

## X-otic X Files:

# X-traordinary X-hibit

Season premiere of X Files: material may be confusing, but there is something for everyone.

by Adria Kovaly  
Collegian staff

America's favorite federal agents are back, and the plot lines are as "X-otic" as ever.

Chris Carter's *The X-Files* premiered Friday on the Fox network, kicking off what promises to be another successful season of programs.

The show picks up close to where last season's finale left off. This show starts with a chase scene in which Fox Mulder (David Duchovny) and Dana Scully (Gillian Anderson) attempt to protect an "alien" from another non-human assassin. Mulder and the alien flee with their adversary in close pursuit.

At this point, the story splits. Mulder and the alien travel to a farm in Canada. There, cloned

... tend the fields amid bees whose sting is deadly to humans.

If this was not odd enough, the female clones all resemble Mulder's sister, Samantha, who was thought to be abducted by aliens as a child. As they attempt to return home, the assassin strikes, apparently killing the alien and one of the clones Mulder brings with him.

Scully, in turn, begins decoding information that was entered into government computers by the aliens.

When she hits a rut, she contacts another agent, who in the past both aided and hindered Mulder. He gives her a small amount of information on the codes, but he also warns Scully that she should worry about protecting Mulder's hospitalized mother.

Temporarily disregarding this,

Scully discovers that the alien had been entering a form of inventory, one which kept track of people who had received small pox vaccinations.

Once she has shared this knowledge with other federal agents, Scully turns to keeping an eye on Mulder's mother until he returns. Mulder's informant is killed shortly after, but he manages to leave Mulder a final clue to aid him in his search for the truth.

The show then closes with the assassin speaking in the hospital room with "Cancer Man," one of Mulder's constant antagonists. The alien heals her at a request from Cancer Man, in hopes that this will give Mulder a reason to "tone down" his investigations.

For those of you who are reading about *The X-Files* for the first time, I will tell you this: It

is confusing. With plots that range from paranormal to aliens to secret government experiments, many times you have to see an episode for the plot to make sense--all the more reason to check out the show.

It almost always leaves you thinking, and the subject matter varies enough that even those who are not into aliens can find an episode that will interest them.

The show is not all science and intrigue, either. The personal lives of Mulder and Scully are also touched upon occasionally, although the relationship between the two is mainly just as FBI partners.

*The X-Files*, which now airs on Fox 66, Sundays, at 9 p.m., has been an exceptional series in the past and is one I highly recommend catching this fall.



## Free CD Contest

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# R.E.M.'s New Adventures

by Tim Holsopple  
Guest Columnist

R.E.M.'s newest offering, entitled "New Adventures in HI-FI," sounds like a collection of outtakes from their last two albums, *Automatic for the People* and *Monster*.

The fourteen tracks display the trademark laid back style that R.E.M. have perfected in their 15 years together. They often flirt with the idea of brash rock & roll, but continue to retain their composure.

*New Adventures in HI-FI* draws listeners in with embracing rhythms and contagious beats, then keeps them enthralled with thoughtful music and poignant lyrics.

The album is proof that

R.E.M. has evolved into a band that crafts delicate pop masterpieces and soft-nosed hard rock dirges that become permanently etched on listeners' minds the first time they are heard.

The opening song, "How the West Was Won and Where it Got Us," is a piece that slowly and calmly rides a bass riff reminiscent of lounge music.

A simple piano accompaniment slices through the monotony, as does the inclusion of several exotic instruments, namely an ennio whistle, bozouki, and something rarely found on R.E.M.'s albums: synthesizers.

The next song, "The Wake - Up Bomb," changes the pace and rocks much like the songs off

*Monster* did, showing their affinity for variety.

"E-bow the Letter," first single from the record, offers a guest appearance from Patti Smith, who lends her vocal talents to a song made intriguing by Michael Stipe's own talk/singstyle.

The other single, "Bittersweet Me," contains Stipe's confession that "I couldn't taste it/I'm tired and naked/I don't know what I'm hungry for/I don't know what I want anymore."

Three songs later, the soothing instrumental "Zither" quiets the soul and emulates the same passion as "Star me Kiuten" (from *Automatic*...).

These songs, as well as the rest on the album, were recorded at various places around the

country: from soundchecks at shows to a Seattle studio (Bad Animals, where Pearl Jam and Soundgarden have recorded extensively) to a dressing room in Philadelphia.

The album is well-produced by Scott Litt, who has produced all of the band's albums since *Document*.

R.E.M. has come along way since *Chronic Town* (their first e.p., released in 1981), both socially and musically. Stipe, Bill Berry, Peter Buck, and Mike Mills started a band that was long dismissed as trivial and wimpy in an era of hair bands and glam rock. They trudged through the 80's with their musical focus intact, and along the way gained the respect and admiration they justly deserved.

