



Big names

At Monday's E.C. meeting the SAB reported a \$17,000 loss from the Christmas concert featuring the Spinners.

"Bigger name" concerts will benefit students is by providing a chance to see these bands in a building smaller than an arena or civic center.

The SAB should take the suggestion of Sophomore EC Representative Christopher De Movellan and schedule concerts for weekends that aren't big fraternity weekends.

The SAB expects to take a loss when it puts on a concert. However, it seems reasonable to expect the receipts of a concert to cover at least half of the costs.

However, it seems reasonable to expect the receipts of a concert to cover at least half of the costs. Fewer concerts featuring bigger name groups will hopefully ensure that the SAB doesn't suffer a loss similar to the one incurred from the recent Christmas Concert.

Be aware

The recent arrest of a young man who had been living in and allegedly stealing from the dorms is enough to give dorm residents insomnia.

A few months ago, another man roamed around Baker Dormitory. One woman resident saw him coming out of another resident's open unoccupied room.

Our Honor System, allowing W&L students so much freedom, also has the unfortunate effect of leaving us quite vulnerable to those outside of the system.

Security could be increased in an attempt to take care of this problem. Perhaps students should carry a pass key to get into the dorms, or show their student i.d. to a guard at the door.

The only way to prevent persons not of the W&L community from taking advantage of students is for students themselves to become more conscious of straggers around the dorms.

For The Record

The Ring-tum Phi takes responsibility for all editorials appearing in its editorial column. An unsigned editorial, one that is not followed by any initials, is the opinion of the entire editorial board.

The Ring-tum Phi

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"Instantly Metamorphosed Banker"

LETTERS

W&L coed reacts to Smith's stereotyping

To The Editors: Paul Smith's My View that ran under the headline "Coeds are not liberal" in the last edition of the Phi should be a lesson to us all on the evils of the dreaded stereotype.

such a pleasure to work with students who enjoy contributing to the whole of the University community.

Sincerely, Peggy Webster Hays Public Services and Reference Librarian

Darrell comments on Coke

To The Editor: In spite of the information published in the Phi there still seems to be some confusion about the availability of canned Coca Cola on campus.

-Jerry Darrell Director of Food Service

Senior laments destruction

To The Editor: Recently a great deal of damage has been done to the University owned lot on Nelson St. This is the open ground behind fraternities on Washington St.

Strangely, rather than expend effort to improve the situation, the University has remained blind, even unaware of the problem. We see constant reminders of the University's efforts to control the student body and shape them in the nice sort of W&L boys everyone wants to know.

W.W. Baber '87

Easter Day travel criticized

To The Editor: I don't know if most of the student body is aware yet, but the last day of our April break falls on Easter Sunday.

From personal experience, I believe Easter to be a time when families and friends gather together and visit, a sometimes infrequent opportunity.

Also, on holidays the frequency of plane flights and rail and bus trips are generally reduced.

What do we do about this issue? The most obvious answer is to press the administration to start Spring Term on that Tuesday.

Steven R. Doran '87

United Way drive successful

To The Editor: Your readers may have learned by now that the Lexington-Rockbridge United Way met its goal, by raising \$111,292.

Jerry Darrell J. David Parker

Christmas tree appreciated

To the editors: The Christmas tree in the lobby of the University Library and the lights in the trees along the entrance plaza were much enjoyed and appreciated by the faculty and students according to comments passed along to the library staff.

I would like to thank Alpha Phi Omega, and specifically Douglas Harvey, Doug Turrell and John Wiltse from that group, for the hours they spent in searching for, chopping down and bringing in the tree as well as hanging the lights. It is

Klank's view irks students

To Whom it may Concern: Bob Dylan once wrote: "I can see that your head has been twisted and fed by worthless foam from the mouth." Mr. Klank's self-righteous view of public affection has captured the essence of "worthless foam."

Clay Burns '87
Vaughan Boone '89
Pete Winfield '87

More comment on Klank

To The Editors: If ignorance is bliss, Ed Klank III must be a happy guy.

Paul Schlimm '87
Mike Carter '87
Charlie "Flash" Groh '87







## A 'Little Shop' of surprises!

By MICHAEL TUGGLE  
Movie Critic

\*\*\*TUG'S TAGS\*\*\*

- \*\*\*\* Excellent-Don't miss it
- \*\*\* Good-Solid Flick
- \*\* O.K.-Good for Study Breaks
- \* Bad-Better Things to Do
- BOMB A waste of Time and Money.

