

2A Thursday, February 20, 1992

The Ol' Blues Hook John Lee Hooker Visits the Anaconda

ohn Lee Hooker was born in Clarksdale on August 22, 1920. His father was a minister and little John Lee's first taste of performance was at church. His stepfather, Will Moore, gave him guitar lessons and introduced him to blues giants Charlie Patton, Blind Blake and Blind Lemon Jefferson whenever they stopped to see Clarksdale.

With this background, it is not surpris-ing that Hooker hit the road to become a bluesman when he was 14. Eleven years later, he was discovered in Detroit by a talent scout and given the opportunity to record. The single that came out of that session, "Boogie Chillen," was a huge hit for Hooker. It leapt to the #1 spot in the Billboard R&B chart in January 1948 and stayed for four and a half months. The song became Hooker's signature work and

marked the beginning of a recording career that spanned five decades. Other hits followed, including what is arguably his best and definitely biggest tune, "Boom Boom." The song, released in 1962, has been covered by artists as diverse as The Animals, Mae West and Bruce Springsteen. Hooker himself did a version of it for *The Blues Brothers* in 1980. Other songs include "Crawlin' King Snake," "Dimples," "I'm in the Mood," "John L'House Rent Boogie" and "One Bourbon, One Scotch, One Beer," the last two of which were most recently covered by George Thorogood.

Now in his seventies, Hooker is still active. Last year he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In October of 1990, a tribute concert was held in his honor at Madison Square Garden. Among the performers on the bill were Bonnie Raitt, Joe Cocker, Ry Cooder, Huey Lewis and Albert Collins.

Hooker has also had a recording renaissance in the past few years. In 1989, he re-corded *The Healer* with guest appearances by musicians Raitt, Thorogood, Robert Cray and Carlos Santana. The album won a Grammy and the video for his duet with Raitt, "I'm in the Mood", received substantial airplay. 1989 also saw Hooker sing on Pete Townsend's album project Iron Man.

Hooker's newest album, Mr. Lucky was released 1991 and, like The Healer, Mr. Lucky features cameos by well-known rock musicians — Santana, Cray, Chuck Berry, pianist Johnnie Johnson, Keith Richards and Van Morrison - who play alongside on old classics and new material.

With the exception of B.B. King, no blues artist has done more to expose modern mainstream audiences to the blues. John Lee Hooker is, simply put, an institution.

John Lee Hooker will perform at the Anaconda Theatre on Saturday, February 22. Call 685-5901 for more information.



Legendary guitarist John Lee Hooker, now in his seventies, continues to record new material. His latest album is called Mr. -Tom Cahill Lucky, and Hooker proudly wears the title on his license plate.

Tales: Extreme Ski Bum's Dream Come True

ncore

here isn't a bit of "downhill" skiing in the film Tales From the Snow Zone. Instead, there are 60-degree cliffs, 14,000-foot peaks, 3,300 verticalfoot race courses and glaciers that skiers and snowboarders fly down at literally breakneck speeds. James Angrove and Jon Long, the producers, confess

that Tales From the Snow Zone was "the ultimate ski fan-tasy and (their) best ski footage ever." Believe it. This is a film that should make Warren Miller throw away his camera in hopeless depression. This is a film with more powder than Tammi Faye's face. This is a film for the hardcore ski bum.

Tales From the Snow Zone combines incredible skiing, tasteful humor, beautiful, panoramic views, and even includes music that appeals to the film's young audience something that Warren Miller overlooked. Hot, energetic tunes from INXS and the Red Hot Chili Peppers, for example, add to the excitement of the visuals, involving the audience in the adrenaline rush of extreme skiing.

From locations like British Columbia and Alber Glacier, the skiers and snowboarders in Tales invent a new form of skiing — "heli-extreme skiing." For instance, Trevor Peterson and Eric Pehota, with a reputation for descending any slope, are flown by helicopter to a remote area. They then climb the 60-degree, 1,500 foot slope to discern the skiing conditions. On the way down, any wrong turn could create an avalanche, and sweep them uncontrollably down the Tales is at the Victoria on Feb. 18 and 19.



mountainside. Calling this technique "extreme" skiing seems to be an understatement.

Any serious skier will be boggled by the few opening shots. And, once the movie is in full swing, their mouths will be watering for the slopes of any resort within driving distance.

Snowboarders, unlike in other recent ski flicks, are not overlooked in this film; instead, they are shown diving down the steepest slopes of Chamonix, Jackson Hole and Tahoe along with the die-hard skiers. In Whistler, Canada, three snowboarding gods tear up a monstrous quarter pipe, filmed with fantastic aerial shots that will leave the audi-ence breathless in disbelief.

