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The Arts and Entertainment Supplement to the Daily Nexus, For the Week of January 27-February 2, 1994.

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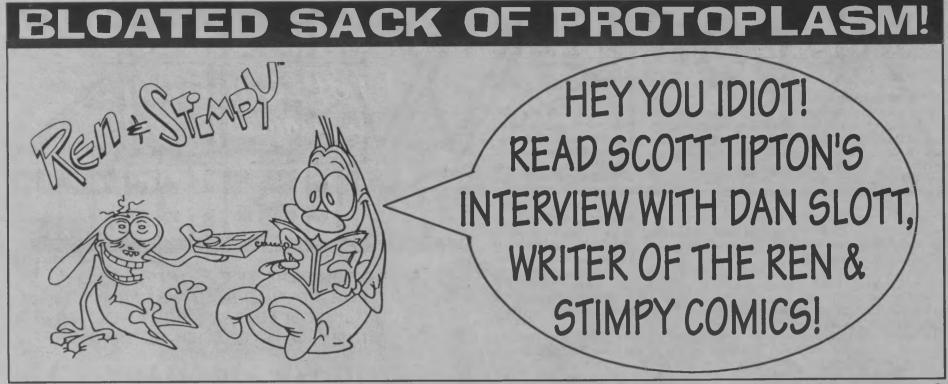
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ATLANT



2A Thursday, January 27, 1994



Comic book adaptations of television shows and movies are traditionally a tricky proposition. The writer and artist have to strike a balance between recapturing the flavor and feel of the original TV show or movie, while making it work as a comic book, which has its own formal requirements. One such adaptation that has found great success is Marvel Comics' surprise hit of 1993, "Ren & Stimpy," written by Dan Slott and drawn by Mike Kazaleh. While in town for a book-signing at Santa Barbara's own Comics on Parade, Dan Slott found time for a brief chat with Artsweek: Artsweek: Does Nickelodeon give

you input into the storylines for the series?

Slott: They did in the beginning. They used to be much more hands-on with their characters, but as the series has progressed and grown more successful, they've grown to trust me.

AW: Have they vetoed anything, any stories or ideas?

Slott: Oh, sure. They always veto something here or there, but just little things. Nothing terrible.

AW: How are the sales on a humor se-

ries, as compared to an action "blood and guts" title?

Slott: Sales are very good. "Ren & Stimpy" is consistently in Marvel Comics' top 20 highest-selling titles, which surprised everybody. Everybody expects a "blood and guts and gore" comic to sell more than a "funny animal" humor book.

AW: So do you think this is a move away from the hyperviolent trend in today's comics?

Slott: No, I think it's just a testament to the popularity of "Ren & Stimpy." AW: Is dialogue difficult to write with

such recognizable characters?

Slott: Actually, if anything it's easier, since you have a document [from the TV series] of exactly how the characters should sound.

AW: How tricky was the transition from the hyperactive, kinetic medium of animation to the static comic page?

Slott: You just have to find different things for the characters to do. Just as I can't do things the TV show can, conversely the comic can have the characters do things the TV show can never do. With the interactive medium of comics, the reader can back up a page or two to follow

along on a running joke or theme. In one issue, for example, we did a "Where's Waldo?" takeoff. You could never see "Where's Stimpy?" on television, simply because everything moves too fast. In the upcoming "Ren & Stimpy Quarterly," we'll be doing a "Choose-Your-Own-Adventure" book. The comics medium offers all sorts of possibilities. AW: So the book has become success-

ful enough to support a quarterly series in addition to the monthly series?

Slott: That's right, as well as a "Pow-dered Toast Man" one-issue special.

AW: Do you think the upcoming "Beavis & Butt-head" comic will enjoy the same level of success as "Ren & Stimpy?"

Slott: Absolutely. In fact, I think it will knock us out of the spotlight for a while, but I think we'll outweather them in the long run

AW: What audience are you shooting for with the "Ren & Stimpy" comic, if any?

Slott: We don't shoot for any audience at all. Instead, what we try to do is duplicate the feel of the show. The show itself has no distinct age group; it enjoys a very

wide audience. If you try to narrow it down, you do the readers a great disservice.

