFE
2716 Gallatin Rd.
Nashville 383-1229

THE END

2219 Elliston Pl.
Nashville 292-8642

EXIT/IN
2208 Elliston Pl.
Nashville 321-4400

GECKO'S BEACH CLUB
579 Stewarts Ferry Pk.
Nashville 871-9500

GIBSON'S CAFFE
Milano 176 3rd Ave. N.
Nashville 255-0073

GRAHAM CENTRAL STATION
128 2nd Ave. N.
Nashville 251-3545

GRAND OLE OPRYHOUSE
2840 Opryland Dr.
Nashville 889-3060

HARD DAY'S NIGHT CLUB
1001 Bell Rd.
Nashville 731-5611

HARD ROCK CAFE
100 Broadway
Nashville 742-9900

HAVANA LOUNGE
154 2nd Ave. N.
Nashville 313-7665

JAMMIN' JAVA
117-B 5th Ave. N.
Franklin 591-4888

JOE'S CRAB SHACK
1646 Westgate Cir.
Cool Springs 661-6645

JOE'S CRAB SHACK
1919 Gallatin Pk.
Rivergate 859-0677

LAVA LOUNGE
1407 Division St.
Nashville 251-7107

LEGENDS CORNER
428 Broadway

Nashville 248-6334

MAIN STREET
527 Main Street
Murfreesboro 890-8692

MANHATTAN'S
901 2nd Ave.
Nashville 255-2899

MERE BULLES
152 2nd Ave. N.
Nashville 256-1946

MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM
417 4th Ave. N.
Nashville 862-6395

MUSIC CITY CAFE
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Hermitage 872-0013

MUSIC CITY MIX FACTORY
300 2nd Ave. S.
Nashville 251-8899

NASHVILLE ARENA
501 Broadway
Nashville 770-2000

PHANTOM 309 BAR & GRILL
1508 Hwy 96 N.
Fairview 799-2437

PLANET HOLLYWOOD
322 Broadway
Nashville 313-7827

PLAYOFF'S
2275 Murfreesboro Pk.
Antioch 360-7380

PLAYERS DRAFT HOUSE
5434 Bell Forge Lane East
Nashville 717-3020

RADIO CAFE
1313 Woodland St.
Nashville 262-1766

RYMAN AUDITORIUM
116 5th Ave. N.

Nashville 889-6611

2ND & GOAL
128 2nd Ave. N.
Nashville 244-5340

SOUL SATISFACTION
328 4th Ave. S.
Nashville 259-3288

STARWOOD AMPHITHEATER
3839 Murfreesboro Rd.
Antioch 641-5800

STATION INN
402 12th Ave. S.
Nashville 255-3307

3RD & LINDSLEY
818 3rd Ave. S.
Nashville 259-9891

328 PERFORMANCE HALL
328 4th Ave. S.
Nashville 259-3288

TEXAS TROUBADOUR
2416 Music Valley Dr. Nashville
885-0028

TOOTSIE'S ORCHID LOUNGE
422 Broadway
Nashville 726-0463

TPAC
505 Deaderick St.
Nashville 782-4000

12TH & PORTER
114 12th Ave. N.
Nashville 254-7236

VERTIGO DANCE CLUB
2146 Thompson Ln.
Murfreesboro 893-3999

WILDHOUSE SALOON
120 2nd Ave. N.
Nashville 251-1000

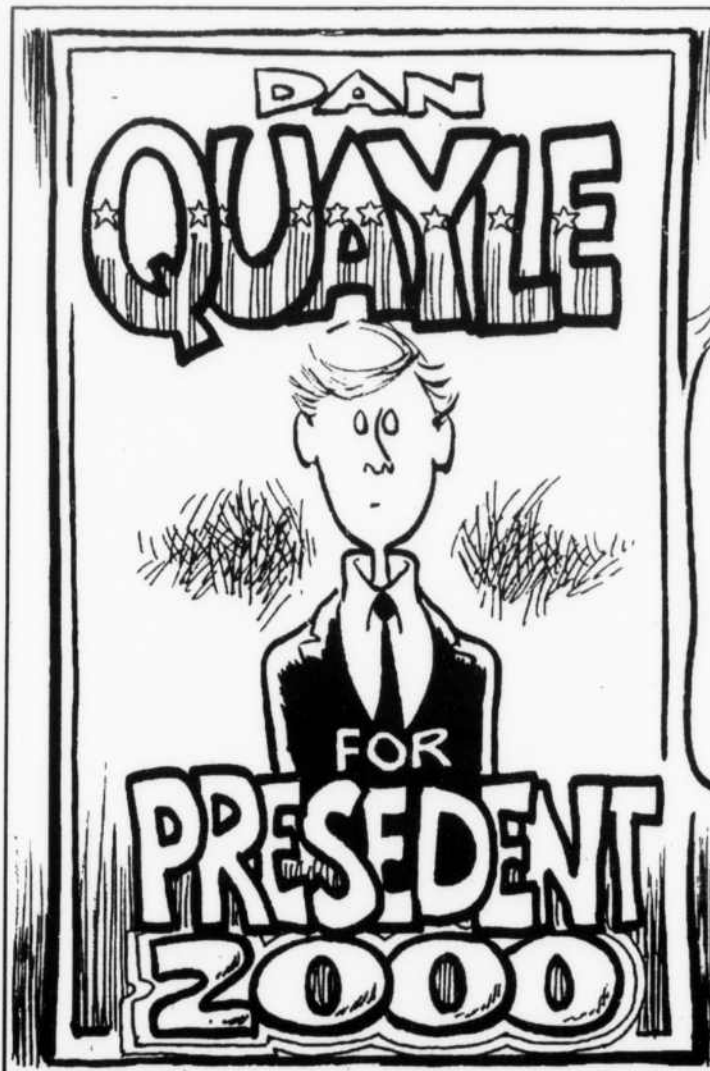
ZANIES
2025 8th Ave. S.
Nashville 269-0221

