

# Entertainment

Splurge guns vs. custard pies

## Bugsy Malone casts kids in gangster role

By BELINDA SILBERMAN

If at the Movie Awards Night this year, all the Oscars are picked up by children, there would be only one explanation. Bugsy Malone.

Using an all kid cast this musical has the "zest" and "razamataz" of any adult film, plus.

The story is a spoof on the 1930 gangster movies. There are two gangs, Fat Sam's and Dandy Dan's. In traditional Mafia style, Dandy Dan (Martin Lev), begins to take over Fat Sam's enterprises, by first breaking into his Speakeasy and "gunning" the customers.

But there is a catch. Bullets are not used. Instead, all the people are horribly mangled with . . . whipped cream.

Fat Sam (John Cassisi), not possessing such an advanced weapon as the "Splurge Gun" has



to fight back with his old fashioned custard pies. The result is clear. Fat Sam begins to lose everything he controls.

Meanwhile there are other people with problems too. There is Blousey (Florrie Dugger) who is trying to work her way up to Hollywood and

the big time movies.

There is Fizzi ("Humpty" Albin Jenkins) the black Speakeasy cleaner, who is trying to get a part in Fat Sam's Speakeasy Show..

And of course there is the star, Bugsy Malone (Scott Baio) who, still trying to earn a few bucks, is

always prepared to lend a sympathetic ear to a lady or gentleman in distress.

The most memorable character, Tallulah, Fat Sam's cool and sexy girlfriend, is portrayed by Jodie Foster. Jodie's performance is so superb that one cannot believe that she is only 13 years old. Appearing recently in the movie Taxi Driver as a teenage prostitute, and having made nine other successful motion pictures (as well as the T.V. series of Paper Moon), this young actress is well on her way to international stardom.

For many of the performers it was their first time in a professional production, let alone motion picture.

For one actor, 9-year-old, "Humpty" Albin Jenkins (Fizzy) it was the first time he had left Harlem, New York, to make a film and visit England. To complicate matters even further, Humpty had to be taught how to read, so that he could read the film script.

Even for Scott Baio, the star of the movie, who was "picked out of

literally thousands of would-be "Bugsy's", this was his first film.

All in all though, Bugsy Malone may well be a milestone in motion picture history. To have an entire child cast playing adult parts has to be somewhat original.

Not only that, but the movie isn't only reserved for children. Youth and adults in their second childhood can laugh along with the film. It's a movie that breaks all traditional boundaries, yet arrives scandalously and hilariously on top!

## York student theatre next week

By JAMES BRENNAN

You don't need to believe in flying saucers and magic pianos to enjoy the fourth year theatre students' production of Salad Days playing November 22 to 26 in McLaughlin Dining Hall. But prepare to be impressed.

Salad Days is a musical involving two young university graduates, Timothy and Jane, who, looking for something to do, agree to take care of a piano which belongs to a tramp. The piano does strange things to all

who listen to it.

Salad Days, written by Dorothy Reynolds and Julian Slade, is a sparkling yet romantic product of early 1950's English gaiety and promise. The production has a 1930's Art Deco flavour. Design student Suzanne Hodson devised a beautiful Hyde Park set in Art Deco style.

A fourth year music student at the U of T, Chrys Bently, agreed to devote weeks of his time to the production.

Being a moving stock show, Salad Days is not an elaborate produc-

tion. But it is refreshingly cheerful, and definitely something to see.

## Cheap Shots

Soon after having moved to their new offices in 225 Founders, the folk who proudly produce "direction:" will be releasing the new issue of the literary-graphics journal Friday at 8:30 in the Founders Senior Common Room. Special guest is Jackie d'Amboise, who will be performing some of her work. Admission price is either the purchase of the new issue (\$1.50) or a two-issue subscription (\$2.25).

IN TOWN . . . the Toronto Dance Festival opens this week with a benefit Tuesday night, before the regular run Wednesday through Sundays, 'till Dec. 19 . . . a play by Trevor Griffiths dissects modern comic art. Called Comedians, it opens Wednesday at the St. Lawrence Centre, and runs to Dec. 18 . . . a THURSDAYS tonight, CLH-L at 7, an evening of Animation, including Red Hot Riding Hood. . . Monday, the combined forces of Stong, the English Dept., and Fine Arts faculty present The Red Badge of Courage Monday at 7:30 in 112 Stong . . . next week at the IDA Gallery, graphics and drawings by Pat Neal . . . flying saucers in T.O.? It's a film, called Alien Encounter, being shot at Ontario Place and the Science Centre, our town's own Sci-fi structures . . . from Wednesday to Dec. 4, the Ryerson Theatre Company presents "The Me Nobody Knows", a musical based on the writings of ghetto children . . . Phoebe Snow does two shows at Convocation Hall, Sunday at 6 & 9 . . . starting Saturday, the NDWT Co. presents "Baldoon", a thriller "stranger than fiction", at the Bathurst St. Theatre (25 Lennox St.) . . . sponsored by U of T SAC, Ken Tobias, Shirley Eikhard, and Ron Nigrini appear in concert at Convocation Hall tomorrow night. . . Nov. 18-20 & 23-27, Hart House at U of T presents two farces, Moliere's "The Mock Doctor", and Bodhayana's "The Yogi and the Courtesan" . . . Music at St. Lawrence Centre tonight; Alberta pianist John Hendrickson performs Albeniz, Chopin, Liszt, and others . . . two showings Sunday afternoon of Visconti's Sonso, at the AG of O . . . Tuesday, 4 to midnight, live jazz at Sylvester's . . .

