June 3rd 1993

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37% fee increase in Fall-and rising

Budget forecast: More room in your wallet, less in classrooms

by Krista Winkler
Special to the Chronicle

California State University students will be digging deeper into their pockets this fall if the proposed state university fee (SUF) increase is approved, which is expected for the 1993-1994 academic year.

Currently, full-time CSU students pay $1308 in mandatory fees per academic year. However, under the proposal, students will be required to pay $1788 per academic year or $586 per quarter for full-time undergraduate enrollment at all CSU campuses. Students who already possess a bachelor's degree will pay $2148 in mandatory fees. And that's just the beginning.

According to Vice President of Administration and Finance, David DeMauro, the increases will continue for the next 3-5 years or until CSU tuition is considerably higher, which is considerably higher, for college education.

For some students, higher fees mean more financial aid, some for the first time because the increase actually qualifies more students for eligibility for financial aid. Unfortunately, the students who do not qualify for financial aid bear most of the burden of the 4.2 fee increase.

Additionally, the students under this plan would be able to choose lower paying community service jobs without worrying about paying off huge tuition bills, because the amount paid back would be proportioned to fit the individual's income level. This system would be very helpful in getting the highly educated persons in jobs of importance at the community and local levels where quality persons are desperately needed. This bill also hopes that this more flexible plan will help to reduce the default rate incurred by the previous system. Those persons who still default on loans could possibly be

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California State University students paid a 39% fee increase. CSU undergraduate fees have risen a total of 68% since 1990, Wilson's 1994 budget allocates less money to the CSU system than the system's appropriation in 1987, while CSU enrollment statewide has grown by 4,500 students since 1987.

Even with a SFU revenue of over $3.6 million from the increase, the mandatory CSUSB budget reduction of $6.1 million leaves CSUSB searching for $3 million more from the SFU for the 1993-94 academic year. Proposed budget remedies for the 93-94 academic year include the introduction of a mandatory student health fee, more part-time faculty, reduced library holdings, and major cuts to ground and building maintenance.

In addition to fee increases, CSU administrators have compensated for recent budget shortfalls with personnel layoffs and curricular cutbacks. Employee cuts since 1990 include 1,583 full-time faculty, and 1,659 part-time staff. CSU campuses statewide offered 6,500 fewer class sections in Fall 1992 than were offered in Fall 1990.

And there is a growing concern that the increase in class size will adversely affect the quality of instruction and classroom management. Furthermore, students attending summer sessions are hit even harder as the campus resorts to operation on a system commonly known as the 4-10. This system is incorporated to reduce the cost of operating the campus by transferring from five eight hour days to four work days consisting of ten hours. Utilizing this system literally shuts down the campus Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Unfortunately, summer students are severely disabled as the Pfauel Library shuts down along with the rest of the campus, standing students who need the facilities of the library to complete coursework. However, there is some encouraging news.

For some students, higher fees mean more financial aid, some for the first time because the increase actually qualifies more students for eligibility for financial aid. Unfortunately, the students who do not qualify for financial aid bear most of the burden of the 4.2 fee increase.

A capital outlay program, which sells bonds for long-term financing, funds the construction of buildings like University Hall, the newly built Brown Hall, and the start of construction on the PE/Health building, which won early building approval because of the

see BUDGET, page 6

Clinton's student loan plan shakes up system

by Adam Bailey
Chronicle staff writer

A new bill proposed by President Clinton, called the Student Loan Reform Act of 1993, could possibly affect the way that students here at Cal State, and other universities, apply and receive student loans.

The major issue that this bill focuses on is the billions of taxpayer dollars that are not being used to focus on serving the needs of students. The proposal claims that the Federal student loan programs currently in use are too complex in their procedures, inflexible in their payment plans, and create situations in which many students are unable to pay back their existing loans, leaving taxpayers to make up the difference. In short, the proposal claims that "The current system doesn't serve the students or taxpayers well."

The Student Loan Reform Act of 1993 claims that it will, Re-
What a difference a year makes

The politics of elections, cultural diversity, state budgets, and ASI

by Stacy McClendon
Chronicle managing editor

Newspapers report milestones. At the end of the year it is interesting to look at where we’ve been. The stories on the front page may not be the stories of our lives; but they do trace the collective history of the school.