Long and Angrove emphasize the fact that these people are not in this film for the fame, money or publicity. Looking for any chance to hit the slopes, they often work as dis-hwashers in the lodge just so they can ski all season. The men and women in this film jump off cliffs for their own entertainment, for their love of the sport and the thrill of danger.

Tales From the Snow Zone does not show beginners falling or kids snowplowing down bunny-slopes, nor does it include cheesy narration. It is a film dedicated to the sport of skiing and snowboarding, and to the people who thrive on the life of a ski bum.



-Jenn Myers

After months of toil and years of need, S.W.A.T. magazine is ready to be Tuesday February 25 go to your newsstands and pick up your Nexus. If you don't you will lose. Read every word of S.W.A.T. Thank us later. No kidding. Mark it down.

Rather, on his latest release, Don't Try This at Home, Bragg introduces a slicker, more polished studio effort.

Previously equipped with only an acoustic guitar, Bragg incorporates a heavier drum beat, violin and even a mandolin a la R.E.M.'s Peter Buck. The distinct wailing of Buck's counterpart Michael Stipe

can also be heard in "You Woke Up Neighborhood." My

Bragg is a master at combining music and so-ciopolitical statements. It is on these grounds that Don't Try This At Home succeeds the sociological ends of early albums, including Workers Playtime and Talking to the Taxsubjects ranging from love to the desperation of man, the singer/songwriter focuses on real human problems, even addressing sexual awareness in his lighthearted "Sexuality."

Bragg is a thoughtprovoking musician to say the least. While other folk/ rock musicians are delivering pretentious, whiny lyrics, Bragg offers his listeners an honest assessment of the world around him. Appearing at the Anaconda Theater Wednesday Feb. 26, his show should highlight well the boldness that pervades his music and, more importantly, his character.

-Melissa Lalum







Still the Boy's Club

Streisand Snub Reflects Sexist Trend

By Brian Banks

rotesters at the with the same backhanded 1983 Academy Awards ceremony greeted nominees entering the Dorothy ings. But this time, there is a Chandler Pavilion with real issue at stake. Of signs that relayed their im- course, the worthiness of portant message.

tions: Men-273; Women-1.

of their forgotten heroine. Barbara Streisand was represented only by her like-ness; the director and star of nate in a year of films in Yentl, recipient of five nominations but none for the woman most responsible for its success, stayed home.

The Academy has always played the game of politics with its nominations and awards. The days following the announcements of both are usually marked by anger at who or what wasn't honored, rather than the actors and films who were.

But the controversy never lasts. Who were the five Best Director nominees in 1983, named instead of Strei-sand? The protesters themselves have probably forgotten. The game is a vicious cycle - everyone knows that the controversy will happen again next year, so nobody pays much atten-tion to it now.

But what happened to Streisand - and all working women — on Wednesday morning should not be grouped together with disappointment over other snubs. Streisand was not nominated for the Best Director Oscar, despite the fact that her film, The Prince of Tides, her star, Nick Nolte, and her film's screenplay were. She was even nominated for the Director's Guild Award two weeks ago, and was a contender for the Golden Globe Award last month. But no Oscar.

attitude with which they have dismissed the entire Academy Award proceedher direction is very subjec-Score — 1927-Present, tive, and a strong case can Best Director Nomina- be made for any of the five men who were nominated. While all deserving of the They also carried posters honor, there is no real ex-their forgotten heroine. cuse to leave Streisand off

the list again. which a record number of women were behind the camera. With Streisand at the helm of *Tides*, Jodie Foster directing *Little Man Tate*, Martha Coolidge's Rambling Rose, Lili Fini

Streisand was not nominated for Best Director, despite the fact that her film, star, and the film's screenplay were.

Zanuck's Rush and Agnieszka Holland's Europa Europa, there were a number of worthy candidates. But Streisand's work was dents" as justification for clearly what the Academy loves — beautiful design, nice pacing and the requisite feel-good tone. Oscar nomination, then it appears that the institutionalized sexism that keeps Streisand and her female colleagues out will continue. The Director's Branch of the Academy, which chooses the Best Director nominees, is a boy's club. Membership requires more than a camera and film Best Director Nomina-There are those who will school degree. To be eligible, it seems, one must also Women-1. dismiss this controversy

have ample amounts of testosterone.

