

## ARTS

## Whack Napalm with a Bun

by Suzanne Kennedy

*Offensive Lines*Written by David S. Craig  
Performed at the Poor Alex Theatre

If you're tired of the same old cotton-candy theatre you've been

seeing in Toronto, *Offensive Lines* is an invigorating and exciting change of pace.

The star of the one man show is Napalm, a three-foot high "freak" whose main goals in life are "raising hell and making money", while he works as a tout at the racetrack.

*Offensive Lines* was originally seen in Toronto two years ago, and is back for a second, revised run at the Poor Alex Theatre, Oct. 11 to Nov. 4.*Offensive Lines* is a complete turn around for writer and performer David S. Craig, whose previous credits include a number of children's theatre awards, and the longest running children's show in Canada *Journey For Amu*.*Offensive Lines* is a nasty, disturbing and hysterical black comedy, in which Napalm rails against everything in today's society from puppies to yuppies to religion, and anything in between. It's a verbal slap in the face, and a great reality check. It leaves you laughing at yourself, and doing a

lot of thinking at the same time.

It also introduces the audience to the Medieval theatrical tradition of buffoonery, in which the outcasts of the village would come in once a year and perform a satire for and about their oppressors.

Craig's Napalm takes buffoonery to its maximum, but never beyond it. He has an intuitive knowledge of when he might be going too far, and when to make the audience laugh over their own inadequacies.

An added bonus to this play is the audience participation in the form of Bun Throwing! The audience can purchase buns in the lobby, (50 cents each or 3 for a loony), which can be whipped at Napalm anytime you feel he has

gone too far (which was frequently the case for some).

*Offensive Lines* is a show that should not be missed. It is a unique and unusual form of theatre which you may never get the chance to see again. I recommend it to all York students. There's a lot to relate to. There is also a great many offensive lines, so don't bring grandma, unless she's into that kind of thing.*Offensive Lines* is presented by Theatre Beyond Words and David S. Craig. It's directed by Robin Patterson and designed by Dora award winner Dorian Clark.

The play travels to Edmonton in January. For now it's at the Poor Alex Theatre, 296 Brunswick Ave. Box office 927-8998.

## Mongo plays Conga



by Josh Rubin

Fans of Latin jazz got a big treat last month when Cuban born conga great Mongo Santamaria rolled into town for six nights at the Bermuda Onion.

The ever-smiling Mongo, who along with Dizzy Gillespie, Tito Fuente and Mario Balsa brought Latin music to the North American spotlight, has once again managed to surround himself with some of the hottest players on the jazz scene.

A band which includes pianist Eddy Martinez, drummer John Andrews, saxophonist Bob Porcelli, bassist Bernie Minoso, trumpeter Ray Vega, percussionist Edwin Rodriguez, and flutist Mitch Frohman, brought a big piece of South America to the Onion.

While the band behind him was stellar, it would be simplifying things to say that they weren't overshadowed by Mongo.

Mongo showed a virtuosity that hasn't been seen on the Toronto

scene for quite some time. I got the feeling though, that much of the upscale crowd were more appreciative of the fine food and decor than the music.

Although the band plays exclusively Latin-based music these days, Mongo doesn't see that as a limitation: "We wanted to do something that is more current."

"It's basically the band's style, even though we can all play other things," said Vega, whose soul-searing trumpet solos were one feature of the rest of the talent-rich band.

Minoso added that, "Playing with Mongo is like going to school... you learn something different every day."

While the band seemed to be having a good time on stage, it was the flamboyant Minoso who was the most energetic.

Mongo's performance proved that after all these years he still has the knack, both, for spectacularly energetic conga playing and surrounding himself with equally spectacular musicians.

## Anthrax is a pile of stinking sheep

by Chris Wodskou

**Anthrax***Persistence of Time*  
Island

Woebetide those unfortunate husbandmen whose paths cross with anthrax, an infectious livestock disease that can turn a flock of sheep into four tons of deadstock overnight.

The very word, Anthrax, is redolent of apocalypse, pestilence, and our inevitable date with mortality. As a name for a metal band, it carries a much more profound threat than, say, Accept, Assault,

Venom, or any number of other insipid one-word-name heavy metal bands gadding about in their spandex and hairspray.