## King Crossword

1 Tater	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
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**ACROSS**

1 Tater  
5 Dry to a vintner  
8 Greek consonants  
12 Doves' hangout  
13 In olden days  
14 Disgusting  
15 "Sad to tell..."  
16 Contemptible  
17 "Now -- me down..."  
18 Sesame paste  
20 Race place  
22 Offspring  
23 Entry at 20 Across  
24 Gnat or mosquito  
27 Necessity for 23 Across  
32 "I -- Camera"  
33 NOW goal  
34 Wet wriggler  
35 Edificatory  
38 Puts to work  
39 Bypass the commercials  
40 I'll get you moving  
42 Alice's late friend?  
45 Incessantly  
49 Hebrew month  
50 Disencumber  
52 " -- Rhythm"  
53 Went like 60  
54 Commotion  
55 Cook in a microwave: slang  
56 Future

**DOWN**

1 "Get lost!"  
2 Negri of the silents  
3 Hexagonal state  
4 Cut it out  
5 "Catcher in the Rye" author  
6 It can cause an unsightly swelling  
7 Part of Batman's costume  
8 First  
9 Workers' compensation  
10 -- instant  
11 "The -- the limit"  
19 "Forget it"  
21 "The Name of the Rose" writer  
24 Lobbying org.  
25 It has Down Under down  
26 Mozart's birthplace  
28 Coach  
29 Oliver Stone movie  
30 Society-page word  
31 Golfer Ernie  
36 Poolroom  
37 AP counterpart  
38 Kick back and relax  
41 Singer Jarreau  
42 Anatomical network  
43 Slept like --  
44 Mine car  
46 Malarial symptom  
47 Symbol of servitude  
48 Dance lesson  
51 McKinley's First Lady

# Tragedy at Behrend

by Sheila L. Bickel  
Entertainment Editor

The Greek tragedy, *Antigone*, the story of Oedipus' daughter will be performed at the Behrend Studio Theatre in November.

This classic was originally produced approximately 2500 years ago, however Theatre Director, Tony Elliot, has decided to produce the play again to

expose students to a variety of play forms.

One version by Jean Anouilh was written as a reaction to the Nazi occupation of Paris during World War II.

In Anouilh's version, Antigone represents the French Resistance who, through incomprehensible odds, refused to compromise.

"The core message is that people need to take a stand and do

what is right, even when things look hopeless," said Elliot.

Elliot's narrative version of the play is the story of Antigone, a girl who would rather face death than succumb to the evil king and her uncle, Creon.

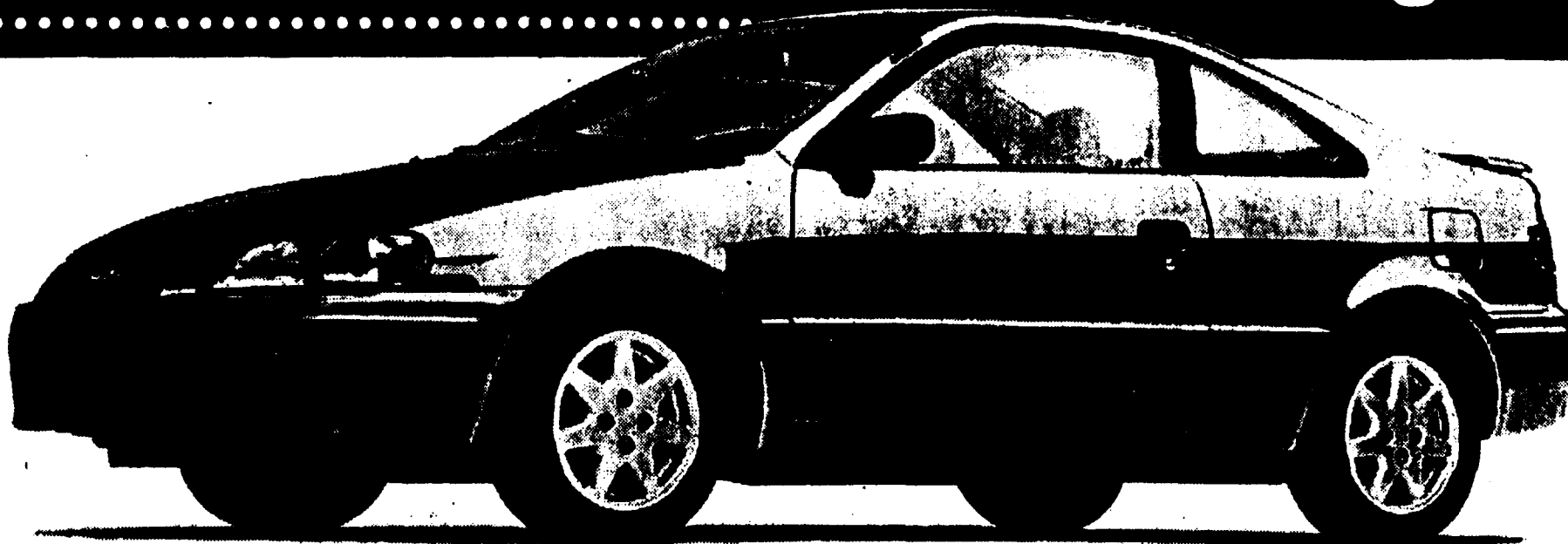
The cast of the Studio Theatre latest production is made of primarily new faces.

Of the eleven member cast, seven are rookies to the Behrend stage.

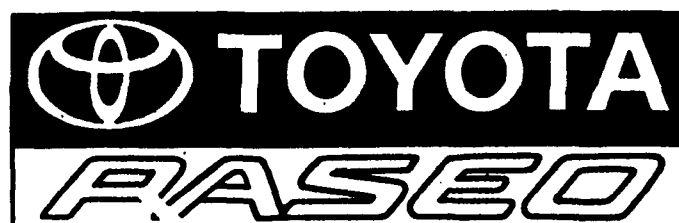
The lead role of Antigone is played by Joanna Carr. The Nurse, Ismene, Haemon and Creon are played by Lidana China, Nicole Reichel, Mike Lechner, and Jonathan Scialabra respectively.

The play opens on November 15 and will run until the 24. Reservations will be taken starting November 4, and can be made by calling 898-6016.

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