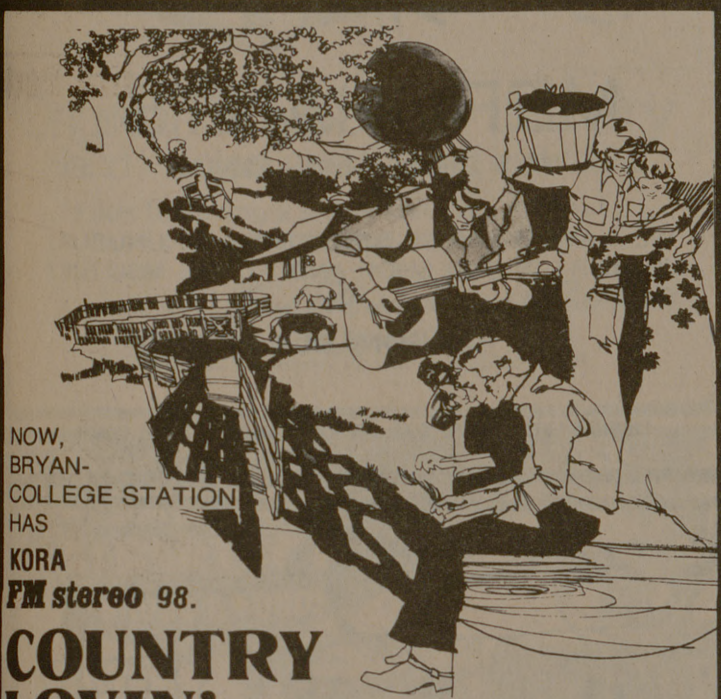


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Nutcracker Suite it ain't Pennsylvania Ballet performs on campus

By B. J. STRODE
Battalion Staff Reviewer

The Pennsylvania Ballet got off to a bland start Tuesday night with a tradition, but lacking in magic.

The music, "Raymonda" by Alexander Glazounov, was especially unexciting. Although the dancers performed well, they had none of the electricity that makes the stage come alive. The costumes were ordinary and the choreography, George Balanchine notwithstanding, was unimpressive. There were even a few missteps.

After a morose intermission, I returned to the line of scrimmage and promptly had my mind blown.

The second selection, with music by Beethoven and choreography by Hans van Manen, was the antithesis

of the first. It had excitement, passion and power.

The lights were ice blue and the costumes stark. The men were stripped to the waist and wore long black skirts — yes, skirts — which they removed as the dance progressed, leaving only their short black briefs. The women wore plain flesh-toned tights and leotards and no points.

There was some very interesting use of hands and feet in what appeared to be a mating dance. The four couples in the piece danced with vitality and strength. The music, costumes, and movements were erotic and sensuous. Altogether a delightful selection.

Back to the lobby. I spent the second intermission wondering how they would follow an act like that

The third selection couldn't possibly approach the beauty of the second.

It did. The final piece, choreographed by Robert Rodham, was accompanied by a Benjamin Britten score. It was the only selection to tell a story in a fashion.

A good dancer must be an actor also, in this type of performance, and the eleven danseuses were no disappointment. The "leading man" was especially effective in this respect.

The costumes were varied and enhanced the tone and mood of the dance. There was a beautiful old chandelier which added a nice touch, but the painted backdrop became totally irrelevant as the movement began.

Lawrence Rhodes, as the confused and growing young man, turned in an exceptional performance. Besides being technically polished, he had the fire and life of an artist. It was a beautiful and moving performance on all counts.

Classical ballet, with its stereotypical costumes, make-up and movements, need not be uninteresting. The first selection failed, not because of the form, but on its own merits. The last two selections, by the same token, succeeded because they are good, not because they are more modern.

The Pennsylvania Ballet is a company of talented people who should avoid vehicles that drain their vitality.

