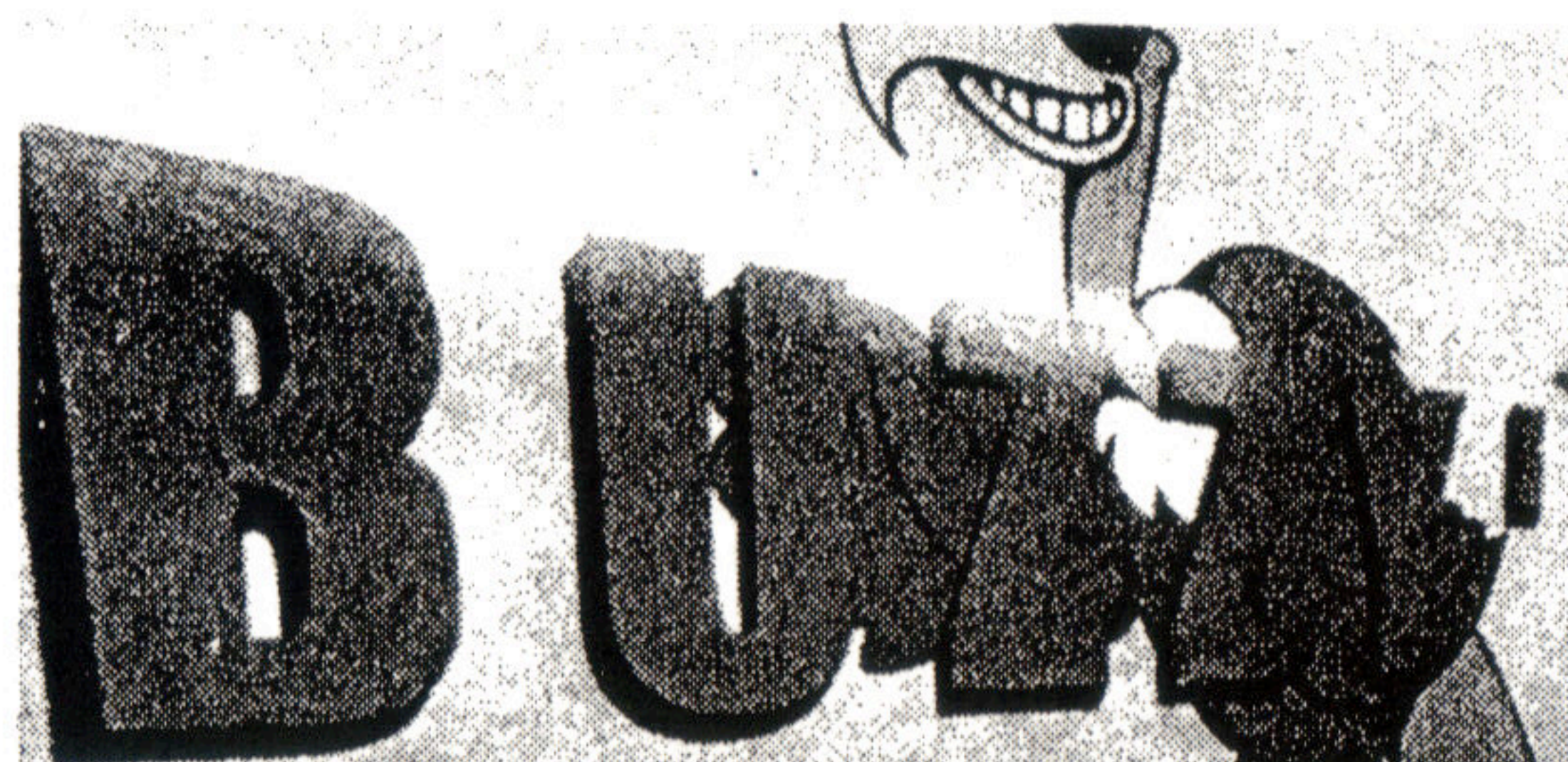




## Boston Neighborhoods



GLOBE STAFF FILE PHOTO

It's lights out at Buzzy's, at least for now.

### BEACON HILL

## Sadly, the Buzz is gone

Buzzy the Buzzard still grins below his black sunglasses on the wall of Buzzy's Fabulous Roast Beef, but the lights are dark and there are no loyal patrons grinning back. Yet a handful of fans have refused to let this unofficial landmark of the Mass General Hospital area pass unsung.

Within 24 hours of the diner's closing, a bereft Buzzy customer taped a hand-lettered sign to the front window: "The end of an era. You're part of what made Boston so special. We'll miss you." It was signed "SEG."

That forlorn poster hung alone for a few days, dwarfed by the picnic tables that now lean against the glass doors, flipped on their sides with their wooden feet pointing inhospitably at passersby. Then another sign appeared, and then another.

"It will never be the same around here!" penned Deb. "No more Nancyburgers!" lamented a mourner named Nancy.

Russell Frye, owner of the decades-old business since 1996, said Buzzy's 24-hour operation made it the backdrop of fond memories for college students and other local night owls. It is closing now to make space for an addition to MGH and a new hotel and conference center.

While acknowledging that some locals find Buzzy's an eyesore, Frye said "it's wonderful to see in writing" the affection patrons have often voiced to him. As the signs demonstrate, it's no casual affection. During the diner's last hours of operation for a charity event, "We had people crying," Frye said.

Several restaurant companies have expressed interest in opening Buzzy's elsewhere, Frye said, so "Buzzy's may return from the ashes once again."

GRACE E.F. RUBENSTEIN