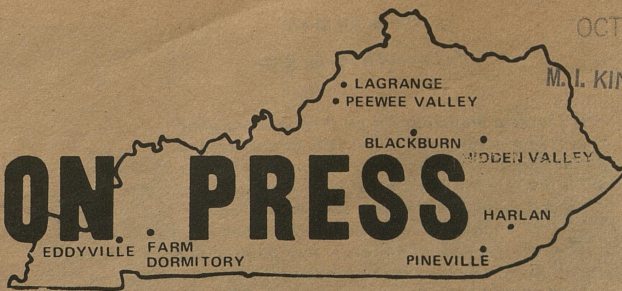


the KENTUCKY

INTER-PRISON PRESS



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"Jailhouse Rock II"

By Kenny Hays, KSR

A large crowd attended the second rock concert sponsored by John Simon and WLRs (102).

Riff-Raff and Rapid Fire, in their second appearance at the reformatory performed with the same wild ecstatic and energetic musical talents as in their first showing.

Rapid Fire played with that special musical talent that only comes with young, gifted and unique musicians. Such talent is hard to find anywhere, yet these five young men are together. They have been playing together for two years. This is a remarkable musical span for rock bands. Their gift is our gain.

Charlie Daniel's "The Devil Went to Georgia," was the hit

of the first performance. Jeff McCaffrey, the violinist and keyboard player, played this modern day hit with the zest of any great musician.

The band members of Rapid Fire are Mike Stiles (bass), Robbie Johnson (lead guitar) Terry House (rhythm), Mike Hoke (drums), and Jeff McCaffrey (keyboard and violin).

Riff-Raff, with the same enthusiasm from their past performances, rendered the latest in modern rock to the audiences. They played more of their own original tunes. Riff-Raff, a band with energetic and emotional musicians, put their inter-soul in each song. Their goal is to leave a part of themselves with their

audience.

Purple Haze, a modern rock tune, is the favorite of Riff-Raff, yet, each song they play is one to be remembered. Being a great band, they provided us with music, but at the same time, left us hope.

The talented musicians of Riff-Raff are Bob Koestal (drums), Pat Bariese (singer), Allan Phelps (lead guitar), and Bobby Neil (bass).

We are grateful to John Simon and WLRs (102). They are responsible for the Rapid Fire and Riff-Raff performances here at the Kentucky State Reformatory. We hope that they keep believing in us and keep helping to furnish entertainment for the residents at La Grange.

"Music is a way of life"

By Kenny Hays, KSR

The bass is such a lovely and interesting sounding musical instrument. It's sound is such a deep quality that the musician playing this instrument has to be good with his bad self. Being part of the rhythm section, the bass has the lowest sound in polyphonic music.

Just recently, I spent some time learning about the bass from two musicians. In this case, these two were excellent bass players.

Mike Stiles, a young musician from New Albany, Ind., is a gifted bass player as well as a singer. He plays for the musical group Rapid Fire. With his leadership, the songs are clear and understandable. Yet, at the same time, his musical instrument, the bass, is talking and walking for him. Mike is truly a unique and gifted musician. He plays bass because it is such a hard instrument to master. Mike is a master and Rapid Fire is a great band.

Bobby Neil of Riff-Raff, plays with unlimited body motions benefitting a great musician. His rhythm is constantly in tune with his fellow players. His instrument (the bass) is so powerful and wonderful that this lovely sound carries beyond and above any other instrument.

Bobby, a resident of Louisville, is a great asset to Riff-Raff.

Bobby plays his bass for enjoyment and relaxation. It is very energetic and tiresome, but he has his rewards. The audiences that he performs in front of is always happy. This happiness is shared by Bobby as well as the other members of Riff-Raff.

Together, Mike and Bobby played with great skill and while bringing enjoyment and relaxation to the KSR audience. We hope that sometime in the near future they are able to come back to KSR and perform for us again.



We had a large turnout for WLRs-102 and the rock bands Rapid Fire and Riff-Raff (left). Mike Stiles of Rapid Fire displays his unique and energetic style on his "magic" bass (bottom left). Rapid Fire, a hard rock band, plays for the residents at KSR (bottom right).