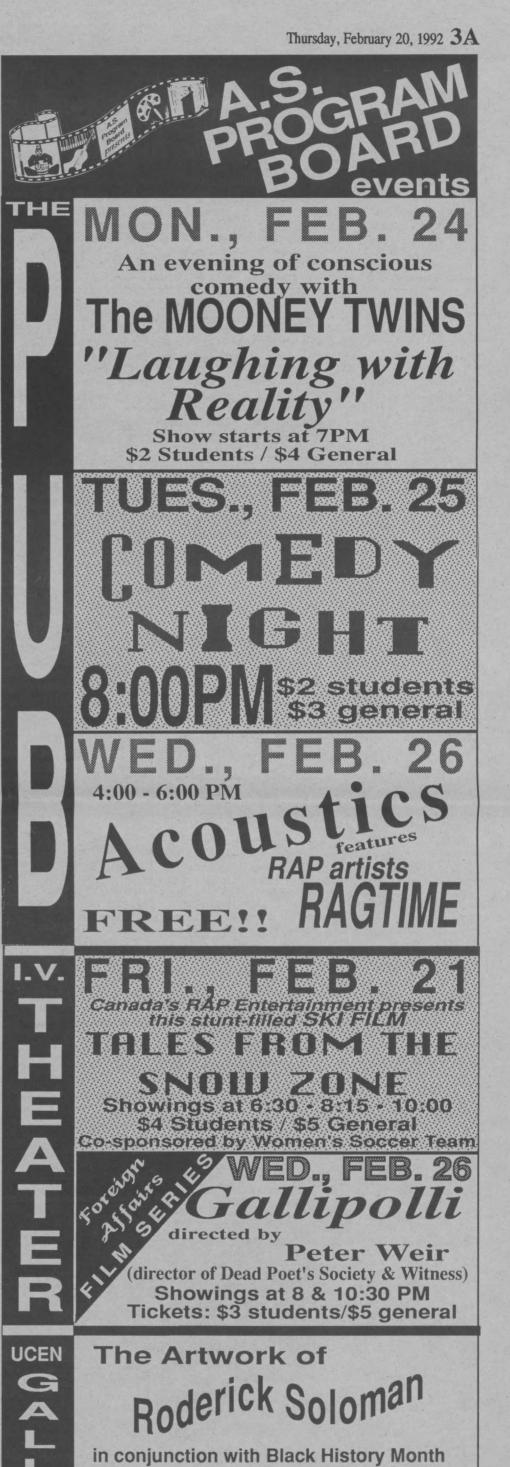
Only one woman has ever been nominated in the Best Director category — Lina Wertmuller for the 1976 film Seven Beauties.

The other branches of the Academy do not suffer a si-milar problem. Women are now regularly nominated in the screenplay and editing categories, and it was just two years ago that Zanuck accepted the Best Picture Oscar for producing Driv-ing Miss Daisy. Women rarely are scrutinized in other categories because of their gender — the awards are given based on merit alone

But Streisand is a victim again. Perhaps she will have



to be the one to suffer so that female directors in the near future can quote the "Barbara Streisand Inci-

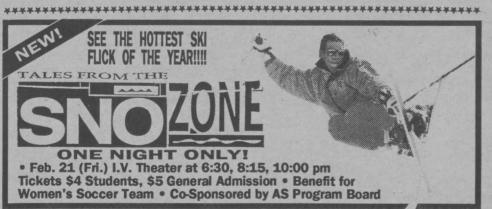


equality

On March 30 of this year, protesters will again greet the nominees entering the If this is not enough for an ceremony. Something will have to change, sometime. Streisand, Foster, Collidge, Zanuck, Holland and many other women are going to continue to direct features.

> The Academy has just given them a purpose.

Score - 1927-Present, tions: Men-313;



Monday, February 24 - Friday, March 6

Reception will be held on Friday, February 28 from 11:00AM - 4:00PM **4A** Thursday, February 20, 1992











The Prince of Tides

Silence of the Lambs

Let the Games Begin

The Oscar Nominations Kick Off a Month of Speculation and Disappointment

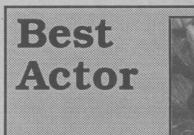
here were a few firsts, a few surprises and one very notable snub in the nominations for the 64th Annual Academy Awards, announced Wednesday

morning in Los Angeles. The Best Picture nomina-tion for *Beauty and the Beast* marked the first time an animated film has received the honor, despite 50 years of classic moviemaking from the Walt Disney

Company. But the name expected to make history in the Best Director category was missing. Barbara Streisand, whose work behind the camera on The Prince of Tides was strong enough to earn her a Director's Guild Award nomination and the film itself a Best Picture nod, was not named. (see commentary, page 3A.)

The controversy oversha-dowed the Oscar perfor-mances of Bugsy, JFK and The Silence of the Lambs. The three films, leaders in total nominations, joined Beauty and the Beast and The Prince of Tides in the hunt for the Best Picture Oscar.

