

**DON'T BELIEVE THE HYPE! the uR-I takes a look at Farrakhan**



21 February 1990

Vol. I  
No. 16

*MSU's alternative  
and truly  
independent voice*



**What's shakin':**

**uR-I examines  
Farrakhan speech**  
get the word on ... p. 4

- ⊗ Media warrior *Provoc...* p. 5
- ⊗ Check in at *The Clydesdale...* p. 6
- ⊗ Move *Out & About...* p. 6
- ⊗ Dig into *Dog Boy...* p. 6
- ⊗ Entertainment *and more...* p. 7-8

# In the aftermath of Farrakhan

## The history behind the man

by BRIAN MARSHALL  
uR-I correspondent

He came, he spoke, he left. However, many MSU students who have been left in the wake of the events surrounding Sunday's speech now find themselves wondering, "Who is Louis Farrakhan?"

Louis Eugene Walcott was born in the largely black region of Roxbury in Boston. He learned the violin during his younger days, and now collects rare violins. After a standout track career in college, Walcott sang in night clubs, where he was often billed as "The Charmer."

He first became involved with the Black Muslim movement in 1955. At that time, Malcolm X was still in the organization. Walcott then changed his name to Louis X Walcott, then just Louis X. In 1959, Louis X was named "minister" by Elijah Muhammed, founder and prophet of the Black Muslims.

In 1964, Malcolm X left the Black Muslims, and Louis X was named to take over the vacated mosques. After this departure, Louis X denounced Malcolm X, saying "such a man as Malcolm is worthy of death."

A year later, Malcolm X was assassinated. Louis X was given the name "Farrakhan" by Elijah Muhammed in that same year.

In 1975, Elijah Muhammed passed away, leaving his position to his son, W. Deen Muhammed. However, many felt that Farrakhan was the voice of the new regime. One publication stated, "He's a better orator than the late Dr. Martin Luther King, he sings better than Marvin Gaye, ... and he's prettier than Muhammed Ali." Soon thereafter, Farrakhan was assigned to the Chicago headquarters of the Black Muslims.

However, it soon became evident to Farrakhan that Deen Muhammed

See HISTORY, p. 2



Louis Farrakhan

uR-I photo/BUNKY CORRIGAN

## Gospel or garbage: Athletes speak

by TRESA BALDAS  
uR-I managing editor

"Nobody cares whether you graduate with a degree, but put that ball in the hoop, nigger!"

That was Muslim Leader Louis Farrakhan's message to black college athletes Sunday night at the MSU Auditorium.

During his 3 1/2-hour speech, Farrakhan told a crowd of 4,000 people that university administrators don't really care about black students' education. He portrayed universities as racist institutions that use black students' talents to beef up the bank accounts of athletic departments.

Though Farrakhan's message, among several relayed during his sold-out speech, brought the crowd roaring to its feet in approval, some MSU coaches and black athletes believe the statement was out of line.

"I don't think (MSU) looks at us as just a four-year project," said Taraisa Wills, captain of the MSU women's basketball team. "I don't see that at all. (Athletic department heads) are interested in our education. They help us out. They take care of us."

Karen Langeland, head coach of MSU women's basketball team, agreed, saying Farrakhan's statement "couldn't be farther from the truth."

"Obviously, I disagree with him," she said. "I know how much time we spend on academics."

Langeland said the women's basketball team, made up of 10 black and three white students, has study periods for two hours every night, Monday-Thursday. And when players are struggling over a certain subject, she said tutors are assigned and counseling is available.

"Obviously, he doesn't have all the facts," Langeland said. "I don't know how he made that statement."

MSU Assistant Baseball Coach  
See ATHLETES, p. 3

## Speech makes impact at MSU

by MIKE VENYAH  
uR-I issues correspondent

It was hyped by the media, whispered nervously on city buses, in bars.

But when 7:45 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 18 descended on a sold-out MSU Auditorium, "it" was nowhere to be found. "It" being the controversy expected to explode from Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan's speech.

The controversial minister was invited to speak by student group As One, an organization devoted to creating positive self-esteem for blacks. The leader of the Nation of Islam, a group comprised of about 10,000 black Muslims, discussed subjects ranging from the necessity of an educational curriculum relevant to current social problems to genetic theories of race.

See SPEECH, p. 3

From HISTORY, p. 1

did not intend to follow in his father's footsteps. Deen Muhammed wished to pursue a more orthodox approach. He planned to allow whites into his organization.

In 1978, Farrakhan left the Black Muslims to form the Nation of Islam, taking about 10,000 of the 100,000 Black Muslim followers with him.

Soon he set up his own headquarters in Chicago and many halls where speakers would work to spread his ideas. Afterwards, he hoped to generate some revenue by selling copies of the speeches to those in attendance, much the way a Jerry Falwell or a Jimmy Swaggart operates.

It is these speeches which often provide much of the controversy which surrounds Farrakhan. He is constantly surrounded by the Fruit of Islam, his security force. Often, his entourage will reach forty, sometimes even more.