(Photos by Chris Brooks)



Bureaus join hands on employment project

The Bureau of Manpower Services and the Bureau of Corrections have joined hands to assist in finding suitable employment prior to parole or release.

According to Travis Shirley, O.J.T. manager for the Office of Career Development, the Bureau of Corrections is planning to utilize Manpower Services microfiche employment listings in finding suitable jobs for inmates.

"The Bureau of Manpower Services has a job bank in which statewide job openings are placed on microfiche and distributed to local manpower offices," Shirley described. "I have spoken with the director of the employment offices, Clarence Weldon, and the commissioner's assistant, Dave Lollis, and they've verbally agreed to allow our institutions to utilize the job bank services."

When this program is implemented and utilized by the

institutions, inmates would be given another resource in which to seek employment in their home communities prior to being released from an institution.

"Idealistically, the job openings would be related to the inmate's institutional training that he had received in vocational education or on-the-job training," said Shirley.

The most significant advantage to this service would be the establishment of a working relationship between the Bureau of Corrections and the employment service, according to Shirley.

"I want to stress the point that the job bank services would not be the answer to the current problem inmates have in finding employment prior to parole, but it may assist them in knowing what's available in their home communities," he said.

JESUS' MAILMAN

By Donald N. Ecie, KSR

If I were a mailman, I'd go from door to door;
greeting many people, the rich as well as poor.
But I wouldn't bring them letters, as other mailmen do;
I'd tell them of the love of God, and how Jesus died for you.

WHAT IS HAPPINESS?

By Kenneth Allen, KSR

So many have yielded to the pleasures of today,
Unaware of happiness becoming as grains of sand and slipping away.

The mirage of contentment is forever before the restless eyes
of the man of passions, as he fails to realize,
that satisfied senses and jovial hearts,
are not happiness; not even a start.

Yea, through sights and sounds and wisps of smoke
life slips away; becoming a self-inflicted joke,
at which our fellows ponder and jest,
and winners lose in life's contests.

Those who win must see all; both there and here
events to happen in the far and the near,
that will break or make a man,
when he answers the call to make his stand.

Some pursue solutions to problems that arise,
and to those, the strong, goes the happiness they recognize.

POPULATION FIGURES

Table with 2 columns: Institution Name and Population Count. Includes Kentucky State Penitentiary (787), Kentucky State Reformatory (1956), Kentucky Correctional Institute for Women (110), Blackburn Correctional Complex (254), Bell County Forestry Camp (67), Harlan County Forestry Camp (31), Daniel Boone Career Development Center (35), Western Kentucky Farm Center (137), Frankfort Career Development Center (77), Roederer Farm Center (145), and TOTAL (3599).

ALONE NO MORE

By Charles T. Harris

As I sit
alone in my cell.
It is on you
that my thoughts always dwell.

For be it by day
or be it by night
Your image to me
is always in sight.

Even though
we are far apart.
Just saying your name
brings joy into my heart.

No more do I worry
no more do I weep.
I have a love
a love I can keep.

A man has but one love
a love that is true.
I have found that love
and that love is you.

It is on you
that my thoughts always dwell.
As I sit
alone in my cell . . .

I AM THE PRISON

By Terry Curry, KSR

I am society's collector of debts, and
my purse is the bottomless maw
of time insatiably storing the
payments of days implacably totaling
the months and the years . . .

Come—come and look upon the faces of
these I hold and see thereon the
reflection of my image engraven
as a deep and final proof of
society's inadequacy of man's
inhumanity . . .

I am gut-searching, anguish destroying
the man who is with desperate
hope, waiting for the letters, the
visitors, that never come . . .

Yes, I Am The Prison!
Wherein the smothering confines of
a steel-barred cage crushed with
the weight of human reality;
wherein the endless emptiness of
the days and shattering loneliness
of the eternal nights repeat and
repeat my message . . . endlessly.