The race is boiled down to one simple fact — Bugsy has the fewest knocks against it. JFK is too con-troversial, The Prince of Tides has no director up for an Oscar, Beauty and the Beast had to overcome tre-mendous odds just to get nominated and The Silence of the Lambs was released a year ago. The last non-fall



the Beast

Nick Nolte

Warren Beatty (Bugsy) Robert De Niro (Cape Fear) Anthony Hopkins (The Silence of the Lambs) Nick Nolte (The Prince of Tides) **Robin Williams (The Fisher** King)

to the producers), Beatty was nominated in the Best

Actor category. Joining him were four Hollywood veterans. An-thony Hopkins, who played the memorable Hannibal Lecter in The Silence of the Lambs, Nick Nolte, the tormented husband and father in The Prince of Tides, Robert DeNiro, the chilling ex-con out for revenge in Cape Fear and Robin Wil-

vorite here, the benefactor of years of hard work in the business, a nice role with plenty of emotional range and a nice reputation in the business. It also helps that he overcame a drug problem — good PR. The Best Actress category

features both Thelma and Louise, as Geena Davis and Susan Sarandon received nominations. Jodie Foster, the FBI agent in pursuit of a

The race is boiled down to one simple fact - Bugsy has the fewest knocks against it.

or winter release to take liams, the homeless man killer in The Silence of the home the Big One was An- with a quest in The Fisher Laura Dern, me King, rounded out the sexually provocative teen in Rambling Rose and Bette category. Beatty, Hopkins, De-Midler, the performer who Niro and Williams had entertains troops through better get their fake smiles three wars in For the Boys, Picture award (which goes ready. Nolte is the clear fawere also nominated.

Best

By Brian Banks

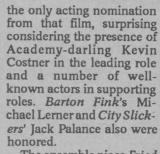
Foster will win, if only by process of elimination. How can they give Davis the award and not Sarandon? And vice-versa. Besides, which one was Thelma and which was Louise? Midler got the token singer-turned-good-actress nod, and Dern's nomination was deserving but still surprised many. Foster is well-liked by many, she's won before and she starred in a hit movie. Oh yeah, now she's directing, too.

Barry Levinson, director of Bugsy, Oliver Stone (JFK) and Jonathan Demme (The Silence of the Lambs) are the front-runners in the Best Director category only because their films were also nominated for Best Picture. Levinson and Stone have won before, for Rainman, Platoon and Born on the Fourth of July, respec-

tively. Boyz N the Hood director John Singleton re-ceived his first nomination, as did Demme and Ridley Scott (Thelma and Louise).

People weren't very im-pressed with the made-for-Oscar look of Bugsy, so Le-vinson probably won't win. Singleton and Scott don't stand a chance, simply because the Best Director award has never gone to a filmmaker whose film was not even nominated for Best Picture. So that leaves Demme and Stone. Stone has won twice before, and will subject millions of viewers to a "The government is telling a terrible lie" speech if he wins, so Demme's chances are good.

Bugsy placed two of its actors in the Best Support-ing category — Harvey Keitel and Ben Kingsley. JFK's Tommy Lee Jones got



The ensemble piece Fried Green Tomatoes placed only one of its four stars in the acting categories, Jessica Tandy for Best Supporting Actress. She will compete against *Rambling Rose's* Diane Ladd (the mother of Dern — the first time mother and durables have mother and daughter have been nominated in the same year), The Fisher King's Mercedes Ruehl, The Prince of Tide's Kate Nelli-gan and Cape Fear's Juliette Lewis

Kingsley and Keitel will cancel each other out, Lerner's reward was the nomination, and Jones is out because the Academy doesn't usually like to honor actors who play suspected presidential assassins with homosexual ties to the New Orleans underworld. Palance will be the recipient of the traditional "Old and Never Won" award (see Tandy in 1989, Don Ameche in 1985, etc.).

The Best Supporting Ac-tress award could go to any of the candidates, but the fact that Tandy won two years ago hurts. Lewis is still a teenager, and the Academy doesn't want its highest honor being used as a doorstop in a college dorm. That leaves Ruehl, Nelligan and Ladd. Any of them could take it, but the money here is on Nelligan. Heck, she had to wear age makeup.



nie Hall in 1977.

Warren Beatty, Bugsy's star and one of its producers, could pick up two Oscars. In addition to the Best

of the Lambs) Bette Midler (For the Boys) Susan Sarandon (Thelma and Louise)

Best

Supp.

Actress



Mercedes Ruehl Dianne Ladd (Rambling Rose Juliette Lewis (Cape Fear) Kate Nelligan (The Prince of Tides) **Mercedes Ruehl (The** Fisher King) Jessica Tandy (Fried Green Tomatoes)



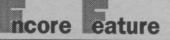
Oliver Stone Jonathan Demme (The Silence of the Lambs) **Barry Levinson** (Bugsy) **Ridley Scott** (Thelma and Louise) John Singleton (Boyz N the Hood) **Oliver Stone** (JFK)



Best Supp. Actor

Ben Kingsley

Tommy Lee Jones (JFK) Harvey Keitel (Bugsy) **Ben Kingsley** (Bugsy) Michael Lerner (Barton Fink) **Jack Palance** (City Slickers)