Some speakers, such as Stephen Cokely, often use the forum to give his messages of anti-Semitism and hatred.

When he announced the Nation of Islam's black "self-help" project, Libya's Muammar Qaddafi gave a \$5 million "loan" to Farrakhan. He has many Muslim allies in the Middle East, which he recruited shortly after he split from the Black Muslims.

This is not the end of the Farrakhan public relations nightmare. In 1984, after Jesse Jackson called Jews "hymies" in an interview with Milton Coleman of the Washington Post, Farrakhan publicly threatened Coleman during a speech. He was considered by many Democrats a reason not to vote for Jackson in the 1984 Convention because Jackson became so closely affiliated with Farrakhan. This was after the infamous comment Farrakhan made about Hitler, calling him a "great man".

Many others feared dealing with Farrakhan because they knew it would alienate one major voting group no matter what. One of these politicians was Tom Bradley, the popular black mayor of Los Angeles.

In 1985, Farrakhan was scheduled to make a speech in L.A., and many wanted Bradley to make a

comment about the speaker's controversial beliefs. He refused, stating that anything he said before the speech could be construed by Farrakhan as a warning on sensitive material, thus limiting Farrakhan's right to free speech. The L.A. Times editorial page followed suit, promising not to print any comments about Farrakhan's beliefs until he finished his speech.

Others, however, see Farrakhan as "the most banned person this side of South Africa." Many feel they will not be taken seriously if he speaks at their function.

However, he still has proven to be able to fill a house, as seen Sunday night at MSU as well as in 1985, when he filled Madison Square Garden and made some of his most scathing comments. He attacked then-mayor Ed Koch for two things: He's Jewish, and He's homosexual. As one reporter described it, "The first of which he has no control over, and the second he (Koch) squelingly denies."

The crowds at the usual Farrakhan speech are a mixture of those who are enraged by the cause, those

who are curious, and those who are protesting.

Farrakhan seemingly let MSU off easily in financial terms. He asked the "U" for \$5,000, while in 1988, he asked the relatively small University of the District of Columbia (UDC) for \$17,700, which was reduced to \$15,200. This money came out of a \$60,000 fund for student events for the entire term. He came under such criticism for this that he began to charge less for appearances.

*If you're a minority student looking for experience, call us at 351-4899 or 351-4885*

**STUDIO 241, inc.**

241 East Saginaw, East Lansing  
lower level 241 Building  
hair/nail care for women/  
men, children

- \*beard/mustache trims
- \*foil highlighting
- \*spiral perms
- \*facial waxing
- \*complete nail care
- \*manicures/pedicures
- \*sculptured nails/nail tips
- \*silk nail wraps/repairs
- \*French manicures
- \*unique hair braiding

**351-9330**  
8-8 Mon-Fri 8-4 Sat

**ESPRESSO ROYALE CAFE**  
CLASSIC CAFE. CLASSIC COFFEE



NO COLLEGE PRANKS.  
NO SHENANIGANS.  
NO GIMMICKS.  
GREAT COFFEE.  
GOOD TIMES.  
IN A CLASSIC CAFE.

226 ABBOT ROAD NEAR BEGGAR'S OPEN UNTIL MIDNIGHT

*Renaissance Hair Designs*

2767 E. Grand River  
E. Lansing, MI 48823

**\$5 Off Any Service**  
(of value of \$10 or more)  
(With this ad)  
Offer Good  
Through  
February 28, 1990  
\*\*\*\*\*

**Buy One Product  
and Get A Second  
Product For Half  
Price**

Redken and Paul Mitchell  
(not appl. with other  
specials)  
\*\*\*\*\*

Call Today For  
Other Specials  
\*\*\*\*\*

Next To The Power  
House Gym  
**337-2023**

**84 out of 100 students  
find the ON-CAMPUS  
Residence Halls  
the place to make friends**



**The On-campus Residence Halls**  
*where the living is easier*

**From ATHLETES, p. 1**

Dan O'Brien said he believes sports is the open door for some black students who want to go to college but are financially strapped.

"I think athletics gives blacks an opportunity to go to college, in some financial cases," O'Brien said. "In our sport, everyone is treated the same."

Wills said though she was not able to attend Farrakhan's speech on campus, she has heard him speak on various television programs on other occasions. The 22-year-old said she does not agree with everything Farrakhan preaches, but says she admires his talent for uniting black people.

"I think Farrakhan is a really, really great man," she said. "He says very stimulating words to try and make us stand up and join hands and do more for ourselves."

"I think he gets a lot of bad publicity because he's a man who speaks his mind."

Farrakhan, long the center of controversy, has been accused of being a racist, a fascist and an anti-Semitic whose messages to blacks revolve around Jew-bashing.

But MSU football player Travis Davis says Farrakhan is everything but racist.

"You can't condemn the man until you hear the man," said Davis, who attended Farrakhan's speech with about 10 football players. "I don't think he's a racist at all."

