

ARISE VIEW
an overview of the Vegas scene

Well, there used to be this band in Vegas called Papered Skin. They had five members and did quite well for themselves. They even won the 2nd annual Vegas Battle of the Bands (a competition that featured Vegas' finest). Then, they broke up. Arising like a Phoenix from Papered Skin's ashes is Professor Punn, featuring Devin Ruesch, lead vocals and guitar, Adam Gunn, percussion, and Kenneth Washington, bass.

While we watched Washington get a tattoo on his right shoulder, we spoke about the new direction the ex-Skins were taking and the story behind its break-up.

It was "like a 9-volt battery that went dead," says Ruesch. "It needs to be recharged at a later date." The three members of Professor Punn agree that there isn't much difference between the two bands. Ruesch writes most of the lyrics, and their sound is a lot faster and heavier. "There's a more creative output," says Washington. "This band is different with its own sound," adds Gunn.

Professor Punn plan to record a few tracks in the next couple of weeks. "We're going full force," says Gunn by playing and practicing five nights a week. Musically they have punk influences, but Professor Punn also plays a few slower songs and even break into reggae and jazz at times. With Ruesch improvising on the lyrics, you just can't know what to expect.

At this time, the band has 20 original songs. One song under their previous name landed on the Vegas local's CD, *Free Aspirin and Tender Sympathy - the Vegas Underground* (their song is called "Hollowed Me"). The album features fifteen of Vegas' best bands (Volume 2 is in the works) and is available exclusively at Underground Records.

Unusual things have even happened at their shows. At a recent Guitar Wars, Ruesch lost three guitar strings and continued the entire show after the third song. That's showmanship for you! The members of Professor Punn are very happy with the current line-up. They feel that they are doing even better with three people than they did with five.

When I asked Gunn to tell me about the band, I should have noticed the fast food bag at his feet. "The band is like a hamburger. Not too cheesy. Not a lot of pork, and you don't need a fork or knife." I guess that means that they are All-American and greasy.

Well, they have a few shows coming up. There was one scheduled for this Sunday, but they made a mistake and got involved with a station other than KUNV. Another band was booked and Professor Punn wasn't even notified. Live and learn!

These Professor Punn dates are solid: October 16- Sneakers October 23- Favorites

MSU courtyard gets jazzed
by !Variety! Editor Jonathan Weber

"I'm not standard jazz, I'm not standard pop, I'm not standard blues, and I'm not standard rock. I combine them all into what I call 'Ghalib Ghallab' music," the Chicago jazz singer/pianist said. Ghallab brings his jazz thang to the MSU courtyard this evening from 8 to 11 p.m., which will include food



THE REBEL YELL sold by various student organizations and a cash bar. Spectators are invited to bring lawn chairs and other picknicking implements. This music/food festival is open to the public, and is sponsored by UNLV student government.

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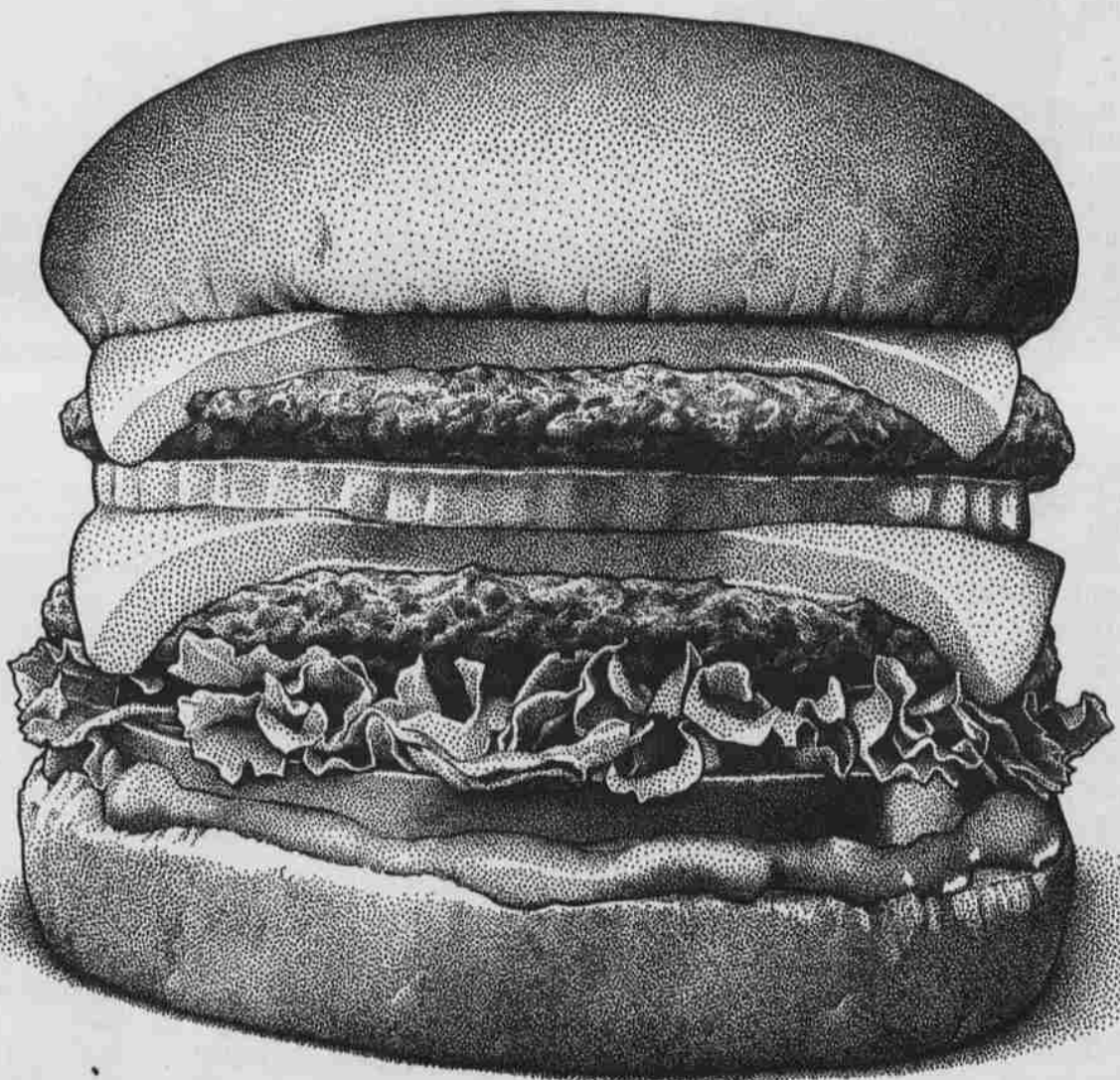


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