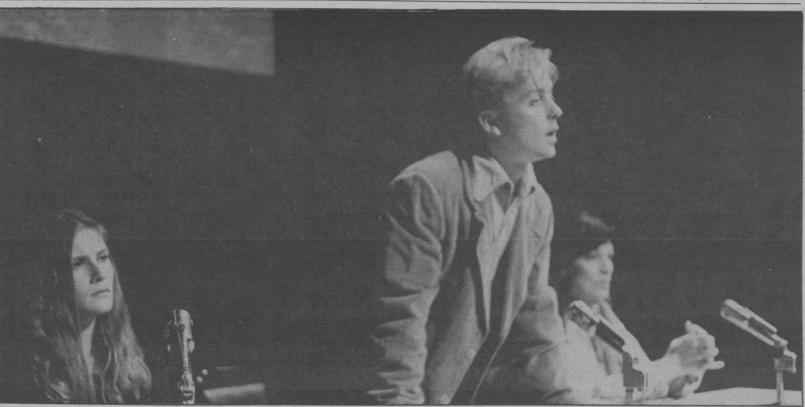
he aftermath of the Vietnam War hits UCSB Friday night when the dramatic arts department presents the documentary play Still Life

Written by Emily Mann in 1978, this Obie Awardwinning play tells the story of a Vietnam veteran's struggle to cope with the war's aftermath upon his return home. Mann edited the play from over 140 hours of interviews with a Vietnam vet, his wife and his mistress, and the dialogue is extracted from their exact words.

Directed by visiting faculty member Frank Con-don, Still Life tells the story of Mark, a Marine veteran (BFA acting major K. Mi-chael Healey) who has trouble adjusting to life at home after spending three years in combat in Vietnam. The play is structured around Mark's own testimony as intertwined with that of his wife Cheryl (BFA acting se-nior Angela Perry), and his mistress Nadine (graduate student Meredith McMinn). Sitting amid a backdrop of Vietnam slides, the three give compelling narratives of their lives,

(Writer) Emily Mann edited the play from over 140 hours of interviews with a Vietnam vet, his wife and his mistress...

amounting to a portrayal of how Mark's involvement in a war abroad translates into a war at home. Ultimately



(Above) Angela Perry, K. Michael Healy, and Meredith McKinn star in Still Life. (Below) Healey makes a statement.

By Karen Skanderson

tten in Stor The Dialogue In the New UCSB Drama Still Life Should Sound Realistic. It Comes From Actual Interviews With Vietnam Vets.

his one dark secret.

Condon was drawn to the play for its documentary appeal. "I like the fact that you can't deny something that's not just written by a playwright, but written by real people," he said. Aside from this aspect,

Condon was attracted to the play because of the importance of the issues it deals with. "I have to be moved to do a play," he said. "I don't just do them. I have to feel strongly about what the play's about."

Still Life deals with the connection between posttraumatic stress disorder and domestic violence, and tackles the effects it has on both those who suffer from it and their families. "It's imthe confessions and lamen-tations lead Mark to reveal for what it really is," Con-

don said.

Condon, a 1967 graduate of UCSB, said that his involvement in the play was partly rooted in the reaction he witnessed of UCSB stu-dents to the Persian Gulf War one year ago. According to Condon, who exper-ienced the anti-Vietnam riots in Isla Vista in the '60s, the recent protests made him think that things haven't changed much. He said the presentation of Still Life is important because the Persian Gulf War seemed to cure the idea of the "Vietnam Syndrome," quelling fears that the United States could not win a

Much of Condon's previous work consists of documentary and American cultural and historical ma- move us to think. Move us



terial. He said that political theater, as a medium, can open people up to new ideas and present them with contemporary issues in a fresh and assertive way. "Theater, to me, must be very power-ful," Condon said. "It must

to do something. ... I feel talk directly to the audience, that theater is extremely important in society," he said, adding that, when done well, political theater can be of the play made it a chalpotent.

incapable of coming to tion," he said, adding that it terms with Mark's behavior, was difficult to maintain the was also drawn to the play for its documentary style. "These are three very real people," she said, adding that documentaries are more difficult to act in than standard fiction because it is hard to relate to the logic behind the actual people and there's no room for intercharacters.

ture, setting the characters are available at the Arts in a situation where they and Lectures Box Office.

instead of to each other. Assistant Director Jason Loewith said the complexity lenge to put together. "Still Perry, who portrays a *Life* is a challenge because troubled wife and mother it's a mixture of fact and ficreality of the interviews in play form. Loewith said that the need to make the heavy,

sometimes controversial, subject matter relevant to students who are more familiar with the Gulf War than Vietnam provided an extra edge.