"He's just a black man that wants to let his black people know about their heritage...he just tells the truth."

Though Davis praised Farrakhan for promoting black pride and unity, he said he did not agree with the speaker's comment that university officials don't care about black students' education and use them only to generate funds for the Athletic Department.

"I can't say the university used me," Davis said. "I don't think they use black students." And in reference to athletic department's concern over athletes grades, Davis said coaches and department heads value education.

"Coach Perles ... he's hard on education," Davis said. "Talk to any of the football players and they'll tell you that."

Davis said the university does push its athletes to keep up with their studies, but the ultimate responsibility of earning a degree lies with the athlete.

"It's kind of up to the player to get an education," said Davis, who currently is working on a master's degree in counseling and education after earning his bachelor's in ATD Merchandising Management in 1989.

"In the real world, you need an education," he said.

And whether or not Michigan State cares if black athletes get an education or not doesn't matter to Davis.

"I'm gonna get mine anyway because that's what I came here to do."

One thing that does bother Davis about MSU is his belief that he has put more into the university than he has received. MSU has compen-

sated his football talents with a free-ride for the past five years. But Davis believes "that's not enough." "You think about all the money you bring into the university and you see none of it," he said. "It kind of makes you mad."

**From SPEECH, p. 1**

After an opening in which Farrakhan acknowledged his detractors and their constitutional rights to protest his visit, he blasted the MSU administration for placing a memorial on funds allocated for his speech.

"This is a racist institution," he said. "How dare you tell blacks that Farrakhan is irrelevant and doesn't deserve a measly \$10,000 to \$12,000 honorarium when you bring speakers that are totally irrelevant to the black experience, but you use money from (black students') fees to pay for them?"

Farrakhan went on to speak out on white oppression of blacks, on drug abuse and on Jewish opposition to his preachings.

But regardless of what Farrakhan said, as of 11:00 p.m. Sunday evening, his visit to MSU became history.

The issue facing the MSU community now is: "What impact will Farrakhan's speech have on MSU and its surrounding areas?"

MSU senior Tony Jefferson predicts Farrakhan's speech will have an uplifting effect on the black population at MSU.

"Blacks will be hyped up for two weeks ... but I don't know if it will last," Jefferson said. Whether MSU will be considered a promoter of humanitarianism or race hatred for funding Farrakhan's visit depends on peoples' geographic location as well as ethnic background, Jefferson said.

"Known racist towns like Fowlerville and Howell" will view Farrakhan's visit to MSU as "a racist act," Jefferson said. But "Detroit and the inner-city" will perceive the event as "enlightening," he added.

MSU senior James Chubb, who called Farrakhan's messages "positive," said the minister's speech may have an impact on the university's admissions, influencing college-bound blacks to "perhaps choose MSU over

a black college."

However, Chubb also believes Farrakhan's discourse may have a negative impact on MSU's white community. Farrakhan's speech, he said, may "anger whites because they don't like what he says."

But MSU graduate student Tewodros Akilile, says whites can no longer ignore issues concerning blacks.

Calling Farrakhan's invitation to speak at MSU a "good political activity for blacks," Akilile said: "It's time for whites to hear about black concerns."

Anthony Spangler, a sophomore at Lansing Community College, believes Farrakhan's several messages benefit all who listened to his speech. And those who will benefit the most are blacks.

"Farrakhan's message is good for blacks and other minorities," Spangler said. "He has good things to say, like Malcolm X."

Farrakhan's visit to MSU was made possible through a \$5,000 fund granted by MSU Provost David Scott's office. The grant brewed much controversy on campus, especially among members of the Jewish community who feel they are the scapegoat of several of the minister's messages. About 200 protesters gathered outside the auditorium to voice their opposition to Farrakhan's visit and the university's funding of his visit.

As One adviser Ezra Hyland said the group originally asked MSU for \$20,000 to fund Farrakhan's visit. The student organization thought they were assured at least \$5,000, he said, and therefore, put \$500 down to reserve the auditorium.

At that point, Ezra said 15 people protested MSU funding Farrkhan, and "the Board of Trustees put a hold on the whole \$5,000, not just \$500."

Though As One was eventually guaranteed the \$5,000 to bring Farrakhan to campus, the MSU Board of Trustees has since declared that no speaker will receive more than \$1,000 "until criteria are established," he said.

The Board of Trustees recent decision has left Hyland with one question:

"Do black, brown, yellow people have the right to say who speaks to them and for them?"