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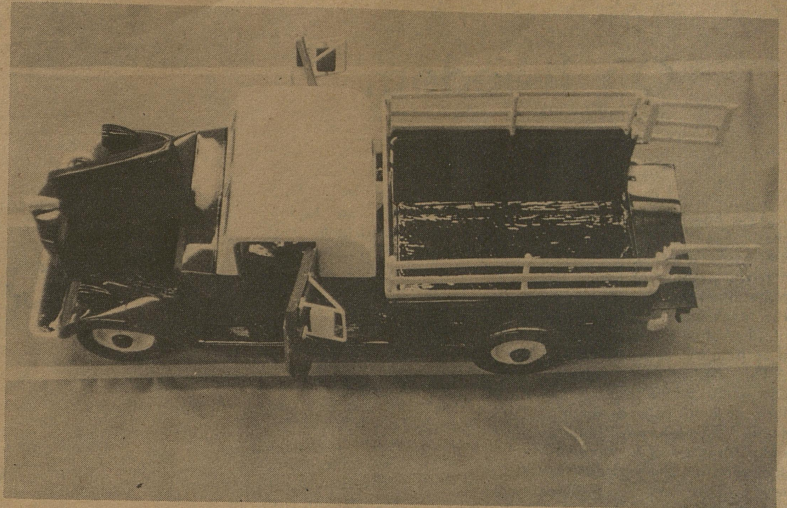
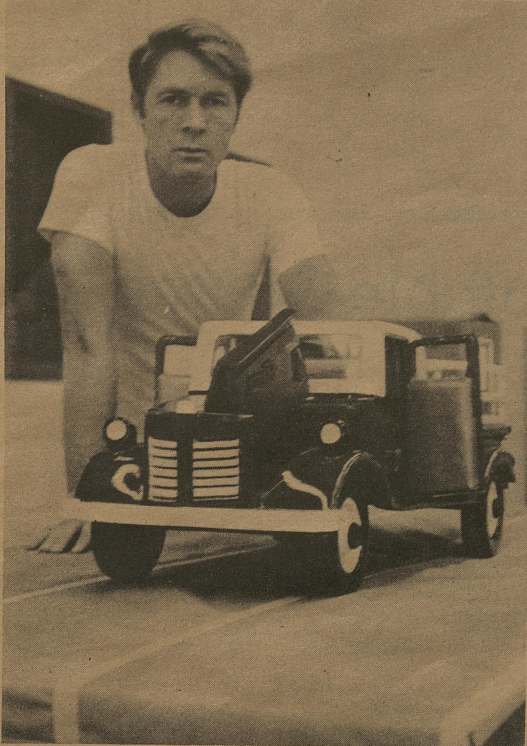
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Earl Cantrell, model truck builder

This model truck was built from Earl Cantrell's memory. It took around 80 hours over a two-month period to build. It is made of scrap metal and acrylic for the windows. All the parts are hand-shaped and welded together. The detail is almost unbelievable. The truck has working hinges on the doors, hood and tailgate. It even has a bed rack and spring shocks on the wheels. Mr. Cantrell is a teacher's aid in La Grange Vocational Auto Body. This is a two-year 2640-hour course that he has completed.

[Photos by Larry Lenston]

A letter to the editor

Editor, Inter-Prison Press

Having been a resident of the Kentucky State Reformatory for the past three years, and having been a participant in the recreation program on a limited basis for those three years, I believe the recreation program here has deteriorated to the point that I must verbalize a few recent frustrations with this program.

On May 15, 1979, the institutional policy on resident-owned tennis rackets and tennis balls was revised to totally disallow any resident from possessing his own personal racket. This reversed a standing policy that allowed a resident to receive on a visit, or purchase from the inmate canteen, a tennis racket for his own use. As a resident owned his own racket, he was, of course, responsible for the upkeep of his racket, grips, strings, etc. This policy seemed to be reasonable for the residents who wanted to be sure they always had a racket to use, and it didn't put a great strain on the institution's budget.

With the present policy, whereby the institution pro-

posed to supply rackets to all residents interested in playing tennis, in a short three months since the policy change, the intramural tennis program has almost ceased to exist. Residents can only use available rackets (at present usable rackets number less than six) during regular working hours (8 a.m., to 3 p.m.) Monday through Friday, and two evenings. I personally think like so many other tennis players that these hours make it impossible to practice except for those two evenings, since I do not adhere to the widely held "country club" opinion of this institution. Also, the condition of the equipment has not been maintained and as stated, there are currently less than six rackets available for play. This rules out the maximum use of the available facilities and the playing of doubles. Because of the lack of rackets the intramural program has been discontinued.

