

Trio of local students working to establish alternative nightclub

by Ron Kuipers

Edmonton's alternative music scene will be getting a much-needed boost come January 13. For some time now, three U of A students, Andy Nuttall, Doug Nuttall, and Laurie Frerich, have been working to establish Edmonton's first regular alternative nightclub.

File 13, as it is called, will operate out of the Park Hotel every Friday beginning January 13, and most Saturdays. One of the club's stated purposes is to give local bands some exposure and a place to play.

The opening-night lineup will feature the bands Rex Morgan, B.C., Cadillac of Worms, and Idyl Tea. On Saturday, January 14, Vociferous will open for Vancouver's Death Sentence. Future lineups include a host of local bands that includes SNFU, Big House, Jr. Gone Wild, and Killing Time. A reuniting of the Canadian version of the Subhumans is also proposed

for February 17.

Advance tickets for all shows will be available at Sound Connection and the hotel lobby. File 13 is also establishing a \$10 membership system. A membership lasts two months and is good for a \$2 discount at each gig. Prices will vary depending on the lineup, but they sound quite reasonable. The opening gig is \$5 for non-members and \$3 for members.

File 13 hopes to become actively involved with the existing machinery of Edmonton's music community. They will work with CJSR FM, who have agreed to interview headlining bands before shows in addition to recording and rebroadcasting old shows.

The club also wants to be active in the greater Edmonton community. In the future, they hope to do some benefit concerts for such causes as the Edmonton Food Bank.

Not since the demise of the old Spartan's Men's Hall have local Edmonton artists been given a regular place in which to perform. Should File 13 become successful, local acts will finally be given a better chance to learn and improve while they perform.

The Park Hotel is located at 8004 - 104 street.

New short story collection aimed at attracting new readers

Mirrorshades:
The Cyberpunk Anthology
Various Authors

review by Dragos Ruiu

Cyberpunk is about satellite rock concerts, Walkmans, and neuro-chemistry. A new short-story collection entitled *Mirrorshades: The Cyberpunk Anthology* aims to introduce new readers to this recent genre.

Mirrorshades tracks the early works of most of the up and coming SF writers of the late eighties. It is a collection of twelve short stories by eleven authors, including William Gibson, Bruce Sterling, Greg Bear and other famous names in the field. Initially published in varying magazines from 1981-86, each story comes from early in the author's career.

None of these authors write exactly like any others. They each have their own brand of bizarreness — but all have been lumped under a cyberpunk banner by publishers.

Some stories are great, and some are merely mediocre — but all the stories are innovative and stylistically 'different'. A few stories, like William Gibson's first published story about what would happen if the early fifties version of the eighties existed, "The Gersback Continuum", are

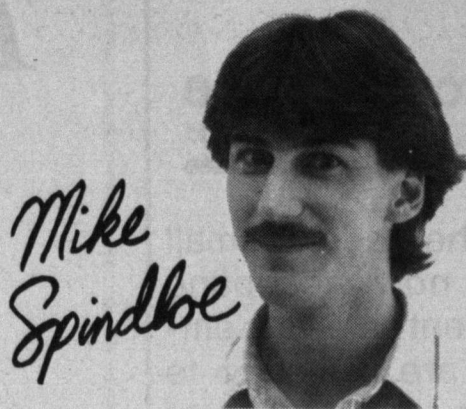
stunning, and portents of greater things to come.

Other stories, like Rudy Rucker's "Tales of Houdini", are so unusual that they defy description, but they still manage to captivate the reader. These short stories are the best medium for deciding if you like the author's work. If you really hate something, the whole book is not a loss — you can simply skip to the next story.

A couple of the stories, like Pat Cardigan's "Rock On", which mostly deals with a time when rock groupies become important in recording the thought impressions of music, make you think, "so what?" Some of the themes have been done before, and thus wear thin.

The majority of these stories, however, make you smile with amusement and wonder at the novel viewpoints presented. This novelty is also the anthology's greatest weakness. Unless the reader is comfortable with unusual ideas or a fan of cyberpunk he will be a bit taken aback by the book.

There is no gentle warm-up, starting with 'normal' stories and going on to the more unusual endeavors. The reader is tossed in to sink or swim, to hate or enjoy the genre. Starting with "The Gersback Continuum's" flying wings filled with arians and Nazi Love Motel, the reader is then immersed in Tom Maddox's "Snake



At the beginning of last term I promised to *try* to produce a column every two weeks. Well, that didn't quite work; not because I had nothing to say, but because there was no time to say it!

Being a *Gateway* editor is virtually a full-time job (which pays part-time money). Add to that a program of four demanding music courses and you have a sure-fire recipe for perpetual exhaustion. Not that I'm complaining, because it was all a challenge and an interesting and rewarding one at that. I still feel rather privileged to be able to do *two* things that I love and avoid having what I used to call a real job. Now I realize that any job is a real job, and if it doesn't feel like one, well, that's all the better.

Trying to fit a seemingly endless stream of work and study into a sadly fixed number of hours in the day was an educational experience in itself, but not without some drawbacks.

For instance, my customary punctuality has given way to perpetual lateness. It's not really serious, I suppose; it's just that I seem to be ten minutes late for *everything* these days. Around *The Gateway* that doesn't matter so much because things are usually pretty casual, but try walking into a saxophone quartet rehearsal late and you'll know the true meaning of the words "icy glare."

My old (former?) friends have also gotten used to the sight of me running frantically back and forth between SUB and the Fine Arts Building while ranting fruitlessly about the ten zillion things I had to have done by yesterday. As for new friends, I haven't had time to make

many. (What was your name again?)

Thus I have made only a single New Year's resolution: to slow down and savour more fully the wonderful experiences this year has presented to me, so that in five years time I'll remember more than the seemingly perpetual electronic beep of my obnoxious alarm clock.

This will be easier said than done without sacrificing some aspect of my frenzied existence (deleting more sleep is out of the question). Maybe I could skip doing mundane things like washing the dishes completely, although that would probably merely further test the already well-tried patience of my long-suffering roommate. Perhaps the answer is to skip bathing; that might work for a week or so.

Maybe the loyal *Gateway* entertainment volunteers can help. From now on,

Bonus points will be awarded for words containing over five syllables.

ladies and gentlemen, the maximum number of adjectives allowed to modify a noun will be raised from three to six. This will serve two purposes: it will not only fulfill all of your barely suppressed latent pretentious artsy literary composition journalistic long-winded desires, but it will also take up a lot of space (sort of like this column). Bonus points will be awarded for words containing over five syllables.

Finally, in all seriousness, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped over the past four months to make this section of the paper one that both you and I can be proud of (OK, break out the shovels...). This includes most of my editorial colleagues, who have written a hell of a lot more for my section than I have for theirs. But they only did it for the free tickets anyway, so we're even.

Best wishes to our readers (all 10 of them) for 1989!

Eyes" — a confusing tale of mind-linked hallucinating fighter-jocks and devious artificial intelligences.

Then the reader is thrown into the second best story in the book, James Patrick Kelly's "Solstice". It is a tale of what would happen if Frank Zappa were a biologist, in a time of custom recreational drugs and Stonehenge festivals. Wonderful weirdness...

The piece-de-resistance, however, comes close to the end of the book and is a

masterful collaboration between William Gibson and Bruce Serling (the anthology editor) named "Red Star, Winter Orbit". It deals with what happens when the Russians abandon their space program — leaving a state hero behind, because his heart has atrophied in space to the point where he could never return to Earth. It is poignant, touching, and full of life — possibly one of the best short stories ever written, a rival for Asimov's "Nightfall"

Joe Bob says, check this book out.

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