Still Life will be prepretation of fictional sented in the Studio Theater Feb. 21-22 and Feb. The play takes on a un- 25-29 at 8 p.m. and on Feb. ique confrontational na- 23 and 29 at 2 p.m. Tickets

Don't go to class — come write for the Nexus instead. Come sweat your butt off in a dingy, concrete cave with a bunch of degenerate, know-it-all journalists. You'll like it. You'll like us. You'll talk to Chancellor Uehling twice a day.



6A Thursday, February 20, 1992

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MUSIC REVIEWS **Pop Backwash Hits the Cowboys**

ncore **Gitic's** oice

Junkies' Black-Eyed Man Strays Dangerously Close to Mediocrity

Black Eyed Man The Cowboy Junkies RCA Records

ome time ago, a re-1 cord producer sat in a smoky office and said, "You know, those Cowboy Junkies are good, but their music is just so darn depressing! We should change that." And so, with near godlike

power, the producer changed the style of one of the country's most popular college bands.

Although the change isn't huge, it is noticeable. Gone are the slow, bluesy numbers that allowed lead singer Margo Timmons' voice to shine on past albums such as The Trinity Session and The Caution Horses. In their place are several upbeat songs which still feature the country-bluesy sound, but definitely in a more pop tone.

The majority of the tracks on the album were written by guitarist Michael Tim-



Margo Timmons

mons, marking a departure from the Junkies' penchant for covers. Most are loosely based on events that occurred on the Junkies' "Backlash '90" tour. Townes Van Zandt, who opened for the group during the tour, also contributes two songs.

........

Highlights include "Tow-nes Blues," chronicling a crap game as the tour bus cruises east, and "If You Were the Woman and I

Were the Man," a duet with singer John Prine.

Despite the changes, the album still works, and should be fairly enjoyable for Junkies fans. However, in their effort to maintain originality, the Cowboy Junkies are straying dangerously close to the pit of common mediocrity into which so many young bands plummet.

-Ross French

Back to Basics

Rush Soundtrack Eric Clapton My roommate just left

Reprise Records

The guitar ability of Eric Clapton has never been called into question. Through stints with the Yardbirds, Derrick and the Dominoes and Cream, he transformed his playing into an art. In his lengthy solo career, he has added style to his substance.

Too often, however, his albums get loaded down in commercialism. 1989's Journeyman had many great moments, but also had that studio-manufactured sound usually reserved for Clapton's imitators.

The Rush soundtrack is all-new Clapton, the first original work in three years. Unlike with Journeyman, Clapton is under no pressure to fill a CD, cut a track in three mi-nutes, and market a few hits. *Rush* — whose sounds were used effectively in the recent film - marks his return to soulful guitar, to the days when he could pick up the instrument and just play.

It is clear from the album's song arrangement that this is not meant to tear up the charts. The first seven songs are all instrumentals used to score the film. Only the final three tracks have lyrics, but Clapton does not let the words get in the way of what his fans pay good money to hear. Even on 'Tears in Heaven," which is as mainstream as Clapton gets on Rush, the slow guitar work carries the same force as in the tracks without lyrics. This album gives Clapton a chance to let the instrument be the star.

-Brian Banks

Essential, Not Dental

Essential

The Pogues Island Records

The songs on this compilation album may be "essential" for any Pogues dilettante, but the collection is far from definitive

Essential documents the output of the Irish octet since their first LP with Island in 1988. That album, If I Should Fall From Grace With God, stands as one of the decade's most powerful and vital Irish exports. It signaled the growth of the band's rough swagger into a swaggering professionalism that got them seats on every Top Ten List in 1988.

Five of the 14 songs on *Essential* are from this seminal album, the rest being taken from more recent releases. Unfortunately, the later material starts to pale in comparison to their earlier work. While still fast and catchy, the last two LPs have moved away from the band's punk roots. The selections from 1989's Peace and Love, in particular, seem too

polite for their company. This should be the Pogues Essential, Vol. II. If put in the context of the band's origins, the style of the recent material



would be highlighted, but without that counterpoint things just aren't as interesting.

Welcome additions (both from 1988) include a cover of "Honky Tonk Women" and the obligatory never-beforereleased re-mix (in this case, "Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeah"). But the real disappointment is the lack of even a single photo of Shane MacGowan's dental work anywhere in the packaging.

-Alex MacInnis



Wayne's World. Starring Mike Myers, Dana Carvey, Donna Dixon, and Rob Lowe. Directed by Penelope Spheeris. AT THE GRANADA 3 THEATRE AND CINEMA TWIN.

FILM REVIEW

A post-modern joyride into the almost surreal adolescent psyches of Wayne (Mike Myers) and his dweeby pal Garth (Dana Carvey), Wayne's World is both better than Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey and even features an Ugly Kid Joe song.

