

# AGGIE life

## The Last Curtain Call

Freudian Slip members perform last shows

By Amy Collier  
THE BATTALION

**D**uring a performance at the Big Stinkin' International Improv Festival in Austin last week, Jeff "Jethro" Nolen and Dámaso Rodriguez, members of the improvisational comedy troupe Freudian Slip, had to deal with an unexpected surprise.

The troupe, originally called The Improvisational Comedy Troupe sponsored by the Aggie Players, eventually began to perform in Rumours Coffee Haus and Deli for free.

The shows rose in popularity, and the troupe eventually changed its name to Freudian Slip.

Freudian Slip became so popular that it was forced to move to Rudder Forum, and eventually, it moved to Rudder Theatre and began to charge admission for its shows.

"When we started charging," Nolen said, "we realized we had an obligation to ensure the quality of our shows."

To improve the quality of its shows, Freudian Slip traveled to Chicago twice to study at Del Close and Charna Halpern's Improv Olympic Theater.

Close and Halpern wrote "Truth in Comedy," a book considered to be the Bible of improvisational comedy, and they have also coached actors Bill Murray and Chris Farley and actress Gilda Radner.

**"What I got out of college was Freudian Slip. Freudian Slip was my major."**

— JEFF "JETHRO" NOLEN  
member of Freudian Slip

It was in the windy city that the members learned a new type of improv.

"Over the years, we've transformed from short-form, game-oriented improv to long-form, complex structures," Nolen said.

The members have worked on long-form improv so much (they rehearse nine hours a week) that when they attended the improv festival last week, they were highly acclaimed by people such as *Saturday Night Live's* David Koechner and Gary Austin, acting coach for Helen Hunt and Harrison Ford.

Pargac said the group was flattered to be commended at the festival. He said it has taken a lot of hard work to reach such recognition.

"We're perfectionists," Pargac said. "Even when we think we've had a bad show, the audience still loves it."

Pargac said people do not understand why the members of Freudian Slip spend so many hours rehearsing.

"It's not something we mind doing because we love it so much," he said.

Nolen said the troupe could have never done well in Bryan-College Station if it were not for its audience.

"I'm really pleased that something like Freudian Slip could succeed in Bryan-College Station — a community not known for its support of the arts," Nolen said. "We couldn't do it without the support of the students."

Most of the graduating members of Freudian Slip plan to move to Chicago to continue improv comedy.

"Chicago is the center of improv," Nolen said. "It is where improv started. What we made at A&M is not something that's going to just end on May 4th."

He said he does not care about the degree he is receiving from A&M.

"What I got out of college was Freudian Slip," Nolen said. "Freudian Slip was my major."



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Freudian Slip is performing tonight and tomorrow night at 9.

### Entertainment GLANCE

#### Reynolds may lose home to debt

STUART, Fla. (AP) — Burt Reynolds kept his waterfront home when he and Loni Anderson divorced two years ago.

But now he could lose it to the bank. Bankers Trust Co. of California filed for foreclosure Tuesday.

Reynolds' spokesman Joe Sutton said he would be resolved within days.

Shakur's sex abuse conviction upheld

NEW YORK (AP) — A judge refused to throw out the sex abuse convictions of rapper Tupac Shakur instead of a police officer on the case.

A defense attorney claimed that the 30-day suspension would not allow the defense to challenge his credibility.

But State Supreme Court Justice Daniel Fitzgerald, who presided at the trial, said the officer was a witness and his suspension for adultery misconduct was not relevant to his case.

Shakur, 24, and Charles Fuller, 27, were convicted of groping and holding a 20-year-old woman while three others forced her to perform sex acts.

Shakur got up to 4 1/2 years in prison but remains out on \$1.4 million bail.

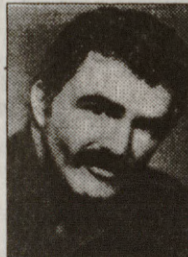
Howard gets approval for film at high school

SANTA ROSA, Calif. (AP) — Director Ron Howard has done what home theater Wes Craven couldn't do: win approval to make a movie at Santa Rosa High School.

The city school board Tuesday unanimously approved a permit for Howard to film at the school May 24-25. Howard will pay the district \$5,000.

Howard is directing *Inventing the Abbotts*, about two families growing up in a small Midwestern town in the 1950s, the district said.

The board rejected Craven's offer of \$100,000 to shoot *Scary Movie* because the script contained profanity and scenes of mutilated teen-agers.



Reynolds



Surprise your folks.

When you stay awake in class, you tend to learn more. (Unless you have an uncanny talent of learning through osmosis.) So don't let fatigue get in the way of your A, Revive with Vivarin®. One tablet has the same amount of caffeine as about two cups of coffee. And it's just as safe. Hey, anything is possible, if you're up for it.



Revive with Vivarin®

©1995 SmithKline Beecham Consumer Healthcare  
Use only as directed.

BEAUTIFUL JEWELRY & GIFTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
DISCOVER  
216 N. Bryan Downtown Bryan 778-9208  
Mon-Sat 10-6  
Sun-Fri 12-6  
**EarthArt**  
WIND CHIMES • GARGOYLES • ICONS  
AFRICAN MASKS • POLISH BOXES  
BEAUTIFUL STERLING SILVER

#### Studio Nails, Etc.

1700 Kyle S. #100  
College Station, Tx. 77840  
409-696-5857

#### TANNING SPECIALS

10 Sessions - \$20<sup>00</sup>  
30 Sessions - \$35<sup>00</sup>

#### NAIL SPECIALS

Full Set - \$25<sup>00</sup>  
Fills - \$15<sup>00</sup>  
Natural Nail Growth Program - \$15<sup>00</sup>

#### TANNING SUPPLIES 20% OFF

Offer good thru May 31, 1996

Place Your Ad In  
**THE BATTALION**  
Call 845-0569