**Tuesday Two for One**  
7 p.m. - Midnight  
Italian Sodas,  
Espresso & Cappuccino

grenadine  
raspberry,  
tamarind  
orzata, &  
mint  
sodas



**Castellani's Market**  
557 E. Grand River 332-6667

*Hair A Mess?*  
Let Us Help You Out-Come To:  
**Gary's Campus Hair Salon**  
\$9.00 Uni-sex hair styling  
*A Cut Above Yet Priced Below!*  
351-6511 549 E. Grand River  
(next to Confection Connection)  
M-F 8am-7pm Sat 9am-2pm

Complete hair care and nail services



**the LOOK Hair Co.**

3040 Lake Lansing Rd.  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
in Carriage Hills

336-7277  
V/TTY

**Hours :**  
Mon. & Fri 9-7  
Tue., Wed., Thur. 9-9  
Sat. 9-5

\*\*\*\*\*  
\$10.00 Off Acrylic Nails  
\*\*\*\*\*

\$7.00 Off Perm, Color, Relaxer (Reg. \$41up)  
\*\*\*\*\*

\$2.00 Off Any Student Haircut (Reg \$10)



## FARRAKHAN: demi-god or demagogue?

Chuck D. calls himself "a follower of Farrakhan," and counsels us that we can't understand "until you've heard the man."

Well, we've heard him.

To pass judgment on the Minister Louis Farrakhan — former assistant to Malcolm X Shabazz, disciple of Elijah Muhammad and his successor as leader of the Nation of Islam — after hearing only one speech would be premature, unwise and unfair.

Mr. Farrakhan has many messages that are delivered to many audiences; he will tell the people to drop their guns and needles and stop killing each other; he will tell the people to honor black women who have spawned the human race and brought us through times of turmoil and darkness; he will tell the people to reject the drugs making them modern-day slaves; he will tell the people that the truth will set them free and set their oppressors free.

Some of those messages were delivered last Sunday and roused the audience to levels of pride and strength that all people should strive for and hope to achieve for our mutual peace, prosperity and well-being.

But Mr. Farrakhan has been known to deliver other messages as well.

Messages denouncing religions and races as inferior and oppressive.

Messages that take advantage of sudden passions rather than advocate calm reasoning and purpose. Messages that overshadow his positive message for not only Afro-Americans, but for all people.

Last Sunday, Mr. Farrakhan delivered a slow, humorous, thoughtful speech that built to a resounding and powerful crescendo, rocking the auditorium and invigorating the audience.

It is in the fuel used to build to that crescendo, however, that one finds a message to think about when considering Mr. Farrakhan's words and his reputation as an anti-semitic and propagator of racial hatred.

While there is some merit to his condemnation of whites for their subjugation, dehumanization, and reprogramming of blacks throughout history, his accusations that the Jews have calculated shrewdly to take advantage of black ignorance is simply using an inaccurate and unfair generalization to create a common enemy blacks can unite against.

People are easier to fight than Poverty.

But, as Mr. Farrakhan says, the days of Stepin Fetchit are over. Blacks are now able to control their own destiny without Master Cracker menacing them with whip or chain. To place blame on a group is natural. But over-

coming obstacles — even obstacles as devious and cunning as those Mr. Farrakhan claims exist — should be the goal of all peoples.

There is no denying that Mr. Farrakhan is a brilliant man, one who knows the perils facing blacks everyday, and a man who knows the effect of his words.

In this light, to blame those problems on one group of people is too simple for a man of his brainpower. Most of Sunday's audience didn't swallow Mr. Farrakhan's message part and parcel. And he could not have meant it to be taken in such a manner.

Blaming Jews for the plight of blacks is simply used as a rallying point by Mr. Farrakhan. Without a doubt, it is wrong to turn people against each other to accomplish any goal. Demagoguery is inexcusable and Mr. Farrakhan must be found guilty in spite of his brilliance and eloquence.

But one must hope that wiser words of his are used to rally the people trying to build a better tomorrow.

"Jews and blacks, if you begin a dialogue, start with honesty and be truthful to each other."

Good advice, and advice Mr. Farrakhan should heed if a dialogue does begin in spite of his demagoguery.

the university  
Reporter-Intelligencer

© 1990

a publication of FUTILE  
EFFORTS INC.

142 Gunson St., East Lansing, MI  
48823  
517-351-4899

managing editor  
Tresa Baldas

entertainment editor  
Angie Carozzo

graphic artist  
Raechel Bery

graphic designer  
Matthew Goebel

technical advisor  
Delaine A. Wright

advisor  
Dr. Stephen Lacy

editor emeritus  
Dr. Hunter S. Thompson

advertising account  
executives:  
Seok Chung  
Aaron Kirby  
Wendy Murray  
Lisa Oakley  
Eric Stark

executive editor  
M.L. Elrick

reader representative  
Bung H. Ole, esq.

the uR-I is published  
weekly and distributed,  
free of charge, to MSU  
and its environs. So  
there.



Dr. Andrew  
Barclay

## Forget the Franklin Mint, the doc has a HUGE library

Dear Doc:

What was that misogynistic sleaze business all about a couple of weeks ago? The column was one of your better ones — I though you really stuck it to the people who deserve it. Where was she coming from?