Right now, the big story on campus is the buildings. While we didn’t find it necessary to report on the progress in every issue, it seemed that there was a photo of a building in some stage of construction somewhere in all of our papers. Besides filling space and adding variety to a page, they chronicled the expansion of CSUSB.

The other continuing story was that of budgets and fees: who was getting hurt, how, where, and why. Departments were asked to trim their budgets and students were asked to contribute more. This year was but one chapter in a continuing book documenting the destruction of the state’s Masterplan for Higher Education, the story will continue next year as students are being told they will pick up a larger portion of the budget and will contribute to mandatory health center fees. Additionally, they will face a referendum to finance athletics.

Because fees are becoming increasingly steep, financial aid is a growing concern for students and the challenge of meeting this additional demand on the part of the financial aid office was another story.

There were administrative changes that we reported on such as the new faculty-initiateddrop policy for students who did not attend class during the first week, who did not meet the prerequisites, and who were not a declared major in the required field. The walk-through registration procedure was also dropped. The touch-tone registration still has not come into being.

Most of the things that happen on a campus such as this one tend to be important for a time and then are dropped as a topic of controversy.

In the fall, much of the talk on campus and the space in the paper was focused on the national elections: Bush v. Clinton v. (sometimes) Perot; Boxer v. Herschensohn.

The winter quarter brought the politics directly to the campus as the Political Science department attempted to bring White Aryan Resistance leader Tom Metzger onto campus to participate in a “cultural diversity” panel while a group of University Ambassadors protested the speaker. Eventually, the panel was held without the controversial speaker.

Later that quarter, students took the politics with them as they went to Sacramento to lobby on the student fees, and decided to pull out of the CSU lobbying organization CSSA. Along with CSU, Sacramento, and CSU Stanislaus, ASI leaders formed the Student Advocate Coalition.

Then, this quarter, the politics was back on campus as CSUSB got ready for Associated Students elections. Would-be politicians hit the pavement from dawn till after dusk to hand out literature and lobby for your vote. More students voted in this election than ever before. In the Presidential and Vice Presidential races, no one received 50 percent and it went to a runoff. Larisa Tompkins eventually won for president, Debra Hinshaw won for vice president, and Terry Suzuki won the treasurer position.

We had a variety of speakers come to campus recently including Martin Delarosa, a juror in the second trial of the officers involved in the Rodney King Trial and Elaine Geller, a child Holocaust survivor.

While The Chronicle’s main focus has always been on campus news, we do go off-campus for an important story like the one about hazardous waste at Norton Air Force Base.

On campus, safety became an issue as the “real world” began to invade our ivory towers. A parking lot employee was abducted at gunpoint, and a campus safety officer (CSO) was assaulted. A campus police officer was shot on an off campus call.

In all, it’s been an interesting year. We enjoyed reporting it to you, and hope you enjoyed reading about it. If you are going to be around next year, we would like to invite you to become a part of the process. Putting together a newspaper is exciting, so stop by sometime and ask what’s news.

A reflection on four (or five or six...) years

by Peter Spiegel, Chronicle staff writer

As we approach the end of yet another term/year, many of us are preparing to forge ahead into a graduate program, while others, armed with four years of undergraduate work will be seeking commensurate and gainful employment.

Regardless of how acquired knowledge is used, there can be no doubt that a formal education imparts, whether by design or accident, innumerable (albeit at times superfluous) skills. There are those among us who can now analyze, rationalize, philosophize, conceptualize, internalize, generalize, investigate, collate, and extrapolate the most formidable of concepts with hardly a conscious thought.

While the above listed skills will undoubtedly prove a boon to humankind by those who possess them there are other attributes one gleaned from a college education, that perhaps while not of equal worth with those above should by no means be dismissed simply as worthless. I can personally attest the value of at least some of these "lesser" skills:

I now have the ability to sniff out a parking space from a block away. Owning a space being available, I can, with the prowess of a Stealth aircraft pilot, effectively "stalk" or "pace" an unsuspecting fellow student who is walking back to his/her car.

I’ve also developed the ability to, with the deftness and (sometimes) grace of a professional athlete negotiate through a seemingly impenetrable crowd (mostly) without impeding another’s progress or intruding upon his/her "space."

In the area of patience, I can now wait in what seem to be lines which stretch beyond the limits of known space and whose progress often gives one pause to reflect on what the heck one is doing there to begin with, without at some point collapsing to the floor as I have occasionally witnessed a child who is tired of shopping do.