Daily Nexus

At signings, you see very young and very old fans of the book. We get grandparents who started watching the show with their grandkids and kept watching it after the kids left. The audience of both the TV show and the book has a vast age range.

AW: Who do you find easier to write for, Ren or Stimpy?

Slott: Writing for Ren is much easier. It's easier to understand his desires. Ren has very simple desires — money, power. Maybe it's just my own nature, but I find it harder to associate with benevolence. Yeah, definitely Ren.

AW: How has the ousting of "Ren & Stimpy" creator John Kricfalusi and the subsequent slowdown of new episodes affected you in the production of the series?

Slott: It really hasn't affected us at all, since I tend to use the first season's episodes as a template for who the characters are and what they're about. The more recent episodes have been pretty good, especially "Ren's Pecs," which was damned funny.



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**Daily Nexus** 

Thursday, January 27, 1994 3A



best films of the year" by Vincent Canby of the New York Times, Baxter is a satirical look at what lies behind the innocent eyes of a bull terrier.

Directed by French filmmaker Jerome Boivin, the film tells of the life of a bull terrier who yearns for human contact during his penned-up years in a kennel, only to be disap-pointed by the experience because of his first two owners. The first is an elderly woman on the verge of senility and the second is an oversexed married couple. Baxter's happi-

Touted as "one of the ness with the couple ends when they bring an infant into the family, a creature Baxter regards as disgusting.

Upset by the child's presence, Baxter seeks happi-ness among the life of Charles, a young teenage boy obsessed with the Neo-Nazi movement.

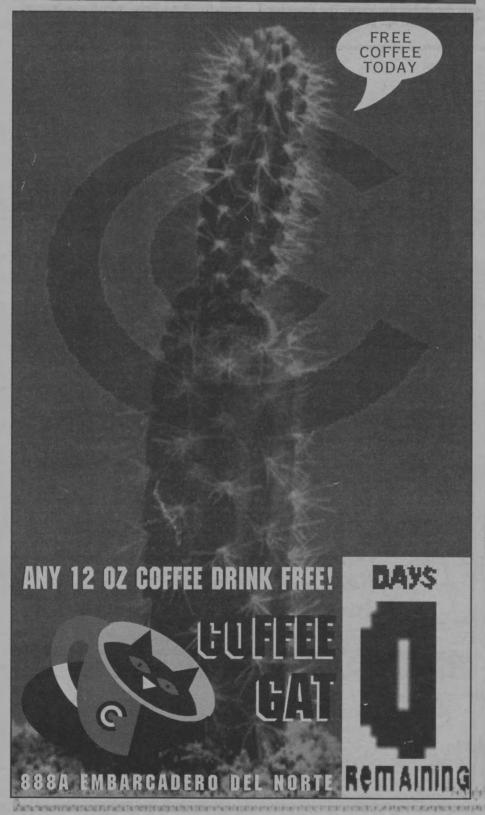
Voiced over by Jacques Audeard, Baxter gives a new dimension to the phrase "man's best friend." With the dog's sometimes funny, mean, and somewhat sentimental look at human life, we find a being trying to forge

his own identity while attempting to gain a better understanding of human nature. We also get an un-biased opinion of the lives we lead, and come to realize that many of the habits we acquire throughout our lives border on the absurd. Baxter forces us to take a long look at ourselves as we have never seen before.

It is here, in the world of Baxter, that the "fine line between man and animal become alarmingly obscured."