"Little Shop of Horrors" is one of the most enjoyable movie musicals and certainly one of the finest Broadway adaptations to come to the big screen in years. It combines solid performances with exceptional special effects and a plethora of musical numbers that will excite you and put a smile on your face.

The show opens in Mushnik's Skid Row Florist shop where Mushnik (Vincent Gardina) announces to his two employees, Seymour (Rick Moranis) and Audrey (Ellen Greene), that due to poor business he is closing the shop. In desperation,

Audrey suggests that "putting that strange and interesting plant that Seymour has been working on in the window might attract customers." Strangely enough, when Seymour puts the "Audrey II" (in honor of his secret crush on Audrey) in the window, customers start pouring in.

As the three attempt to leave for a celebration dinner that evening, the "Audrey II" droops in Seymour's hands. With visions of losing his sudden wealth, Mushnik confines Seymour to the shop to care for the ailing plant. While trying to discover the cause of the plant's sickness, Seymour pricks his finger on a thorn. Suddenly the "Audrey II" stands up and attempts to suck his finger. As Seymour moves his finger closer to the plant, the "Audrey II" snaps at his finger as if to bite it off. To do what he thinks will save the plant, Seymour squeezes a few drops of blood into the plant's mouth and begs it to grow.

Grow it does! The cannibalistic "Audrey II" continues to grow until it grows larger than Seymour himself with total transformation climaxing

as the "Audrey II" begins to speak. From here on the film takes twists and turns involving Seymour's crush on Audrey, her relationship with boyfriend Orin Scriverello, the sadistic dentist, and the "Audrey II's" true origin that dead end in an explosion of music and laughter at the end of the film.

"Little Shop of Horrors" has a multitude of solid performances that complement each other well. Rick Moranis' performance as Seymour is reminiscent of the "Ghostbusters" role that propelled him to comedic stardom. His relationships with Audrey and the "Audrey II" are both humorous and touching in a "sappy Broadway kinda way," once again demonstrating that Moranis is one of the funniest, most talented actors in film today.

Ellen Greene's dizzy blonde portrayal of Audrey is the finest performance in the film. Her airhead delivery and brassy singing voice bring the same electricity to her screen role that enabled her to steal the show in the off-Broadway original. Steve Martin is hilarious as

the demented dentist while Bill Murray, John Candy and Jim Belushi provide cameo appearances that are quite funny. In addition, Tichna Arnold, Michelle Weeks, and Tisha Campbell are wonderful as a "Supremes"-style background chorus that repeatedly appears at dramatic moments in the film.

Perhaps the most important member of the cast is never seen. Levi Stubbs of the original "Four Tops" provides the voice for the "Audrey II" and makes the monster mound of singing foliage a character you'll be quoting and humming after as you leave the theater.

From an overall perspective, "Little Shop of Horrors" is in its own right one of the year's best. Good casting, riveting performances by the characters, a wonderful 50s-60s doo-wop score, and exciting, realistic special effects make this film a fun experience and a possible sleeper for the Oscars this spring. If you enjoy Broadway musicals or music in general, then don't miss "Little Shop of Horrors."

I rate it a \*\*\*\*.

## Critic chooses ten best records of year

By MARSHALL BOSWELL  
Entertainment Editor

This was the year the Monkees became famous. Again.

This was also the year that Madonna, like any other good Catholic girl, quit talking about her virginity and started worrying about getting pregnant. Boston released a record that took longer to record than it took Thomas Pynchon to write all 820 pages of *Gravity's Rainbow*. Janet Jackson convinced everyone that she wasn't fat, Duran Duran almost dwindled down to nothing (a bit of wishful thinking?), and Dweezil Zappa became a household name.

But there have been worse years. Honest.

Amid all of this stupidity—and stupid was certainly the key word for this year of Space Shuttle disasters and Irangates—there were some very good records released. Honest.

In fact, The Ring-tum Phi has chosen the 10 best pop records of the year—some you might have heard, others you might have had no idea even existed. Nonetheless, they are all out there, begging to be bought.

Before we unveil the list, a few things must be cleared up. Bruce Springsteen's "Spruce Goose" did not make it since all of the performers listed put in a bit of work this year. Sitting behind a digital remix board for a couple of weeks hardly counts as a major achievement. Sorry Bruce. Also, sales had nothing to do with the selection.

The number ten album of the year belongs to the Lucy Show. Their second effort, called "Mania," is almost as perfect a pop record as one could find. Great melodies, tight playing,

and exquisite production by producer John Leckie make this one of the year's best. Watch for this one to make some waves in the coming months.