While perhaps not advisable under normal circumstances, I can, if necessary, consume a three-course meal (including dessert) cram for a midterm, and contemplate the meaning of life, all while driving.

Although I try not to, if for some reason I arrive late to a particular function, I can now with complete confidence, enter a room of an already-assembled audience (of as many as 200 persons) and nonverbally convey to all present that my tardiness should by no means present me as an object of scorn.

Like some ethereal spirit, I now have the ability to shift through time and ask what’s news.

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COYOTE Bookstore
Page 2 The Chronicle June 3, 1993
Without a net: seeking a balance in turbulent times

by Anthony Bruce Gilpin
editor in chief

This is the last issue of The Chronicle for the academic year. As co-editor in chief, I wish to express my views on some of the news events of the past year, and on the way The Chronicle reported them.

National Politics. Although The Chronicle is a campus newspaper, we reported and commented on national events in the election year 1992. With the new year, we steered away from national events, turning our attention to more campus events. We found there is a danger in focusing away from the world when you are part of it. As the year progressed, we have tried to find a delicate balance.

Letters to The Chronicle

'Capstone' courses: Useless schooling, or a 'P.C' attempt at liberal brainwashing?

Editor, The Chronicle:

I declare publicly what most of the student body and faculty says in private: All capstone classes are completely worthless! Since I've been shut down in class by the "tolerant bunch," I'm forced to yell, from the rooftop that the emperors of p.c. and multiculturalism are wearing no clothes.

Instead of getting a minor in education, go home to your mother-god. I agree that California has a great economic problem; however, I disagree that illegal aliens are at the core center of the issue, for the following reasons. It is true that many illegal aliens are uneducated, unskilled and poor. However, these people come and work (produce), and pay taxes on a false Social Security number, which impedes them to file a tax return. Thousands of people have been working under these conditions for years, without being able to collect a penny of the taxes that they have paid. And because they do not feel secure in this country, only a small percentage of illegal immigrants make use of "Medi-Cal and other social services.

I think it is time to stop blaming others for what we are, and deny the reality that we descend from immigrants who took possession of this country; we should stand work with what we have and help others, and as the famous author, Manuel Ramirez, says "From the legend of the Aztecs, describing their search for a permanent home at a place where an eagle would be seen perched on a cactus eating a serpent, the long voyage made by the European settlers to the New World...and the long treks by wagon trains which carried settlers from East to West, the story of the Americas is one of struggling to survive in a new environment...where the key to survival is cooperation...among peoples of different backgrounds."

Jaime P. Aguilar

A thank-you note

Editor, The Chronicle:

As coming to the end of the school year, I would like to show my special appreciation to Circle K Club of Cal State, San Bernardino. I remembered the first time I heard of Circle K, I thought it was the name of a store. "Circle K is," one of the Circle K members explained it to me, "leadership and personal development through service and fellowship."

"It sounds good," I said to myself. It is an excellent opportunity for me to get involved and make an impact on the campus and community. Throughout the school year, I learned that Circle K is sponsored by Kiwanis International, who have followed the motto "We Build!"

Circle K builds strong members that will build strong lives which will in turn build a better world. It emphasizes the advantages of the democratic way of life, and develops aggressive citizenship and the spirit of service for improvement of all human relationships.

Most important of all, Circle K's are always there when I need them. Circle K is not just another club on campus. It is a family with all of Circle K's as my brothers and sisters.

Thank you, Circle K.

Sandy Lai
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Reggae star Pato Banton plays 'End of the World'

by Toni Calvino Mellinger
Chronicle staff writer

"My name is Palo Banton and this is why I came," sang the world-renowned leader of the famous Reggae Revolution at the sixth annual "End of the World Party" Thursday, May 27.

Banton's appearance, sponsored by Associated Student Productions and the Student Union Program Board, packed the Lower Commons likenoact since the Dead Milkmen played there last fall. A crowd of young people swarmed around the stage, swaying and undulating inches away from the white-clad band.

Banton sang for two hours about love, unity, and, whatever a person's struggle may be, never giving in. Throughout the show Banton urged people to end war, injustice, and racism by beginning with themselves. He said people must root the hate out of their hearts, treat the people around them fairly, and stop judging by skin color or clothing.