The much-hyped flick

(Rob Lowe). Basically a series of campy gags, the film keeps its audience enter-tained with constant references to MTV culture, including a "Clapper" com-mercial and a special appearance by a member of the T2 cast. Does guest star Alice

Cooper wax philosophical? Sure.

Is there a requisite '70s TV show reference?

Of course!

seedy television producer Cassidy and "Laverne and Shirley" would find funny. Yes, the humor is of lowest common denominator. But that's the same unabashedly base comedy that made Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure such an entertaining picture. And, when most of us are stressed and searching the cable stations for that rare "Land of the Lost" rerun, this is what we want. And they give it to us.

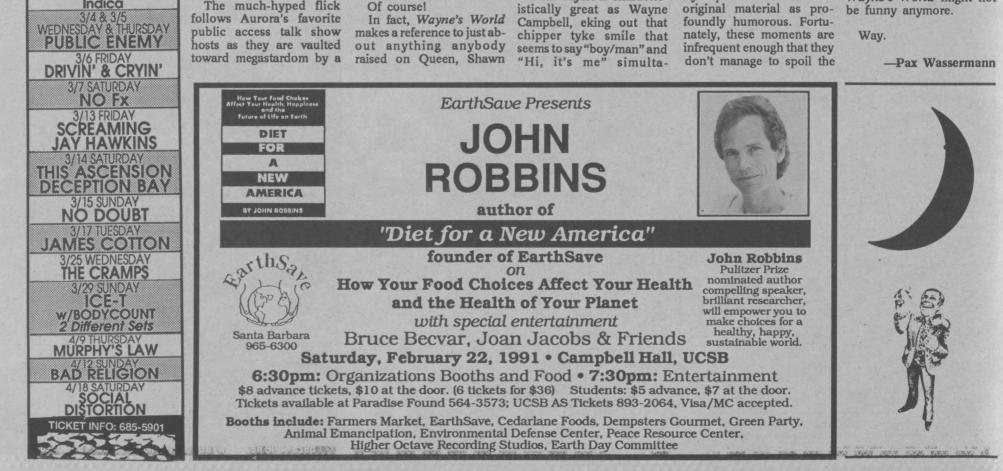
Mike Myers is character-

neously. The arguably bril- film. liant Dana Carvey provides amiable support as the nolipped geek Garth Algar, but stays relatively in the background.

The film's biggest faults, however, lie in the dol-drums between truly funny parts. These are the points where, not unlike many "Saturday Night Live" skits, things seem to slow to an uncomfortable crawl as they try to pass off lame and unoriginal material as pro-foundly humorous. Fortu-

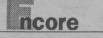
This flick, from director Penelope Spheer (Decline of Western Civilization Pts. I & II), and producer Lorne Michaels ("Saturday Night Live"), might be just the thing for those seeking a movie that doesn't demand very much from its audi-ence. Laugh now, because in a few years the trendy, adolescent humor of Wayne's World might not

be funny anymore.



and.

4.1



Perestroika Pen Pal?

Mysterious Letter Spurs Exciting New Contest

d Note: The following is an excerpt from a letter sent to us last week. It was signed only "V.G." Read the following and consider ... Is this the work of The Video Guy?

... that's not borsht, that's my sister. And while I'm at it, get your forboski's out of my placibovs.

You see, they do have humor in the former Soviet Union! And, despite a variety of rumors, they also have a wide variety of fine videos to choose from. Why, just the

other day I was at the local video store, *The Wherehouse-kavich*, and I stumbled upon a gem from the days of yore — a little film called *Scanners*.

It is the story of these people who can read other peoples' minds, but if they read too much, the person who is getting read will A) get his head blown up, B) burst into flames, C) get a really bad headache.

Unfortunately, option A — head blowing up — is only used once. This comes as such a shock because this film was made by David Cronenburg — the king of heads blowing up.

ing up. The best character is this guy who thinks he is Orson Welles. He really doesn't pull it off, though, because he is skinny and his name is Dr. Ruth. This causes a strange effect in that when ever anyone says "Dr. Ruth," you expect a short Germanic lady and instead you get this anorexic Citizen Kane look-a-like.

Michael Ironside has big ...



Ed Note: This is all we could decipher. Is this The Video Guy? We think not. Look at the facts.

FACT: This "V.G." goes for five paragraphs without once mentioning breasts or alcohol of any kind.

FACT: There is no mention of a "Beero-Meter." (i.e. "I give Scanners a '9' on the Beer-o-Meter.")

FACT: At this crucial stage in the primaries, an extensive visit to Kiev, Russia would seriously damage The Video Guy's chances in the 1992 election.

So, at this point it should be obvious. This is not The Video Guy. So, where is The Video Guy? We thought that this was a good question, so we've decided to get some cheap publicity at the expense of our Guy Video.