While I am up on my soapbox, I would also like to take a shot at the way the recreation budget is adminis-

tered. Seemingly, the only program out of the gym that warrants good equipment, is the "Varsity Program." In the past two softball seasons, the Varsity team has been outfitted with new uniforms twice, the Varsity basketball team is also afforded new equipment. While the general resident uses worn-out tennis balls for handballs, what amounts to a glorified beach ball on one outside basketball court. A resident can rarely check out an institutional tennis racket with strings, or for practice play, a softball glove with webbing that is in tact.

It seems to me that if the institution recognizes that a good healthy recreation program maintains physically and psychologically healthy residents, it would attempt to spread its recreational budget to a few of the fringe areas where the twenty-five or thirty varsity team players don't usually play.

Sincerely,
W. D. Longest, KSR

On freedom

By Arthur Benge, KSR

As a boy in school, I once read of an Englishman who was cast into prison for owing a trivial amount of taxes. He maintained that he did not owe the taxes and on that principle, he refused to pay it or let it be paid by his relatives.

This took place centuries ago when prison was in the form of a dungeon beneath a castle. The already musky, unhealthy air was worsened by seepage from the surrounding moat. This man subjected himself to frequent abuse and poor food while it was within his power to free himself from it, on a mere principle!

From his dim, musky, underground cell came beautiful poetry, many stories of far-away places, and a quote that I shall remember and stand upon until I die, "Walls and bars do not a prison make."

To me it is a statement that reveals the mind of an individual who truly understood what freedom was. Those eight words tell me that incarceration

merely restricts my physical world and in no way does it imprison me. To imprison me, you would have to program my mind to think of nothing outside the fence of KSR, and I challenge that attempt. My mind is constantly seeking new things to strengthen the old, broadening in its scope, wandering to the ends of the earth and for reaches of outer space. I refuse to allow my being to be imprisoned. Contrary to this, I use my physical restrictions to attain greater freedom of spirit. To capsulize the thought, I LIVE rather than exist, and indeed I wholeheartedly agree that walls and bars do not a prison make!

My name is Arthur Wayne Benge, #79169. I would like to use this paper to request mail from anyone who cares to write. I can also play chess by mail. My address is the above name and number at Box 188, La Grange, Kentucky, 40031, Dorm 6.

Quotable Quotes

By Kenneth Allen, KSR

"When you get something for nothing, you just haven't been billed for it yet."

"The fellow who leans on his family tree never seems to get out of the woods."

"Most of the shadows of this life are caused by standing in our own sunshine."

An opinion

By Arthur Benge, KSR

I am 21, and hail from Rockcastle County, Ky., a rural community. I have been incarcerated since November, 1977, for robbery.

Because I was a confused boy of eighteen when I was arrested, it goes without saying that these past 20 months have been a crash course in maturity. Among my reflections on this formative period are many errors, but I learned nearly as many lessons.

Therefore, from the solemn frame of mind, I accept my incarceration without resentment and strive to make each mistake a valuable lesson. The bottom line is "accept the punishment you asked for and received, thereby setting a frame of mind that will enable you to better yourself."

I do nothing in the way of claiming sainthood. But I am confident that the achievements I have made are very positive ideas that will serve to stabilize my attitudes. I have chosen to make my time serve with as much knowledge in as many areas as possible.

I have set several goals, both long and short term, but I have placed staying out of prison at the top of my wish

respect for the fact that without freedom and self-support none of my other goals, save one, are even remotely possible. This brings me to the actual fork in the road as I now fully understand that I must sacrifice a great deal to accomplish the tasks I have set upon myself. Not to do so, will result in a relapse or backslide into the self-indulgent vices that will lead me back to KSR or a similar institution.

In my opinion, prisons are for the various types who cannot function as an ordinary gear in the clockwork of society and must be removed. Prison does not rehabilitate any one, neither does prison personnel. An individual rehabilitates himself by realizing his position and the desire to change it. To restore our position it is essential that we recognize and respect our fellow man regardless of his color, race or culture. Many people are narrow enough to resent superior qualities another may possess, and such an opinion as breeds prejudice. I feel that prejudice is a pit of quicksand that will eventually engulf society and affect it's end.

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