The reggae singer initiated a high level of crowd involvement as he invited members of the crowd, Chris Bench, Lisa Reed and Greg Hamby up into the spotlight to sing with him.

As the show ended, Banton handed over bottles of water to be passed around by the crowd. The band showed genuine interest in the fans, warmly staying to talk after the show, signing autographs and casually mingling amongst them.

He proclaimed the Cal Slate faithful to be "children of the new generation," and stressed our responsibility to the generation to come. Throughout the show, he sang about the negative effects of drugs and encouraged abstinence from all of them, except marijuana. He says does not drink, or use any other kind of drug. Why marijuana?

Banton explained that "cocaine messes up your inside," and alcohol, in some cases, makes people act "rude" and unloving.

"I never heard of anybody dying from a ganja overdose," Banton said. Therefore, if he wants to use anything that alters his consciousness, it is marijuana.

A few concert-goers expressed dismay about the endorsement of marijuana on the college campus. Most, however, seemed to agree with the attitude voiced by one student, "Let us party while we can."

Banton and his band are currently finishing up a tour that began in Florida and traveled to Puerto Rico and Brazil. Next they will perform in San Diego, Ventura, and once more in Florida before returning home to Birmingham, England.

Pato Banton's performance at the "End Of The World Party" wasn't just the highlight of the night, it was the only light.

The evening was to begin with reggae outfit Shagnatty getting the crowd ready for Banton. ASP Chair David Timms who co-organized the event with the Student Union Program Board said the band cancelled without an explanation.

Banton's performance was to be followed by a "Wild Video Dance Party" held on a flatbed truck outside the Lower Commons. Timms said the outfit responsible for putting the party on called the afternoon of the party and said their truck had broken 600 miles from CSUSB.

Timms said that bringing Banton more than made up for the cancellation of the two events as more people flocked to the "End Of The World" party than last year.

"We pulled a lot of people out that don't normally come to the "End Of The World," he said.
BUDGET
continued from page 1

stimulation it would bring to the San Bernardino economy. Not only does the capital outlay program fund the construction, it also includes funding the equipment needed to function, such as desks and tables, all of which saves CSUSB money from its state general funds, its major source of funding.

More encouraging news is that CSUSB utilizes its facilities efficiently, maximizing the usage of classrooms on campus with 50% of the student enrollment attending classes during the day, while the other 50% of enrolled students attend at night. CSUSB has tried to minimize the effects of the cutbacks on a student’s education by only sacrificing one full-time position in a layoff.

According to DeMauro, there are ways students can maximize their education here at CSUSB.

First, from an economical viewpoint, full-time students who pay $1308 a year whether they take 6.1 units or 19 units, should consider taking a heavier course load, so they can graduate sooner, and eliminate paying for extra quarters or even years of coursework.

Second, says DeMauro, is that the goal of taking on four percent of the new loan volume in that first year, 25 percent of the loan volume in the second year, 60 percent of the loan volume in the third year, and 100 percent of the loan volume in the fourth year. A complete takeover of the old system is forecast to occur in the academic year of 1997-1998.

CLINTON
continued from page 1

sought out by the I.R.S. to provide payments in the form of wage attachment.

The new bill also hopes to reduce the costs of student loans on taxpayers by borrowing the money from less expensive Federal sources instead of more expensive private ones in which profits drive up the costs of the loans. “Treasury borrowing and by eliminating excess profits, direct lending will reduce Federal costs by $4.3 billion dollars through fiscal year 1998.” This savings will in turn be passed along to the students in the form of lower interest rates.

The Federal Direct Student Loan program is scheduled to be phased into effect, starting in the academic year of 1994-1995, with the students in the form of lower interest rates.

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* Meals per week based on varied meal selection.
Busy CSUSB Symphonic Band plans September release of CD

by Anthony Bruce Gilpin
editor in chief

Gonzalez conducted the Symphonic Band during closed recording sessions May 14-15 in CSUSB's Recital Hall. Dan Robinson engineered the recording, done on the University's newly-acquired digital audio tape (DAT) equipment. Gonzalez will spend the summer mixing the tape tracks with adjunct teacher Scott Vance.