Upcoming Shows

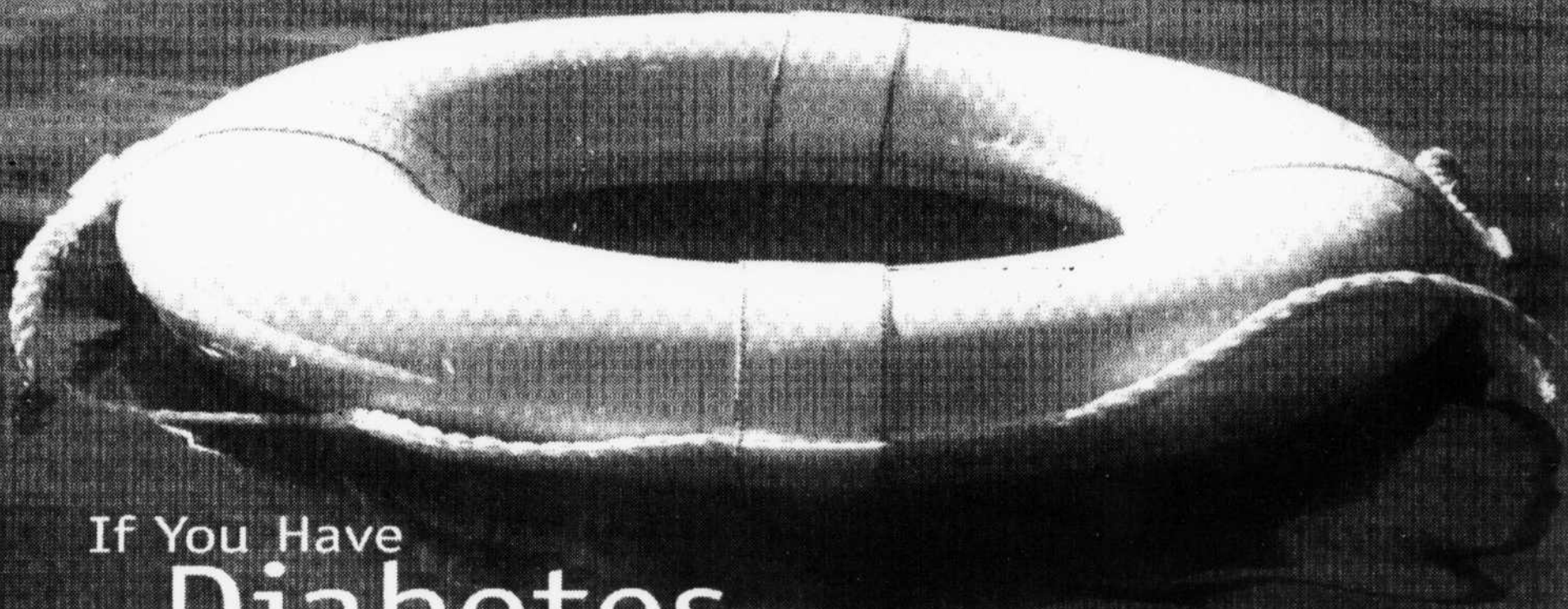
328 PERFORMANCE HALL
328 4th Avenue South
Nashville, 615 259-3288

KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD
special guest Brian Lee Band...
and Mark Shelby Band.
8pm Thursday February 11.
Tickets \$10 adv \$13 day of show.

SONIA DADA
8pm Saturday February 13.
Tickets \$10 adv. \$13 day of show



What Do A
Life Preserver
And A **FLU** Shot
Have In
Common?



If You Have
Diabetes,
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Doctor.

If you live with diabetes, you're more likely to die with the flu. Just ask the families of the 30,000 people with diabetes who died of flu or pneumonia complications in a recent year. Then ask your doctor for a life-saving flu shot for you and those closest to you, and about the other risks you face when you face diabetes. Because with diabetes, *prevention is control*, and control is your life line.

This message is brought to you by



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