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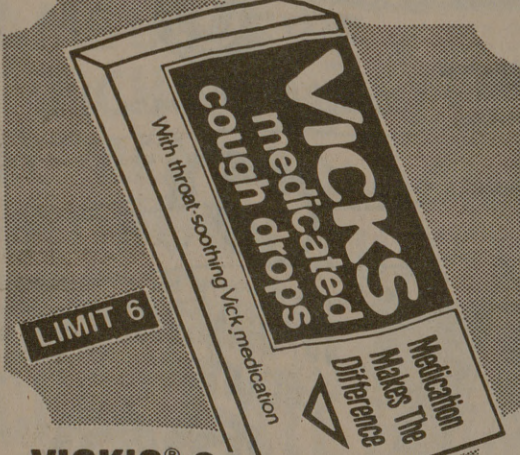
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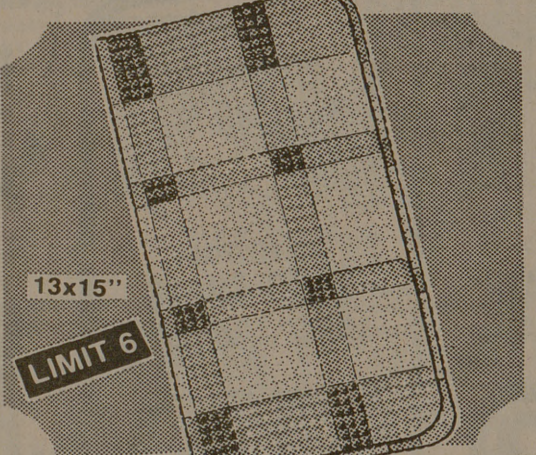
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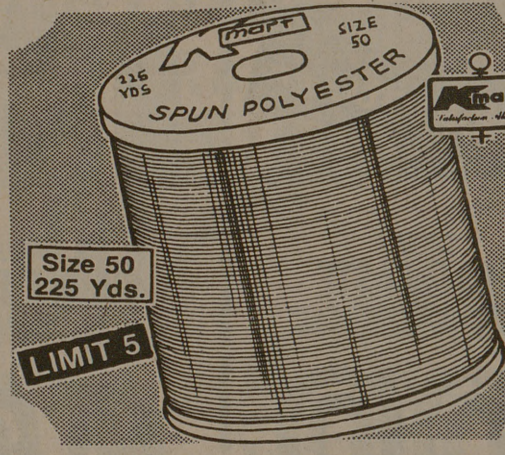
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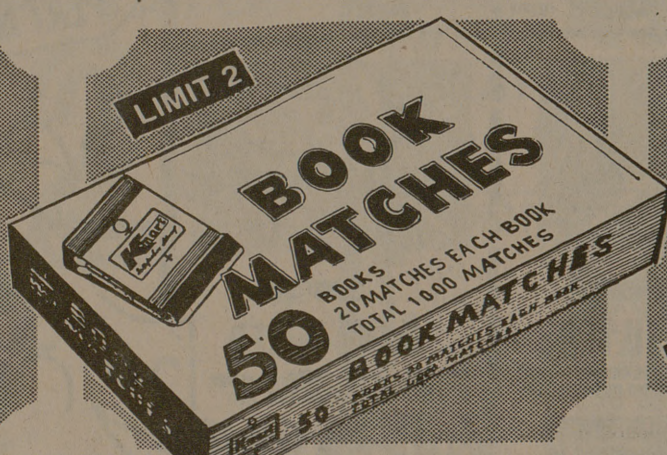
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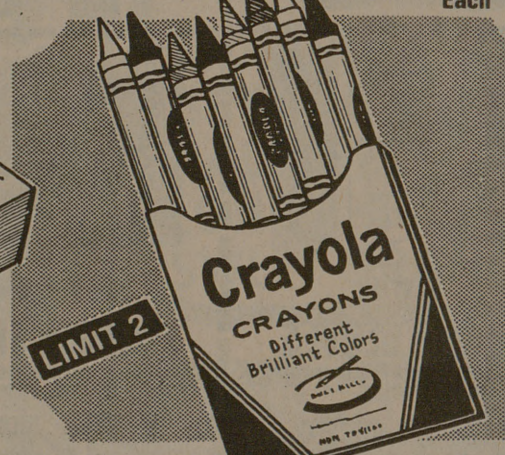
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Rockefeller chairs Austin policy forum

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Tex. — Vice-President Rockefeller has returned to Washington after being heckled by a handful of demonstrators and receiving a briefcase full of recommendations from influential Texans and other Southwesterners.

The message, in essence, was cut federal red tape, send money and make decisions.

The domestic policy forum was one of six designed to give President Ford material for his state of the union message.