— *Bewildered*

Dear Bewildered:

She was confusing pornography

with erotic adult reading material. Pornography depicts acts of violence against women which I do not find at all intriguing. One the other hand (ha ha), pictures of relatively normal acts done by consenting adults in the bedroom are not only great turn-ons, they are also artistic, and protected under our constitutional rights. I have always been a great lover of art, spent hours pouring it. My art collection may be the largest in Michigan outside of some of my friends who live in Durand.

Misogynistic means having a hatred for women and, if you have read some of my early columns, you would know there is a certain degree of truth in what she said. Jodi Foster, Judge Stell, and the women running East Lansing are not high on my list of favorite people. Oh, by the way, did you see that the Michigan Court of Appeals struck down a part of the EL ordinance governing Cedarfest? Yup! They said you couldn't barricade Cedar Village because you were afraid some people MIGHT do something.

I don't dislike these women because they are female, I dislike them because they are trying to oppress me and that is unAmerican. You may not like the way I party and you may not like the shit I read, but don't go passing laws trying to keep me from it because I have a basic right (unalienable, I believe Thomas Jefferson called it) to life, liberty, and the happiness of pursuit. Get my drift?

Dear Dr. Sex:

You're the only one I can turn to.

My boyfriend is a very passionate person. He seems to get turned on really easily but I'm much more quiet and take a longer time. When we make love, I just start getting really turned on when he loses interest and turns away from me. I have two questions: Why don't I get turned on in time and why do I sometimes have intense pain in my side after we make love? Is there anything I can do about this pain because aspirin doesn't work. Help! What's wrong with me?

— *Dormitory Deana*

Dear Deana:

Your second question is easier to answer than the first. Both men and women have similar responses to arousal, blood rushes to the pelvis and causes a swelling in the sexual accessory structures. Many men know the pain involved in Lover's Nuts or Blue Balls all too well but most women don't realize their ovaries also swell, especially if you do not obtain orgasmic release. The cure is simple: masturbate after he goes home. It releases the blood held in the pelvis which reduces the swelling and the pain will go away. (Follow this up with a visit to your family doctor just to make sure there really is no physical problem.) I would have to say, though, there is nothing wrong with you other than taking too much mental responsibility for how sex is going without taking charge. Your sexual response sounds pretty normal to me as does your boyfriend's but I think he needs some gentle educating. Don't wait to start foreplay until you are lying

next to each other, start at dinner or even that afternoon. Flirt with each other, stroke him or squeeze him through his clothes but don't let him get too close until you are good and ready. You are leaving all the control in his hands and he is not reading your response very well.

Men do not necessarily come to you knowing all about women's sexual response although most of us talk like we have done it all and know everything. Don't believe it. Take a more active part in controlling what he does. Get him so turned on, he can't stand it another minute and hold him off a few minutes longer. Be sure when you are doing this, you are squeezing the head of his penis every now and then because if you don't, he will be so turned on he will orgasm as soon as he enters you and we don't want that. The squeeze should be fairly strong but not enough to hurt him. The trick is to push some of the blood back into the penile shaft and allow it to refill the head.

Or let him have his first orgasm fairly quickly and then turn him on again so you can have yours. Men may have fairly quick orgasms at first but our second ones always take much longer and our third ones longer yet. There is no reason why you both can't have several orgasms during a single sex act but this type of response never "just happens." You have to get to know how to read each other's sexual responses and the best part is that it takes practice, practice, practice. Musicians practice at least two hours every day. Training sexual responses takes at least as much work, maybe more. Have fun!



the  
Provocateur

So there's a new Ronald McDonald. Don't mean nuthin' to me, it's the same ole kangaroo meat the Provoc was (is) raised on — maybe that accounts for my hatred of you phlegm-grabbing, flab-havin' toads?

But who cares what you think anyway. Besides, didn't the new Joker work out cool? How 'bout the same old Provoc?

Well, wait 'til they get a load of me (sorry, Nicholson)...TAKE THIS!

What was the Legislature thinking when they passed a resolution honoring rocker Ted Nugent? What did they honor him for; killing Bambi, Thumper, driving a huge truck, shooting things and

## It's like I always say: *If you can't take the heat, get asbestos undies*

playing "Cat Scratch Fever" at top volume?

Who's next, Eddie Albert and Beltone honoring Pete Townsend for his work on behalf of their industry?

While we're talking rocking, how is it that The Silver Dollar Saloon is "The Midwest's most famous rock bar," and no one knows where in God's green Earth this dive is?

And why did Meatloaf cancel his date there — I cried for days when I was told I wouldn't be hearing "Bat Out of Hell" screeching out of the vocal chords of a man that let a transsexual chop him up and turn him into a feast (a big feast.).

Bummer. Oh well, I guess it's another Saturday night, all revved up and no place to go.

Speaking of no place to go — or going no place — *The State News* comes to mind.

I've laid off these venerable folk for a couple weeks, but I feel a flash coming over me.

Like: My good fiend from down the street, Bart Simpson, and I had a good laugh when we read the *State* "He's-Not-Independent, -He's-My-Provost" *News* over the last two weeks. Twenty-nine corrections, ouch! Since when did our favorite tanker (and tankard) driver, Joseph Hazlewood, become copy

chief?