That threat, at least early in their career, was carried out with a sometimes vicious rap-metal attack, typified by *I'm The Man*, that made The Beastie Boys look like New Kids wannabees and even earned kudos from Public Enemy in *Bring The Noise*.

But while rap-funk-metal crossovers Red Hot Chili Peppers, Urban Dance Squad, et al, have asserted themselves as the most

vital sound of the 1990s thus far: Anthrax's allegiance, on *Persistence of Time* has shifted toward the mangy speed-metal hordes of Metallica, Megadeth and Slayer.

The band falls prey to the prototypical pitfalls of the genre: overly long, aimless, tuneless songs that take their cue from such progressive rock abominations as Uriah Heep, as much as anything emerging from hardcore or metal; nondescript vocals a little too reminiscent of Metallica, Megadeth, or any number of the clipped, hoarse chanting school of singing; unvarying rhythms with all the percussive complexity of a fast, loud metronome; and about twenty-five quality minutes out of the fifty minutes of music — usually the first twenty-five, by which the point has been pretty much bludgeoned home with a decidedly unsubtle force.

Some of those twenty-five minutes, though, are genuinely fine moments, particularly a frazzled reworking of Joe Jackson's "Got The Time" and the truly brain-numbing Gridlock, and at their best, Anthrax can still attain an approximation of Nonesuch's intense and relentless, but unpredictable rhythmic drive and lyrics. The big difference is that in Anthrax's case, the lyrics are more strident in written form than recorded.

Ultimately, many breasts are beaten, and many ears are left bleeding, but the threats are mostly empty.

compiled by Trevor Campbell

The I.D.A. Gallery, in the Fine Arts Building, Phase 2, presents the *8th Annual Aid to the Arts of Nicaragua*, from Oct. 29 to Nov. 2The Society of Estonian Artist's *35th Anniversary Juried Art Exhibition*, presents a wide array of visual arts at the Samuel J. Zack's Gallery until Oct. 31.York University presentation of *Five Decades of Mexican Film* at the Nat Taylor Cinema, N102 Ross, cul-minates tonight at 8pm, with *Vidas Errantes*, by Juan Antonio de la Riva.YFS/FEY's *Reel and Screen*, 1990/91, presents relatively recent mainstream films every Friday and Saturday, at 7 and 9pm, in the Curtis E. screening room. This weekend's movies, feature Richard Gere doing his thing in *Pretty Woman* and *Officer and a Gentleman* on the 2nd and 3rd. Price of admission is \$5.50, for two, or \$2.50 for one.From Nov. 6 to the 10th, Theatre York presents *Zastorozzi*, in the Studio Theatre, Fine Arts Bldg, Phase 3. Curtain time is 7pm and admission is \$8, \$6 for seniors and students. Wheelchair access/seating is available.*Structure and Mechanic, Mechanic Organic*, by Reinhard Reitzenstein, continues at Glendon Gallery until Nov. 1.Every Monday at 5pm, the Creative Writing Dept. has its *Creative Collective Poetry Readings* in the Vanier Senior Common Room.

## STUDY IN FRANCE



Students can enjoy a unique opportunity to earn university credits toward a Canadian B.A. while studying in the south of France near Nice. The Université canadienne en France offers studies in Humanities, Social Sciences

and French and English language courses to students who have the equivalent of one year of university studies.

Students may qualify for Federal/Provincial student assistance programs (loans and bursaries).

For information, call or write:

## UNIVERSITÉ CANADIENNE EN FRANCE

Laurentian University, Ramsey Lake Road, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 2C6. (705) 673-6513, Ontario (800) 461-4030 or UCF, 68 Scollard Street, Toronto, Ontario M5R 1G2 (416) 964-2569, Ontario (800) 387-5603, Canada (800) 387-1387.

Laurentian University  
Université Laurentienne  
Blyth & CompanyInformation Session  
York University  
Mon., Nov. 5, 1990 at 1 p.m.  
Senate Chambers  
Ross Building - Room S915

## Skinny Puppy



## Contest

Doom gloomer Kevin Key's band name before he skinned the puppy will get you a pair of tix to see him Sun. Nov. 11 at the Concert Hall courtesy of Excalibur and C.P.I.

Come in to Excal Room 111 Central Square to answer the question