

Cambodian Capital: A Quiet Town

Resonance by Steve Grayson

A&M really has its stuff together. This weekend G. Rollie White Coliseum will turn into a giant time machine and transport all the Aggies it can hold back to the year 1957. So who spoke last night to set the proper mood? Why Rod Serling, of course.

Actually G. Rollie won't really turn into a time machine. But, almost as good, Flash Cadillac and the Continental Kids are going to roll in with more slick hair, black leather jackets, and rock 'n roll than 1957 ever had. Flash Cadillac is pushing Sha-Na-Na for the number one 50s band in America and from the looks of things, they may have already made it.

Its choreography is said to be over half the show. Last week I talked to a guy who saw Flash and the Kids a year ago. He said that even without music their show was worth the ticket price. Flash does have an album out, however.

The first time I listened to it I figured that its show would have to be more exciting than the "Ben Hur" chariot race to make up for the audible portion.

After my first round with that piece of greasy junk, I felt like I had to wash my hair immediately or I'd crack. So I turned it off, walked over to the 7-11, came back and put it on again. It was a little better then, at least I could set my plastic trash can down. So I went back to the 7-11 and then flipped it over to side two.

Surprisingly, their stuff was actually listenable. Once more across the street and then I hit my ears full blast with "Teenage Eyes." Wow! Flash Cadillac is great. I even like the real neat pics on the back of the album; what tuff looking guys. There's even a note from Annette Funicello on it. (You remember Annette, the mouseketeer who was kicked out of the Mickey Mouse Club when she couldn't get in her sweatshirt anymore.) And, zowie, the album also has a new version of "Pipeline" on it! Too much! And some times they even sing in harmony!

How did I learn to appreciate the Continental Kids so much? By putting away three six-packs, that's how. It's the only way to do it. They're already coming, we can't change that. So if you want to enjoy the show, you have to go half-smashed. The trick is that it has to be on beer. Remember, this is A&M, not t.u.

One must realize that Flash Cadillac and the Continental Kids

have a limited audience, their type of music isn't for everyone. To see if you are capable of appreciating their stuff, try saying rapidly, "Be-bop-ba-boola-round-the clock." If you couldn't do it, then fine, you qualify. But if you said the whole thing, with mistakes or less, you're too sober to be a real Flash fan. Fortunately, it is a fault easily remedied. One trip to the 7-11 should do it.

PHNOM PENH (AP) — Anyone expecting to see Cambodia's capital down on its knees finds instead a quiet little town slumbering under the blistering Cambodian sun.

Some Phnom Penh residents still visit the Cafe de Paris and other fine restaurants to sip imported beer or wine and slice into filet mignon.

At the other end of the gastronomic scale, rice supplies are adequate and government control keeps the price in line, despite

stories reporting the capital suffering from shortage, with Communist-led forces practically at its gates.

Enemy troops are in fact close to the city. Native Khmer Rouge rebels, aided by the North Vietnamese and Viet Cong, have put on their biggest military campaign against the Phnom Penh government in Cambodia's three-year-old war.

Every night and into the early morning hours, houses rattle from the force of bombs dropped

by U.S. B52 bombers as close as 14 miles from the capital.

American air support, military experts agree, is the only thing keeping the government from total military collapse.

Since the offensive began in late January, the Communists have blockaded traffic along the Mekong River, Cambodia's major supply line, and on every major highway leading into Phnom Penh.

These blockades have caused the capital's reserves of aviation,

motor, cooking and lighting fuel to recede almost to the bottom of the storage tanks, whose capacity is good at best for six or seven weeks.

For the last few weeks the government has been forcing filling stations to ration gasoline.

For cooking, some Cambodians have turned to charcoal or wood instead of kerosene and naphtha.

While rationing has been an inconvenience for motorists, the shortage never has reached the point where people had to aban-

don their cars on the road, lack of fuel. The arrival of oil tankers Sunday and Monday on the Mekong has eased the situation and Tuesday a fuel lift into Phnom Penh's Phnom Penh airport began.

The fuel shortage has not affected the electric power supply.

Food remains in abundance in the city's markets. Prices have risen steeply in the last few months—not because of shortages but because of Cambodia's runaway inflation.

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