In addition to the recording project, the Symphonic Band has performed in concert. The band presented its Spring Concert at the Recital Hall last night, performing a program including several of the works featured in their album. The concert, broadcast live on KSSB (106.3 FM), featured Music Education department head Dr. Edward Bostley as the season's only guest conductor, as well as performances by clarinetist Cynthia Wall (a CSUSB Winter Quarter graduate), and conducting assistant Laura Ball.

When released, New Beginnings will be available at the Coyote Bookstore, at a projected price of $8.00. Of the 1000 disks to be pressed, the Music Dept. plans to donate 100-200 copies to the University, for administrative public-relations purposes.

In addition to educational and promotional purposes, Gonzalez hopes to use the Symphonic Band's compact disc project as a recruiting tool to attract music students to CSUSB. "In my opinion," Gonzalez said, "students get excited when they know they can participate in an active music program that performs good music, that performs interesting concerts and records."

Rounding out a busy Spring Quarter, the CSUSB Symphonic Band will perform at CSUSB Commencement ceremonies June 12. In addition to Edward Elgar's traditional Pomp and Circumstance procession, the band will perform works of Vaughan Williams, E.E. Bagley, and the CSUSB Alma Mater, composed in 1990 by the Music Dept. chairman Dr. Loren Filbeck.

Rick Hoagland the CSUSB Jazz Ensemble blows up a storm

Jazzman Andy Cleaves
Guiding Ensemble's 'style tour'

by John Andrews
editor in chief

The CSUSB Jazz Ensemble has been everywhere this quarter thanks to direction of session trumpeter Andy Cleaves. Cleaves resurrected the Ensemble, which seems to exist only when a director can be found, in January somewhat by accident. He says he was looking for private students through the music department when his resume caught their attention.

"They saw my credentials and asked me to direct the jazz band," says Cleaves who has played with such notable artists as Stevie Wonder, Anita Baker and En Vogue as well television themes for L.A. Law and The Arsenic Hall Show.

In four performances this quarter, Cleaves has taken the Jazz Ensemble, which seems to exist only when a director can be found, in January somewhat by accident. He says he was looking for private students through the music department when his resume caught their attention.

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CSUSB to hold two Commencements to accommodate record graduating class

by Michael Siebodza
Chronicle staff writer

Acknowledging Cal State, San Bernardino's growth in its 28-year history, the University has scheduled two commencement ceremonies for June 12 to accommodate this year's record number of graduating students.

Both graduation ceremonies will be held on the lawn in front of the Pfau Library building. The 9 a.m. ceremony will include the graduates of the Schools of Education, Humanities and Natural Sciences, while a 5:30 p.m. procession will be held for the Schools of Business and Public Administration and Social and Behavioral Sciences.

Approximately 3,700 students are eligible to participate in Commencement ceremonies, the largest graduating class in CSUSB history.

Dr. Judith Rhymer, vice president for university relations, called the dual Commencement ceremonies a signal of the university's growth. Rhymer also noted that separate ceremonies will enable the University to restore some of the pageantry pageantry associated with Commencement in earlier years.

Rhymer said that the student processional has been reinstated to Commencement, and hooding ceremonies for master's degree graduates will be incorporated into the bachelor's degree ceremonies. Dual ceremonies will also allow each graduate more time to be on the platform.

Commencement Speakers Set

by Nadine Webber
Chronicle staff writer

The division of this year's commencement into two ceremonies opened the field for an additional keynote and student speaker.

The keynote speaker for the morning ceremony will be Dr. John E. Kashiwabara. Kashiwabara has served as a member of the Board of Trustees in The California State University since 1986.

The student speaker that will address the graduates at morning commencement will be former Associated Students president Michele Miller. Since coming to CSUSB in 1989, Miller has also been Vice President of the Order of Omega Society and a member of the Kappa Delta Sorority.

In 1992 she was Greek Woman of the Year. She has served as a University Ambassador and, working in conjunction with the Chancellor's office, helped start a campus recycling program.

The student speaker for the evening ceremony will be current ASI President Shep Major.

In her five years at CSUSB, Major has served in ASI for four years, been a member of the Accounting Association for three years, and a University Ambassador for two years.

Major has recently completed her certified public accountant exam, and in August she will be working for an accounting firm in Riverside.

"It is an honor to be able to give greetings to the evening graduating class," she said.

When asked why both the present and former ASI presidents had been chosen to speak, Major said "it just happened that both were chosen" from a selection process that involved presenting to the ASI Board of Directors a three minute greeting intended for the graduating class.

