MUSIC. A few weeks ago at the Middle East Cafe in Cambridge, Joe Morris’ Sweatshop — a three-man guitar/bass/drum improvisation deal — put together a musical knot and tied it tighter, tighter, tighter. The leader’s tunes are quick and melodic, like a swollen brook. The band works as one: a tense flam from Jerry Deupree’s snare turns into guitarist Morris’ frown-lined string snaps. Bassist Sebastian Steinberg rumbles fleetly and throws cement on everything. Their last Providence appearance begot quite a response; the buzz was active for days following their AS220 gig. So they’re back at the space, on a bill with the Flaming Donuts of Jesus and Full Tilt Zelda, ready to trounce the inequity of our times with jumble funked one, two punch. At 8:30 p.m. at 71 Richmond Street, Providence. Admission is $4; call 831-9327.

Were you at AS220’s Marathon Cabaret of the Oddly Normal several weeks ago? If you were, than you know that if you’ve seen Meatballs/Fluxus, the only worthwhile reaction is to shake your head and say, “Great!” As on every Saturday (just about), the Meatball gang entertains as your hosts for an eclectic evening of musical illuminations. Cousin Doppler strums, plucks, twangs and acoustic-rocks you right off the planet; Big Mistake yells about the awful weather we’ve been having; Stained Rug Theory does a scary-in-your-face, and JT MCs. OK! Doors open at 8:30 pm with a $4 donation. At 73 Richmond Street, call 831-9327.