Of the *State One*, has anybody noticed how their editorial page is trying to sound like the *Provoc* lately?

It's as if they kidnapped me and made me watch *The Brady Bunch* for 48 hours while listening to a Bill Cosby concert tape. Yecch — it's a nightmare.

And what about Martha Quinn showing up as Bobby's wife?!

Whatever happened to Colin, dammit!

Here's a parting (cheap) shot: Has anyone seen those great SN signs advertising their internship positions?

They would prefer "intelligent, hard working and conscientious students." Other than constituting a major shift in policy, we hope they can stop either firing people or letting them quit and muster enough people to put out a paper this year for our increased student "independent-voice,-fer-shure-man" tax.

I'm proud of ya, guys. Keep up the progress, and soon you'll be able to get gymnastics scores right.

I shouldn't have done those last few, I'm beginning to feel my stomach go...

But that's about it 'til next week, so be bad and remember — I never met anyone I did not not like.

# ▶ OUT and ABOUT

## EAST LANSING

### B'Zar

21 Feb: Catharsis and Bone  
28: Kitchenhead and the Laughing Hyenas

### The Green Door

21-24 Feb: Toys  
25: Uptown Band  
26: Blue Avenue Delegates  
27: Capitol City Blues Band

### The Landshark

23-24 Feb: Souvenir  
27: Double Play

### The Silver Dollar Saloon

25 Feb: Meatloaf

### BearsHead Theater

today until 25 Feb: *The Voice of the Prairie*

### Wharton Center

22 Feb: Michala Petri, recorder with I Solisti Italiani  
23: The Irish Rovers  
23-24: *A Streetcar Named Desire*  
24: 50 Years of Harmony Annual Barbershop Quartet  
25: Circle Spotlight Organ Recital  
26: American Pictures  
27-March 1: Mitzi Gaynor in *Anything Goes*

### Rick's

21 Feb: Phil Garber and Born Naked  
22: Oroboros  
24: The Toll and Crossed Wire  
26: The Voice  
27: Phineas Gage  
28: Freeman and the Chasers

### Riverwalk Theater

today until 25 Feb: *It's Only a Play*

### The Ten Pound Fiddle Coffeehouse

23 Feb: Jan Marra

## ann arbor

### Bird of Paradise

22-24 Feb: Ron Brooks Trio

### Blind Pig

21 Feb: Terrence Simien and the Malet Palyboys  
22: The Voice  
23: Oboros  
24: The Difference  
25: Tippre Irie  
26: The Cult Heros  
27: Wig  
28: Juice

## detroit

### Fox Theater

21 Feb: Alice Cooper  
23 Feb: Stephanie Mills

### The Soup Kitchen

23 Feb: Windsor Dukes with Junkyard Jones  
24: Howling Diablos

### St. Andrew's Hall

24 Feb: Royal Crescent Mob

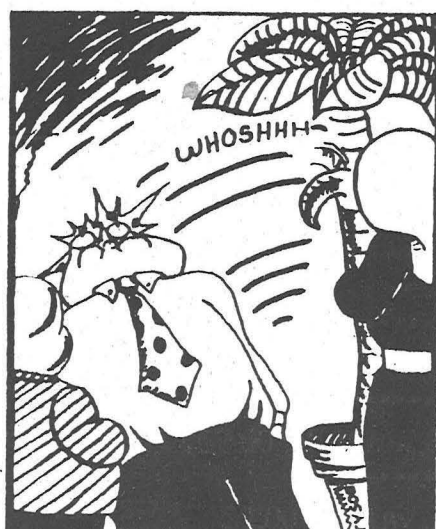
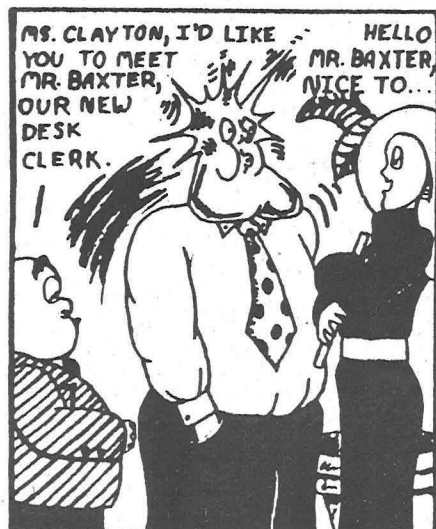
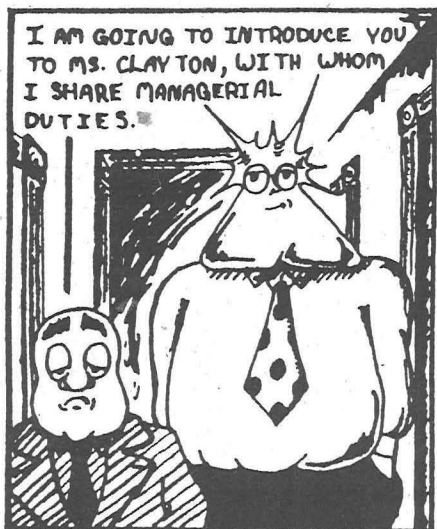
### DIA

Pierre DuBurro Master Prints



## The Clydesdale

by JONT



# Reviews

## Keep watching TV

Transvision Vamp, *Velveteen*  
MCA, 1989

TV — as Transvision Vamp like to be called for short — are a different band. One part 60's art-pop, one part primal post-punk energy, and one part 80's street-smart savvy.