Baxter will be showing at Campbell Hall, Thursday, Jan. 27, at 7 p.m. -Heather Siple





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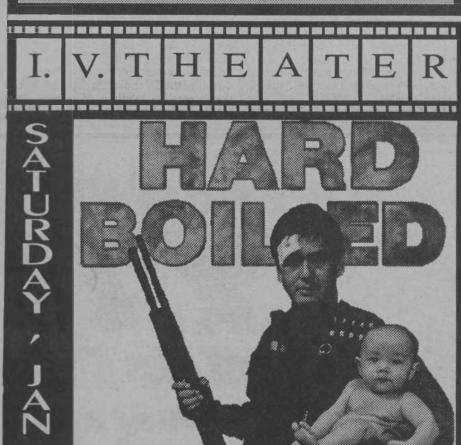
DANIEL SHEEHAN

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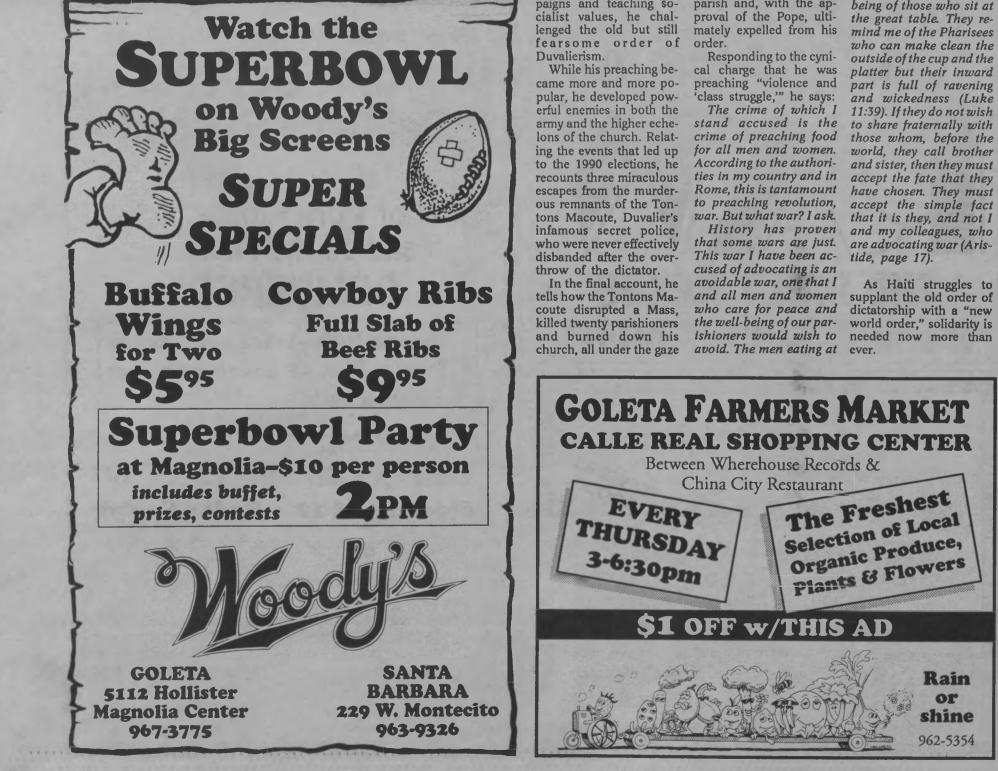
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do you remember Sid & Marty Kroft? the guys who did "H.R. Puffinstuff" and "Land of the Lost"? they also designed the original Grimace and the Fry Guys. "robble, robble"!

**4A** Thursday, January 27, 1994

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> "Oh, and that makes me feel even worse! .. I laughed at Dinkins when he said his new lenses were indestructible



FATHER BISHOP AN-BERTRAND DE CALLS FOR IDARITY IN HIS ENT TEXT ABOUT ENCE AND POVERTY IN HIS NATIVE PARISH

### BY CHRIS DUNLAP

In the Parish of the Poor: Writings from Haiti was originally written by Jean-Bertrand Aristide in 1990, the year of Haiti's first legitimate democratic election, as an open letter of hope to peoples' chur-ches and progressive clergy in Latin America. With an offer of solidarity to those who are working for the liberation and dignity of the dispossessed, his writings are now more

timely than ever before. After the betrayal of Haitian democracy in the September 1991 military coup led by Gen. Raoul Cedras, Joseph Michel Francois and Gen. Biamby, this account of the hope born of suffering becomes even more tragic. Currently, as the Clinton administration is paying lip service to Aristide

good

while simultaneously tempering proposed eco-nomic sanctions against Cedras' dictatorship and continuing to turn back the stream of refugees, it is important that the American public listen to Haitian voices.