Dr. Roger B. Bost, associate dean of the University of Arkansas Medical School, criticized the "inflexibility" of federal social and health programs.

"For example, state agencies commonly find that federal funds can be used for institutional care, but will provide very limited or no support for alternative care. This simply encourages the states to overutilize and abuse institutional care, and in response, the federal government imposes a whole new set of costly regulations on utilization review," Bost said.

Dr. William H. Stewart, commissioner of the Louisiana Health and Human Resources Administration, told the same section on social policy that federal action is needed to protect families that have reached the limits of what health insurance will pay.

"This is becoming more important as we are able to keep people alive almost indefinitely," Stewart said. He suggested some kind of "limitation on liability. I almost am talking about a means test. And I don't like means tests."

O. A. Lively, president of the Luminator Division of Gulton Industries in Plano, griped at the economic recovery forum about equal employment opportunity requirements.

"We find it very difficult to locate qualified minorities to fill salaried, and particularly, management positions. We do not feel we should be required to hire a minority worker who possesses minimum qualifications which forces us to train him to a more desirable level. In our opinion, affirmative action should be

working to assure that minority workers receive a proper education vocational or otherwise so that they, in fact, could compete for jobs on a best qualified basis," Lively said.

Rockefeller left after presiding over the morning session and having lunch at the governor's mansion with Gov. Dolph Briscoe and other top state officials.

He told a news conference that he could "foresee no circumstances" under which he would seek the Republican presidential nomination. He said he would not be interested in an ambassadorship or the secretary of state's job after he leaves the vice-presidency in January 1977.

During the morning's public testimony, Rockefeller recognized Lori Hansel, who had been passing out anti-Rockefeller leaflets and bearing a sign that said, "Remember Attica."

She read a resolution opposing his visit to Austin, which her group had been unable to get through the city council.

When Rockefeller thanked the council after her speech, a man shouted, "They were gutless just like you are."

"It is tremendously important that we do not fear freedom of speech," Rockefeller said.

Afternoon sessions centered on energy, transportation, social services and economic recovery.

T. L. Austin Jr., board chairman of Texas Utilities, and Charles L. Steel, vice-president of Arkansas Power & Light Co., both told Interior Secretary Thomas Kleppe the federal government could do more to encourage the use of coal and nuclear power.

"In my opinion, this democracy is doomed if we keep debating and don't make decisions," Austin, of Dallas, said.

Meisen on U.S. design

The American people's inactive way of life causes poor building design, said Walter A. Meisen, Friday.

Meisen, acting commissioner of the public building service of the GSA, addressed the topics of who designs America, and government's responsibility to design.

More by our inaction, said Meisen, than by our action, does all America design America. He added that good design is worthless in the United States because no value is assigned to it.

"The federal government's responsibility is to create an atmosphere in which good design can thrive," said Meisen.

Things should be questioned, Meisen said, and all sides of the question considered. "People need to be conscious of what good design does and good design has monetary and esthetic value."

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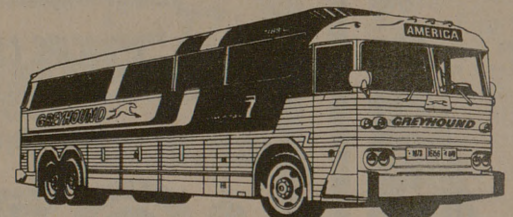
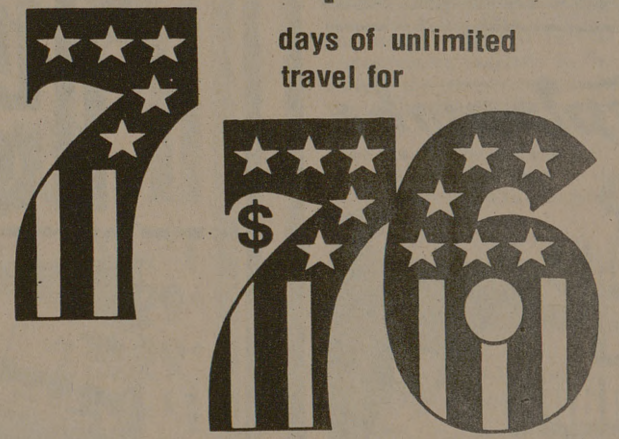
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