Wendy James leads this British quartet on their second full-length release. 1988's *Pop Art* had a touch of eccentricity, which was evidenced on their remake of the classic "Tell That Girl To Shut Up". The album never really took off sales-wise, though it should've. They were lumped in with all the other English "girl groups" like *The Primitives*, *The*

*Darling Buds*, and *Fuzzbox*, among others too numerous and obscure to mention.

But TV's approach is quite different than most of the groups out there. James, who handles most of the writing along with the singing, isn't afraid to speak her mind, and comes off much more brash than we're used to over here in the States.

On "Born To Be Sold" she sings, "All you uptight short-sighted, narrow-minded slaves of gold, I'm telling you I don't need to be told...baby, I was born to be sold, born to be sold". But she's not talking about selling out. According to Miss James: "You're either sold by others, or you promote

yourself, your work, an extension of yourself, which is not selling out. But if other's 'sell' you for their profit, then that's exploitation." Yes, I suppose it would be just that.

The title track, all 12 minutes of it, finds the band running through everything from psychedelic guitar blowouts, to cocktail jazz, to rockabilly and punk. Like the rest of the album *Velveteen*, the song "Velveteen" shows a strong penchant for the stylings of Lou Reed and the *Velvet Underground*, both in the guitars and the lyrics.

With the non-stop comparisons between James and such illustrious figures as *Marilyn Monroe*, *Madonna*, *Tracey Tracey* (of the *Primitives*) and even Lou Reed, it's not surprising she's one of the most

— JEFF FIKE

*Catch a groove you like? don't be selfish, tell everyone about it here in the uR-I... ..the def music connection!*

### Students Against Driving Drunk and The Residence Halls Association Present A



WEDNESDAYS 9 PM- CLOSE  
18 and over with college I.D.  
\$1 NON-ALCOHOLIC DRINKS & 75¢ POP

Energize Your Wednesday Nights With Dancing and Fun!

This Week: **Catharsis and Bone**



The Residence Halls



**Eat Cheap**  
All U Can Eat Cones  
\$1.99 Tuesdays noon-9

Buy One and Get a Second One For **Free**  
**Chili Cheese Fries**  
Sunday 3-9p.m.  
with coupon. Dine-in only.  
**WE DELIVER 332-2381**

**Top Dog**  
  
213 Grand River Ave.  
(Downstairs)  
The Original Home of Chili Fries

**The Land Shark**  
RAW BAR & GRILL  
  
Fri&Sat, Feb.23&24...Souvenir  
Tue, Feb.27.....Double Play

**Sunday Special**  
Stallion burger w/ fries (half lb. ground beef w/ bacon, swiss, cheddar, onion, lettuce, and tomato)  
Draft and Shot 'O' Schnapps  
Til 10 PM  
**Only \$2.99!**  
101 E. Grand River Ave.  
Home of the Sharkbowl!

**HEAR WATER SPA**  
  
For Reservations Call The **HOT TUB HOT LINE**  
332-6318  
(Located corner of Grove & Linden, near Dooley's)

**\$2.00 Off**  
**Your Next Hot Tub Rental**  
(with Coupon)  
Exp. March 18,1990  
Limit One Discount Per Visit  
Greater Lansing's  
Best Hot Tub Experience  
Featuring 3 Indoor & 4 Outdoor Private Tubs  
• Gift Certificates & Party Rates Available  
• Tanning Booths & Tanning Accelerators



# Entertainment

## The The fill Royal Oak with their unique sound

by STEVE BYRNE  
uR-I music correspondent

Invading the Royal Oak Music Theater Friday, The The gave fans a taste of their unique brand of musical darkness.

On the inside cover of the band's latest release, *Mind Bomb*, songwriter **Matt Johnson** suggests, "To obtain maximum pleasure and effect from this album, please play VERY LOUD!, VERY LATE, VERY ALONE... & with the lights turned VERY LOW!", and the performance was successful at bringing out this feeling. Though the sell-out crowd precluded being "alone," the intimate setting allowed the band to pull the audience in to the depths of its sensual, textured world.

The stage was sparsely lighted, sometimes allowing Johnson to hide among the shadows as he sang his apocalyptic views of a world in conflict.

Johnson, who writes and composes all the music, crouched into his hand-held microphone as he delivered his wide range of vocal emotion. His voice, sometimes a whisper, and often a bellow, always resonated through the heavy, smoke-filled air.