JAKING HA

In the Parish of the Poor is Aristide's story of the conflicts of Haitian life in the aftermath of the Duvalier reign of terror. A Salesian priest active in the Ti Legliz movement, a liberation theology net-work that is fueled mostly by lower-level priests and laypeople, Aristide per-formed Mass in St. Jean Bosco, a church on the edge of one of the worst slums in the poorest coun-try in the Western Hemisphere. Organizing de-monstrations against human rights abuses, launching literacy cam-paigns and teaching so-

IN THE PARISH **OF THE POOR** Writings from Haiti

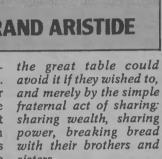
**Daily Nexus** 

#### JEAN-BERTRAND ARISTIDE

of an indifferent or positively complying military. While suffering under overt persecution by the military, a situation that culminated in the St. Jean Bosco massacre, he was even abandoned by the Roman Catholic Church. Censored by the Duvalier-appointed bishops for mixing politics with religion, he was transferred away from his parish and, with the ap-

sisters.

But these men, among them bishops, do not wish for the well-being of their parishioners; they wish rather for their own well-being, and the well-being of those who sit at the great table. They re-



#### **Daily Nexus**

Anthony Hopkins commands the screen with his intensity, his precise timing and the ability to emote or repress emotions in virtually every film he's appeared in in the past decade. With this aristocratic aura, it seemed odd that he'd be teamed up with the brash, ballsy urban cow-girl, Debra Winger, but Shadowlands, a Richard Attenborough film, gives her a chance to appear in an intelligent American role, and she is perfect as somewhat of a Desdemona for Hopkins' Othello.

Shadowlands is the story of author C. S. (Carol) Lewis' life and love with an American woman named Mrs. Grisham. She initially falls in love with Lewis because of the stories that he tells, in the same manner that Desdemona falls in love with Othello. What makes the story so touching is that they speak the same language — she finishes his thoughts and he understands and appreciates her straightforward manner. Even though they come from different countries and have different life experiences and rules of etiquette, they share a love of stories. Their relationship begins through writing letters to each other. "She writes as if she

"She writes as if she knows me," says Lewis. "Americans don't know

"Americans don't know anything about inhibitions," responds his brother Wally.

Once again, Hopkins is playing an utterly emotionally and sexually repressed character. "The most intense joy lies in the desiring, not in the enjoying," says Lewis. However, the woman in this film liberates his agency and ability to express love. There is a crinkle of joy in the corner of his eyes. Only in one scene, where he hovers over Winger with an intense gaze, does the penetrating stare of one of his



FE'S MA

This film has beautiful

light. It sets the tone and

gives the story a warmth

and life. A look back at a

recent Anthony Hopkins

film, The Remains of the

Day, shows the difference a lighting director can

make in setting the mood.

The colors blue, white and

black dominated Re-

mains, whereas browns,

oranges, golds and sunny

previous characters, Hannibal "the cannibal" Lector, leap to mind.

Before indulging further in the beauty and the unreal aspect of this film, it is important to mention that it is a true story — like life, it is cruel. Most people leave the theatre with bloodshot eyes, puffy faces and wet sleeves. The drama of the film lies in the same vein as *Terms of Endearment*, which, ironically, also starred Debra

5

outside days prevail in Shadowlands. Only occasionally is the warmth absent in favor of some scenes implementing pathetic fallacy as a dramatic technique.

Overall, the cinematography is magical, turning the English settings into dreamlike realms. The little pub where a group of Oxford professors meet and drink is presented as an enclave of creatures, each with an expressive

and glowing face. Attenborough's direction is superb, and he infuses this real story with wit and charm. The presentation doesn't overplay the drama of this story, which

speaks for itself. Shadowlands is full of magic, and adults who believe in magic. These adults, Carol among them, believe in the young in students. They believe in challenging and caring about them. Some of the best scenes in the film are those with Lewis and the students he teaches at Oxford University, as well as the ones between him and Mrs. Grisham's young son.