Candidates also had to submit an application with a letter to Randy Harrell, who is in charge of Senior Management with the ASI Board of Directors. Candidates are then screened and a final decision is reached.

The keynote speaker at evening commencement will be Jack H. Brown, Chairman of the Board and President and Chief Executive Officer of Stater Bros. Markets.

In April 1990, CSUSB's School of Business and Public Administration named Brown as its first recipient of their "Arrowhead Distinguished Chief Executive Officer Award" and the namesake of the new business building for his distinguished record of service and success.

Air Force ROTC to land at CSUSB in fall quarter

by Peter Spiegel
Chronicle staff writer

CSUSB will soon be host to the first Air Force ROTC program established in the inland Southern California area.

According to the Public Affairs office, contracts are set to be signed by Air Force officials and university President Anthony Evans, and the program is slated to begin this coming fall. Both two- and four-year options will be offered.

Col. Edward Shearman, commander of the Southwest Region Air Force ROTC, said that with the establishment of the CSUSB program, many students will be afforded a more convenient opportunity in seeking an Air Force commission, in that they won't have to commute to UCLA, the next nearest campus with an established Air Force ROTC program, in order to do so.

According to Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences Aubrey Bonnett, the agreement stipulates that CSUSB will provide classroom space, clerical support, and will meet some of the auxiliary costs of the program, while the Air Force will be responsible for all instruction-related costs.

Maj. Paul Willis, Officer-in-Charge of CSUSB's Army ROTC program, said he expects the Air Force program to add additional visibility and opportunity to the university's military training efforts.

JAZZMAN continued from page 7

JAZZMAN

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ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AA/EOE
by John Andrews  
editor in chief

A look at the year in sports

After a promising first year in Division II’s CCAA conference, we had reason to expect improvement from several Coyote squads.

Men’s soccer coach Carlos Juarez had several returning starters to defend the conference title but a tough schedule (courtesy of Juarez himself) and the intensity with which conference foes played his champions kept them from repeating.

The men’s basketball team was once again fighting for a playoff spot in the final game of the regular season against UCR. Unfortunately, they were unable to beat the Highlanders in Riverside and watched a second-place finish (along with the rest of Division II basketball) as CCAA champ CS Bakersfield posted college basketball’s only undefeated season.

Coach Luvina Beckley’s Coyotes had several returning starters. Morris certainly showed the offensive fire he did have, however, and it’s only a matter of time before the pieces fall into place for him.

The most pleasant surprise of the year came from women’s basketball. Coach Luvina Beckley’s Coyotes posted an 18-10 record, eight games better than last year and good enough to earn them a spot in the conference playoffs. Before being eliminated by Cal Poly, Pomona, they stunned rival UCR and mysteriously missed a berth in the West Regional. To top it off, Beckley was actually signed as full time coach (one year only though).

Coastal Southern California Athletic Conference (CSCA) is the only undefeated season for the team. The basketball team had to once again scrap it out with a roster short on players and long on heart.

The golfers also fell a little short of last year’s “Cinderella” trip to the nationals as they were swallowed by Grand Canyon in the Western Regional.

Here’s a look at the year in sports:

The Athletic Department replaced last year’s Sports Information Director Dave Beyer with PR specialist Bill Gray who promised to improve media relations with AD Director David Suenram’s new assistant, The San Bernardino Sun. The jury is still out on that one. The Sun’s only called for Suenram’s head once this year.

To end the year, the Athletic Department proposed a twenty-dollar fee referendum to further strengthen campus athletics. Though many students see the fee as another monetary “log on the fire,” the fact is most athletically successful schools in our conference have such a fee and it’s higher than twenty dollars a quarter.

Strangely, the events of this past year in sports left me with exactly what I had last year at this time: guarded anticipation.
In the beginning it was aggressive and evil, as it has nearly always been, however, the tempo was moderate and there wasn't much to choose from. Gradually, as new bands came on to the scene, each had to be able to offer something a little different, a little more interesting. After the success of the speed metal was developing, largely up-coated stars and their "hits", an equally realizing the potential of this new sound. With these companies choosing the next big make-up coated stars and their "hits", an equally powerful underground was developing, largely fueled by punk and its new unique speed and style.

By the mid-eighties, "glam" metal was peaking in popularity, much of it getting airplay on radio stations across the U.S. Some of these stations featuring all-metal formats began popping up in larger cities to cater to the ever-growing metal crowd.