Presenting the "Find The Video Guy Contest." It's fun and easy! Here's what you do. Write down on a piece of paper the following: Where is The Video Guy? Then answer that question.

Be creative, have fun!

The winner will win a complete The Video Guy library, including fine performances by Mickey Rooney and Richie Sambora. This is not a joke.

Take your answer to The Nexus Offices under Storke Tower. Say, "Hey, I know where The Video Guy is!" Do it. Today!

Next week, we dig deep into the Nexus files and present to you, The Best Of The Video Guy.

Wastelands: King's Sidestep

For four years, Stephen King fans have anxiously awaited the next installment from the *Dark Tower* saga, a series that is rumored to have already been completed. The third book has arrived, and *The Wastelands* might be the best yet.

Readers that have faithfully kept up with both *The Gunslinger* and *The Drawing of the Three* will already know that *The Dark Tower* series is a delicious sidestep for King, delving into a world of treachery and medieval undertones.

King picks up his narrative exactly where it ends in *The Drawing of the Three*, as Eddie and Susannah progress with their gunslinger training while Roland heals.

with their gunslinger training while Roland heals. The three press inland from the Western Sea to fight a motley arrangement of beasts — both mechanical and human. This segment features more action than any of the other installments, as the three gunslingers tackle an unprecedented number of obstacles.

The group takes on a fourth, as Jake, the boy Roland

sacrifices to the man in black in *The Gunslinger*, returns to the story to become almost a child to Roland. Not only is Jake back, but also a character from King's novel, *The Stand*, appears in the story, adding a whole new dimension to Roland's world. This book is only the end of the beginning, as more questions about Roland's world, the group's fate, and, of course, *The Dark Tower* are raised. A novel brimming with adventure, *The Wastelands*

A novel brimming with adventure, *The Wastelands* brings Roland's group closer to their destination with every page, dragging them through meetings with everything from a giant mechanical bear to a riddle-loving monorail. The reader is left primed for more. But King, in his author's note, gives only a tantalizing taste of what is to come in Book Four.

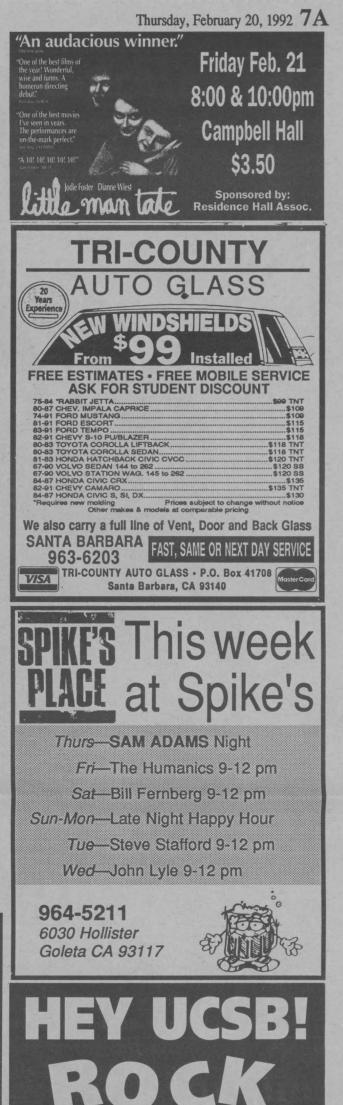
Meanwhile, King die-hard fans must be content to stew in the questions and parallels *The Wastelands* provides, and to hopefully sort them out by the time the next book arrives.

-Jenn Myers

FIND THE VIDEO GU Everyone's favorite columnist is lost, missing, vanished. And only you can find him.

Just tell us where he is. He could be in another state, another country, or just at his aunt's house. We don't know! Drop off your answer at the *Daily Nexus* office underneath Storke Plaza.

Did we mention that the winner will receive the complete



Video Guy Film Library?				
EBRCOR Assistant Editor Editor	Pax Wassermann	Contributors Tom Cahill Denis Faye Ross French Anna Kent Melissa Lalum Alex MacInnis Jenn Myers Karen Skanderson		BOWL EVERY THURSDAY
Brian Banks William Toren				9:30 pm - Midnight • All you can Bowl for \$10/person
20% family and friends to a twenty percent discount on your next meal! plus \$1.50 WELL DRINKS & \$1.00 BEER ON TAP (HAPPY HOUR 'till 7:00 p.m.)				KTYD DJ Plays Rock Videos Prizes from THE COMPACT Some Store
J.K. Frimple's Restaurant 805/569-1671 1701 State St., Santa Barbara Not valid with any other offer.				Domino's Pizza Specials ORCHID BOWL S925 Galle Real • Hwy 101 at Fairview in Goleta • 967-0128



TWICE! The wait is almost over!!! FRDD OUT FEB. 26 in the Daily Nexus "Best of UCSB Lifestyle"!