"Fight me — I can take it," he says, grinding on his class. Carol likes a good fight. He usually learns something from them.

"We read to know that we're not alone" is one such truth gained from a discussion with one of his students, whom he discovers is a genius and a temporary thief out of necessity.

Some of the emotion seems contrived, but the soundtrack of original music by George Fenton, and Gregorian chants in the church scenes, is so beautiful that don't you mind — your attention is on Attenborough's film as an extraordinary piece of storytelling. Shadowlands is filmmaking magic.

-Allison Dunn



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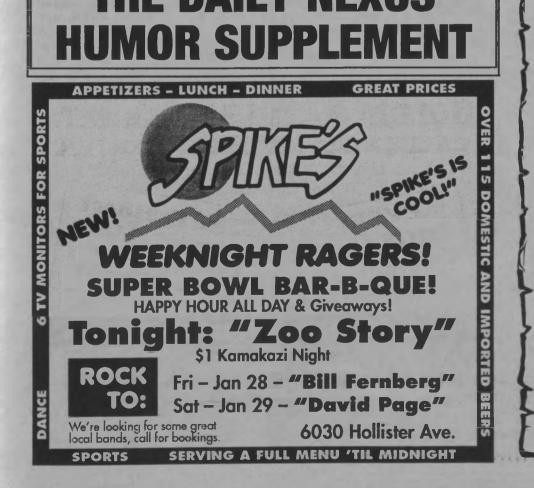
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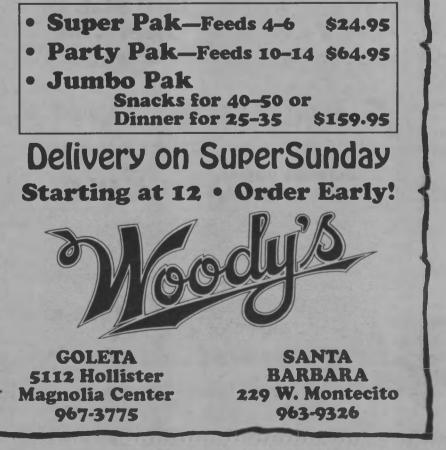
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and all the Fixin's.

DELIVERED!

Thursday, January 27, 1994 5A





**6A** Thursday, January 27, 1994





Two From Texas: The Dallas, Texas, label Direct Hit has mostly come out with some pretty abrasive punk singles their logo shows a happy John F. Kennedy with a target drawn around his head, which seems like a pretty bold thing for a Dallas label called Direct Hit.

A couple of their records do stand out. The recent Bedhead single sounds like a Slumberland record. The track "Living Well" is about something, but the vocals are buried beneath a collusion of guitar particles suspended in hot chocolate. It's a neat and familiar trick, one which succeeds. In the words of the Direct Hit flier, "Loud music you can sleep to." Maybe the appeal of enveloping guitar haze all these years has been that it is reminiscent of what it sounds like from undemeath a blanket. "Bedside Table" is equally

pleasant, with a real lullaby quality. The ghoulish font used on the Yeah Yeah Yeah seveninch reminds me of the modern-day garage/pop empire that spans a whole mess of labels, mostly Californian: Voxx, Bomp, Dionysus, Get Hip!, Romulan, Hell Yeah, Skyclad and AIP, among others. They champion the love of melodies and sheer fun of great '60s pop, and Yeah Yeah Yeah would fit right in. "Uncommon Man" screams with garage energy and invention, though they don't seem to mind playing from within a tradition. "Get What You Want" is a rock anthem, all data You want they and them gate hadhend all right. You can shout and holler, and then go to bedhead.

Direct Hit: 3609 Parry Avenue, Dallas, TX 75266



Explosive: Portland's Sugar Boom is the ultimate in musique pour les chevres sur le rue, which can be loosely translated from the French as "music that makes you bob your head around.'

"Move" is driving and fun. "Spiral" is propelled along by a tag line that can't be beat. Both are fun rock for cartoon cowboys like those on the sleeve. Salem's Schizophonic records has a winner on its hands. Any band with "sugar" in the title sounds like a good bet to me.