He also occasionally picked up a guitar, but the majority of the axework was handled by ex-Smiths grinder, **Johnny Marr**. Marr has been described as a guitar anti-hero, and Friday night he showed why.

He played his parts brilliantly and effortlessly,

without much bravado. Marr didn't move around much and refrained from a lot of self-indulgent guitar work. This only left one wishing to see him display a little more of the talent he made apparent on such numbers as "Good Morning Beautiful."

The The used to be a one-man band — Johnson — but it now has three new permanent members in Marr, bassist **James Eller**, and drummer **David Palmer**. For the show, they were accompanied by a keyboardist and a female backup singer.

When the singer was used, which wasn't often, she showed a wonderful voice. For the majority of the concert, however, she danced on a riser at the rear of the stage in a ridiculous looking, skin-tight outfit.

The keyboardist handled the variety of styles he had to play deftly, but left some of the more complex songs to pre-recorded arrangements.

The show opened with a booming explosion, as Marr led the band in ferociously blowing out a soulful harmonica solo. Johnson then appeared a moment after the band took the stage.

The second tune, "Armageddon Days Are Here (Again)," brought the atmosphere of an ancient cathedral, using a haunting background chant and Johnson's deep and obsessive vocals. Spurning the religious battling that produces so much hate and death, Johnson exclaimed, "No, God will remind us what we already know/That the human race is

about to reap what it's sown."

Eller played a fuzzy bass that hummed through the chairs of the hall. This contrasted Palmer's tight and pounding drumming, which proved the simplest rhythms often can be the best.

The crowd was slowly drawn in throughout the two-encore show. In the just under two hour show, the crowd slowly rose and danced until they almost erupted during the blasting rendition of "Giant" in the second encore.

The set included material that spanned The The's career, but was deficient on a few crowd favorites. Missing from the lineup were such standbys as "This is the Day," and "Perfect," and several songs from the new album, including "The Beat(en) Generation," "Kingdom of Rain," and "Gravitate To Me."

But the songs that were played effectively displayed the power and intensity of Johnson's work. His songs simultaneously are political, spiritual, and sensual, and the minimal stage play really helped get this across. In a moving performance of "Beyond Love," Johnson almost spoke: "Take me beyond love...Beyond the grasp of lust/Beyond the need for trust/Beyond the gaze of the sick and the lame/Beyond the stench of human pain."

If this band comes around again, see them. They'll entertain you, make you dance, and just maybe, they'll make you think.

## Life is Hell?

### Sure, but Groening's humor helps us enjoy it

by STACY LAMMERS  
uR-I literary correspondent

Yep, it's true; that peevish Matt Groening dude is back with yet another priceless gem to add to his collection of literary delights.

*Akbar and Jeff's Guide to Life* is the latest effort by the same guy who gave us the *Life in Hell* series of books (*Childhood is Hell*, *School is Hell*, etc.) and the recently popular T.V. series "The Simpsons."

If you thought his previous stuff was off-the-wall, sarcastic, and downright obnoxious, wait 'til you sink your teeth into this baby!

Hosted by the be-fezzed, inseparable duo of Akbar and Jeff, the *Guide to Life* is a potpourri of strips, clips, and quips that are sure to make you yell, "Holy comic strips, Batman; this stuff is way cool!" (Well, maybe not in those

exact words, but you get the jist of it.) As an added bonus (and at no extra cost), fans will enjoy cameo appearances by old *Hell* faves, like Binky, Bongo, and Sheba. Neat-o, dude!

Now, about the material. Groening hilariously and masterfully serves up such rib-ticklers as: "Dr. Akbar and Nurse Jeff's Lipo-suction Hut," "77 Moods of Akbar and Jeff," "Slang of Tomorrow," and "Hell on Ice." The names pretty much say it all, folks.

Sure, it's a comic book, but there's more to it than oddball humor. On the flip side, Groening takes a lighter look at some current social issues, like homosexuality, for example. (The topic is inescapable because the title characters are both gay and are frequently pictured in bed together.) In one instance, Akbar and Jeff are approached by an

ignorant anti-gay who rudely asks them why they call themselves "gay." The two chaps politely reply, "It's very simple. We call ourselves gay because we are gay."

And with that, they trot off on their merry way.

Groening has a genuinely unique ability to get down to the meat and potatoes of a controversial topic, while still doing so in good taste and humor. He also has his own brand of wacky, madcap humor that is consistent throughout his books.

If you (yeah, that's right; I said, "YOU!") haven't experienced any of Matt Groening's works, this one is highly recommended. (They're available at most area book-stores.)

And as Matt Groening's "Slang of Tomorrow" says, "Have a chokey day, Lucko!"

*If your  
life is  
hell, let  
us help...*

**BECOME  
INVOLVED WITH  
THE uR-II  
call 351-4899 or  
351-4885 for  
details.**

*editorial, photo-  
graphic and adver-  
tising positions open*