Husker Du's major label debut, "Candy Apple Grey," certainly wasn't their best, but it was easily one of the best records of the year. The Woodentops get the eighth best release with "Giant" a kinetic, exuberant showcase of pop smarts and good feelings. Lead singer Rollo Gentry is on the verge of becoming a big star. Mark those words.

Coming in at number seven is R.E.M., with "Life's Rich Pageant." Don Gehman, John Cougar Mellencamp's producer, gives this record an AOR punch that would lead on to scream "Sell out!" if it weren't for the fact that the songs were so damn good. (Ironically enough, this record contains "Superman," R.E.M.'s biggest hit so far and a song that was probably intended as a B-side. But what with the Monkees and all...)

Easterhouse—a five man English group—released a stunning debut record of strident politics and teeth-grinding rock n' roll called "Contenders." Not since the Gang of Four has a band mixed socialism and pop music this well. Their music is a cross between Joy Division and Big Country; their lyrics fall somewhere between *Das Kapital* and the Clash.

The Smiths get the number five album with "The Queen is Dead." Ten songs about the monarchy, poetry, loneliness, big mouths, transvestite vicars and love make this an interesting journey. So far, this is the Smith's best yet.

Coming in at number four is XTC with their brand new lp, "Skylarking." Some of the songs on this

breath-taking record are truly sublime—all the others are simply wonderful. This lush, pastoral record is this group's eighth release. A hundred years from now, historians are going to look back on popular culture in the 80s and wonder why XTC weren't hugely successful.

Paul Simon's "Graceland" comes in at number three. Everything about this record is beautiful: the music, the lyrics, the production. Hey, even the record cover is pretty sharp. Paul Simon continues to be the John Updike of pop music, putting us keenly in touch with out society and ourselves, and doing it beautifully and tastefully.

Peter Case's first solo effort was almost the best record of the year. Great songs, great singing and great playing—it's all here. Case's fusion of blues, folk, Beatle-esque pop and flat-out rock n' roll is stunning: it is like listening to a paradigm of popular music. Pick this one up if you ever see it.

And the best record of the year? No doubt about it, the Church's "Hey Day" takes top honors. This is joyous, uplifting music, lush, power-

ful and emotional. Someday, when the world is perfect, all rock music will sound like this.

And that's it. Ten performers, eighty dollars worth of records, six and a half hours worth of music. As Pee Wee Herman sez: "I mean, you know, that's sooo cool."

JANUARY

**Campus Paperback Bestsellers**

1. *Bloom County Babylon*, by Berke Breathed. (Life, Brown, \$12.95) Bloom County comic strips.
2. *It Came From the Far Side*, by Gary Larson. (Andrews, McMeel & Parker, \$5.95) The latest cartoons from the *Far Side*.
3. *The Far Side Gallery 2*, by Gary Larson. (Andrews, McMeel & Parker, \$9.95) Collection of *Far Side* cartoons.
4. *The Hunt for Red October*, by Tom Clancy. (Berkley, \$4.50) The incredible chase of a nuclear submarine.
5. *The Accidental Tourist*, by Anne Tyler. (Berkley, \$4.50) Odd domestic life of a travel writer.
6. *Galapagos*, by Kurt Vonnegut. (Dell, \$4.50) Madcap genealogical adventure.
7. *West With the Night*, by Beryl Markham. (North Point, \$12.50) Flying in East Africa and across the Atlantic in the 1930's.
8. *Secrets*, by Danielle Steel. (Dell, \$4.95) Behind the scenes of a television production.
9. *Women who Love too Much*, by Robin Norwood. (Pocket, \$4.50) How to avoid the pitfalls of unhealthy relationships.
10. *The Bachman Books*, by Stephen King. (NAL/Signet, \$5.95) A collection of four of his earliest works.

**New & Recommended**


A personal selection of Carolina College Student University Bookstore

*The Solace of Open Space*, by Gretel Ehrlich. (Penguin, \$5.95) Life in the open spaces of Wyoming - part travelogue and part personal reflections.

*From Sea to Shining Sea*, by James Alexander Thom. (Ballantine, \$4.50) Based on the lives of the Clark family and the Lewis and Clark expedition.

*Always Coming Home*, by Ursula K. LeGuin. (Bantam, \$4.95) The story of the Kesh, a peaceful people of the far future.

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## It's A New Year

and a fine time for you to be  
writing for *The Ring-tum Phi*.

Whether you're experienced or not,

# WE NEED YOUR BODY!

So please attend a brief meeting  
for old and new reporters

## Sunday, Jan. 11

### 8 p.m.

in the Phi Office  
(University Center Room 200)

If you can't attend but want to write,  
please contact Steve Pockrass

**AIM HIGH**

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