Schizophonic: 115 Liberty NE, Salem, OR 97301

Sonny Skies: A single guy in the South somewhere is responsible for Neutral Milk Hotel, a new seven-inch from Cher Doll records up in Seattle. His name isn't on the record, but he's quite a songwriter. First you hear a tape clip of someone hearing about how a kid dressed up as a mem-

neutral milk hotel



#### New Kingdom Heavy Load 4th and Broadway

"This is your captain speaking. All passengers must check attitudes, stereotypes and preconceptions at the door. You are now entering the New Kingdom." The New Kingdom is a swirling, twisted, psychedelic land of beats and rhythms, where the law of the land is that it has got to be funky. The selfproclaimed rulers of the New Kingdom, Sebastian and Nosaj, rule the air-waves with their sonic sceptres spreading individualism to the youth they rule

This duo from Brooklyn have been doing their own thang since '87 and blew up in '93. Anyway, New Kingdom deserves all the props for their philoso-phy, which is, "It don't matter if you're a hip-hop fan or a rock fan, you can get into this shit we're doing. You just gots to let loose." On New Kingdom's debut album, Heavy Load, loose is a

Spreading the downhome wisdom of girl punk,

the Red Aunts will be per-

forming a 9:00 p.m. show

on Jan. 28 at Buster's Bar

& Grill. Ranting through mindbenders like "Hot Rod" and '90s protest

tunes like "Sleeping in the Wet Spot," they modulate

between naked aggres-

sion, lighthearted crudity

and real glee. The music,

like the lyrical tone, is

stripped-down, "Here's

three chords — start a

band!" punk rock, like

their predecessors, X-Ray



major understatement. With influences from Hendrix and Zappa to Minor Threat to Curtis Mayfield, New Kingdom is kicking down any walls confining their music.

Musically, DJ Sebastian enjoys crunchy guitar, tripped-out psycho sounds, tight beats and thick bass. Says Sebastian

about their music: "We make music in layers. Layers on layers on even more layers. It just keeps going up and up. You wanna know how we call it? Plat-form shoe music. You know, thick." Lyrically, Nosaj will either attack with nonstop flow or kick back and lay out some abstract verses. However he is comin', Nosaj flows with his own rapsy style and kicks shit about everything from drinking to the environment.

This being the first re-view of the new year for me, let me just say that '93 was a crazy, fat year for hip-hop. Now that hiphop has beat down nonbelievers and established itself as a permanent music genre, it seems artists are pushing at the borders of music, enabling hip-hop to grow in many new directions. If you are a fan of music, you have to respect the progress hip-hop has made and feel some excitement for what lies in the future.

-Matt Turner





Last weekend, a band of young Austrian boys sang away in the Lobero Theatre, sharing their rich musical heritage with anta Barbara, Ti show was rife with potential. Potential for beauty. Potential for soul. The Vienna Choir Boys are part of a long lineage of internationally respected choirs first formed by imperial decree on July 7, 1498, by the humanist Emperor Maximilian I. They have been performing worldwide ever since. Because young boys' voices tend to be exceptionally pure, with a wide vocal range, the group consists solely of elementary school-aged boys, hence the name. Similar to musical misfits Menudo, the choir graduates its mem-

bers for new 9-year-olds

when puberty arrives. Because of their imperial standing and esteemed repute, the choir has worked throughout the years with such eminent musical magicians as Christoph Gluck, Wolf-gang Amadeus Mozart, Josef Haydn, Franz Schubert and Anton

Spex and the Slits. They may not be masters of their instruments, but the intensity of their howl and the grittiness of their music make up for mere expertise.

What Greil Marcus said about Bikini Kill holds for the Red Aunts: "It's a gurgling, vomiting, triumphant croak."

Supported by special guests Dizbuster and Eurosmith, this promises to be a freak show.

-Chris Dunlap



Bruckner.