The underground of speed metal was making its own progression as early thrash bands like Metallica, Anthrax, and Megadeth began playing arenas opening under big boys like AC-DC, Ozzy Osbourne, Alice Cooper, and Van Halen.

The late eighties and early nineties have brought even more new styles. Now there are branches known as speed metal, thrash, grindcore, hard rock, grunge, metal and rap combinations, industrial metal, death metal, bands made up of all different races, bands with long hair, and bands with short hair. Metal has become a spectrum of music so large and diverse that it is difficult to define anymore.

The newest wave is a powerful, moderately fast, rhythm based sound (back to Black Sabbath basics perhaps). Some of the leaders in this new wave: Helmet, a band which definitely does not have the traditional "look" of a metal band, but whose use of punchy, out of the ordinary rhythms and blunt/in your face sound ranks them near the top of the pile of up and coming greats. Pantera, after a history of changing styles have finally come to find style that both they and the thousands of fans enjoy, of which strong, unique, and fast rhythms seem to be the backbone.

The darkest, deepest, most hardcore of the many new branches of the metal music family tree has to be the grindcore movement. To the first time listener, this type of sound would appear to be nothing but static and noise with deep growls laid on top as vocals. Drums and guitar played faster than previously thought possible. Bands such as Napalm Death, Entombed, Fear Factory, Carcass, and Obituary all bring uniqueness and musical creativity to a sound that would seem at first listen, to severely stifle any possibility of variety and creativity.

Now a sub-genre known as Industrial metal has begun to gain quite a bit of attention. Repetitive, electronically produced, and sample loaded, it is a sound that more and more people are accepting as good music. Ministry, Nine Inch Nails, Skinny Puppy, and Skrew are just a few of many on this growing branch of the metal tree.

Just when it seems like all the musical ideas have been used up, some new sub-genre begins sprouting and metal stays interesting. Who knows what the future of this diverse genre will be. Perhaps it will continue to grow and thrive. Perhaps it will burn out. But for now, the metal genre and it's many sub-genres contain plenty of fantastic styles and musically creative ideas to keep metal fans content.

The Posies: Seattle band blooms in new direction

by John Andrews
editor in chief

How often do you buy a piece of music without hearing even one of its songs first? I've done it a few times. Usually from an artist that has delivered enough times to warrant such trust.

Last week I picked up a copy of the Posies' latest release Frosting On The Beater without hearing so much as a single from it. So much for tradition. That also seems to be the message these four Seattle lads are sending on their follow up to their 1990 Beatlesque masterpiece Dear John.

The Posies' arrival just before the little Dutch boy pulled his finger out of "grunge" dyke and flooded us with Nirvana and Pearl Jam. Coupled with the fact that there was more harmony and understated playing than howl and feedback on Dear John, this made them a largely overlooked wing of the Seattle scene.

This did not go unnoticed by the band. Gone are the chiming guitars John Auer and Ken Stringfellow strummed last time around. Dream All Day, the disc's leadoff track and first single, introduces a new, corrosive guitar style and driving rhythm. The Posies don't waver much from the raw, aggressive attack for much of Frosting On The Beater. "Burn and Shine" sounds like they've been picking up on the heavy thump of other Seattle bands.

While it may bring them into the "grunge" fold, the band has lost some of the impressive diversity and emotional range of their last release.

Fortunately, two elements that make this band so good: songwriting and harmonies, can still be found in abundance on Frosting. Auer and Stringfellow weave their vocal virtuosities around the classic pop/rock structures of "Earlier Than Expected" and "Solar Sister."

The disc's closing three songs make a stunning conclusion to Frosting. "Lights Out" moves hypnotically along to acoustic strumming and a weary vocal. With a couple of apocalyptic, distortion-drenched breaks in the middle, the song shows the kind of dynamic power of the band at their best.

Frosting ends with "Coming Right Along," a Hendrixian hymn that echoes the same weariness of "Lights Out" with a reassuring chorus: "Please be strong/ You don't know it but you're coming right along."

One mark of a great band is the ability to keep its audience guessing. Whether the Posies are trying to align themselves closer with the Seattle surge or just wanted more of an edge to their sound this time, Frosting On The Beater is a compelling offering from a band who's day is long overdue.
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