E.L.

## Interaction plays Mac

By D. W. CHODIKOFF

Last Friday night at the Mac Pub a group known as Interaction demonstrated their talents as a "roggressive rock band". Prior promotion led everyone to believe that the band would be of exceptional calibre. However, to the dismay of the disco oriented audience such was not the case.

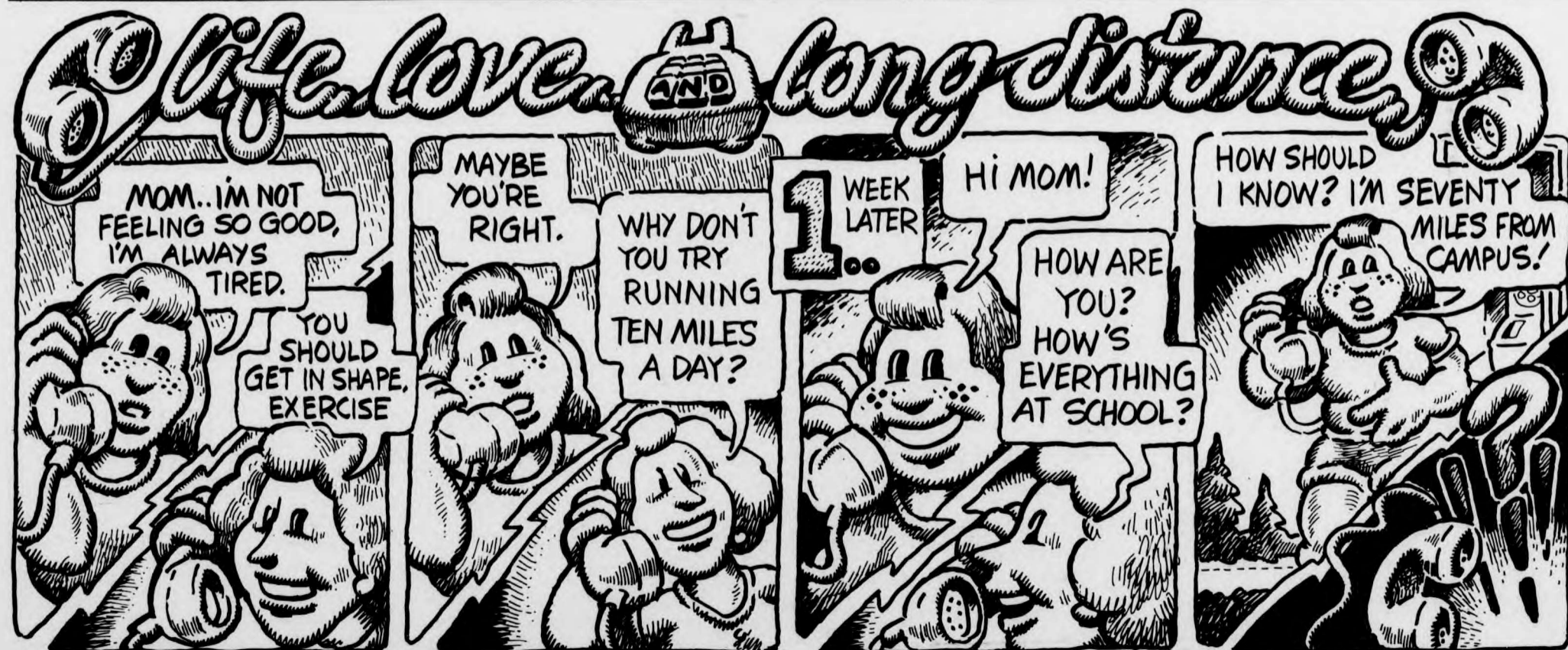
As individuals they demonstrated their more than capable musicianship. As a rock band they lack stage presence.

The three man group consisting of electric bass (Gerry Graf), drums (Ryszard Josefacki), and guitar (Neil J. Barratt), doused the audience with a repetitive sam-

pling of old and new hard rock numbers. The highly publicized "Jazz flavor" was confined to the single tune "Summertime". In all it was a disappointing performance.

The bassist was very subtle and unassuming on stage. In fact, he was the most progressive element in the band. The drummer was competent and provided a solid base on which the guitarist could play his instrument but, his movements seemed forced. Talent they had: polish they lacked.

It was unfortunate that the Mac Pub's first venture into live entertainment was such a letdown. Hopefully this will be the exception and not the rule.



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