Their playing at the their solos powerful, their Lobero Theatre seems hearts were not in it. And I only appropriate, as its or-nate stage is the only suit-be. Like their American able landing ground for counterparts, they probably will be playing their Game Boys after the show while listening to Kriss Kross and eating red licorice vines.

voices were beautiful and Instead, we laughed watching them trying to make each other laugh, while the conductor used the tact of a grade school teacher. The show was definitely enjoyable, though the audience felt compelled to say "they're so cute" every 23 seconds. Life will never be like the past again, but if you close your eyes and just listen, the voices are very similar.

Daily Nexus



ber of KISS, probably for Halloween. "Everything Is" is a great song

"Everything is beautiful here, it's spinning circles round my ears, I'm finally breaking free from fear, and it's fading." The fuzzy bass is real loud, and it's basically just a charming entry by a pretty new artist. Nancy, who is synonymous with Cher Doll, has put him on vinyl.

The "Snow Song" on the flip side is sung slowly, practically spoken in places, under a layer of rumbling fuzz. I think he's harmonizing with himself through the wonders of multitracking. Both tracks are full of a private magic

Cher Doll: P.O. Box 9609, Seattle, WA 98109



foreign ambassadors of culture. The night's program included pieces by Verdi, Mozart, Strauss and Schumann.

Yet the evening proved a bit of a letdown anyhow. Everything seemed right, but the choir never made you forget they were born in the '80s. While their

The setting was right for an overwhelming display of purity ringing through the air, reminding those who paid to be silent that the young will always rule.

-Martin Boer



**Daily Nexus** 

Thursday, January 27, 1994 7A



Too Short Get In Where You Fit In live

Bumping right back onto the scene, Too Short has done it again with his latest album, Get In Where You Fit In. Move over, Dr. Dre and Snoop Dogg, Short's unique choirboy voice, wed with his classic funky beats, spells trouble. The album depicts a life of running the game in Oakland, California. Unlike other albums by solo rap artists, this new album also features many up-andcoming rappers on the Northern California scene.

Smoking weed and rolling with the hottest women were always a favorite pastime of Too Short. His previous seven albums reflected this lifestyle. Nothing has changed. The sixth track on the disk, "BIS\*&\*\* Betty," explicitly portrays Too Short as a pimp in Oaktown. A lovely young lady who can't stop having sex is introduced to the playboy himself. She is taught to work the streets and to serve Too Short upon demand.

Short's self-flattery continues with other tracks such as "I'm a Player." The song plays Too Short up as a mack who has hos all over the state of California. With his fat bankroll practically spilling out of his pockets and his '93 Lexus rolling on the I-80 freeway, Too Short is "too much" for all the ladies. "Don't Fight the Intro" is the opener on this album. In the same way, both lead the listener into the Short dog mystique of untouchableness.

Perhaps the hottest song on the album is the one being played by radio stations. It is called "Money in the Ghetto." Selling drugs and other various illegal activities are the lifeblood for the players in Oakland. Life is good for these people as long as they don't get caught. Economically, if they spend that money in their own neighborhood, there is hope for the people who live there. For the people who aren't well off, some dank and a forty are medicine enough to remedy the sick life on the streets.

KBEAS

Too Short's new album is fresh material that incorporates old-school jams. **Rejuvenated** scratching techniques and '80s new wave synthesizer find a home with Too Short. Dance tracks of the late '70s, like that of Grandmaster Flash and Parliament/Funkadelic, hit home with "Get In Where You Fit In." What I like about this album is that it mixes old Short bass lines and concept rap with old-school cuts and scratches. Too Short's raps are unique and make your body bounce. It can be great party music, but even better, "Get In Where You Fit In" would be more appropriately played in the vicinity of any player idealistic of the Too Short lifestyle.

---Matthew Gambee



It is sometimes said, by die-hard fans no doubt, that the Smiths were the best band to come out of England in the '80s. Morrissey's mixed attempt at a solo career, a la McCart-ney, only highlights the dominance of the collaboration between Johnny Marr's fantastic musical mastery and the Mozzer's maudlin vocal symphonies. Together, the two created a stream of albums so profound that the band retains cult status today.



A Chapterhouse album today, in 1994, is kind of a shock. The English music press was criticized, back around 1991 or so, for inventing the genre of "shoegazer" music to encompass groups like Ride, Slowdive, Moose, the Pale Saints, and Chapterhouse. (The tag came from the tendency of guitarists in these bands to stand still and stare downward, either gazing at their shoes or triggering their effects pedals.)

Most of the categorizing was unfair, but I wouldn't hesitate to think of Chapterhouse as part of a scene, kind of a "second-tier" band. They're talented, but they just don't hold up very well as an autonomous unit, whereas the others named above do. With production from 4AD's John Fryer and Robin Guthrie of the Cocteau Twins on their prior album, Whirlpool, and

Cynics can see what band

is featured most promi-

nently on T-shirts sold at

Tempo Music. Unfortunately, like all good things, Morrissey and Marr split

apart, leaving fans disap-

pointed and others elated.

Just how this duo formed

and later split is the focus

of Johnny Rogan's author-

itative text, Morrissey &

Marr; The Severed Al-

liance, an amazing

fact, that Morrissey

The book is so good, in

achievement in itself.

guest vocals by Rachel from Slowdive, they had some influential connections to the scene.

Their hit single, "Pearl," was undeniably a classic. It was all over San Francisco's Live 105 radio station and stations like it. I and *Blood Music* is more like an epilogue to those days.

It hardly seems like the same band. They have gotten wholeheartedly into dance music. Practically every track has some se-



remember walking into the Rock House one time — finals had ended, and people were coming in to buy tickets for the cheap Dramarama show. The trademark "boo" sound of "Pearl" could be heard from across the street. It was a great era.

Most of those groups are still active, but it feels to me as though we've come out the far end of a thundercloud of activity,

quipped, "Personally, I hope Johnny Rogan ends his days very soon in an M3 pileup." The truth hurts. While Rogan declares in the preface that the Smiths will always be his favorite band, he does not allow this fancy to bend the truth. According to Rogan's writings, Morrissey was ruthless with money and harsh to his bandmates. Marr, he says, is a brilliant musician, though he continues to drift from the Pretenders to The The to Electronic to Bryan Ferry to the Pet Shop Boys.

The work begins with a dense description of Ireland and Morrissey's ancestors — skip this! The vere beats. It sounds a bit like the Orb, or dance remixes of the Moody Blues' Justin Hayward.

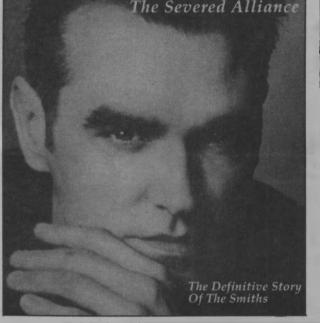
I shouldn't be surprised, because times change. That UCSB staple — the KCSB pop music show of Doc Marten — isn't on this quarter. And after all, the Anaconda has gone. Now, it seems, so has Chapterhouse.

#### -Kevin Carhart

most interesting aspect of Rogan's work is the de-scription of Morrissey's formative years, a period he's personally tried to hide from the media. He knew he wanted to be a rock star, but had no musical talents. Marr's musical language allowed the shy, Leideckeresque Manchester youth to spring into the club scene anyhow. It was not long before the tortured artist came of age on stages across England and the Continent. The account of the Smiths' eventual success and subsequent break is rushed through, as though the readers are all too familiar with the events.

-Martin Boer





# Long Way...

A Little Change

(or 3 things you'll need to get there from here)



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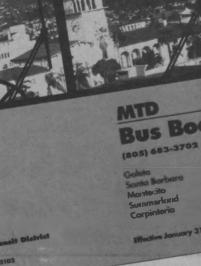


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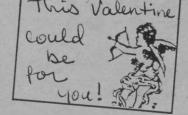
\$500

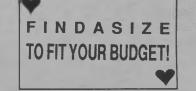
Forfriends

Roomies, Relatives, Relatives,

in your own Writing!

Roses are red, Violets are blue,





## \*The Office of Romance-Under Storke Fower Room 1041 Nexus Ad Office



Many different

porters te

from

## Nexus Valentines - A UCSB Fradition!