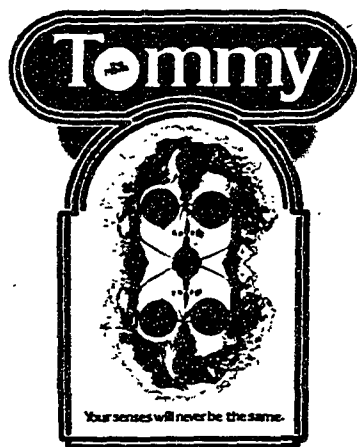


# Your senses will never be the same



by Greg Rathbun  
Collegian Staff Writer

Never have so many people been interested in a handicapped youth since "Tommy". But WHO is Tommy? Exactly. Tommy is the 1975 cult film by The Who that thrust them unshadowed into the limelight.

But it is more than that. It is the first rock opera. The songs were written by Pete Townshend in order to impress a critic who was a pinball freak.

Tommy's father, Captain Walker, was shot down during World War II and presumed

dead. On the day that he comes home he finds his wife in bed with another man. The man kills Captain Walker, and Tommy witnesses the murder.

Trying to cover up the murder the lovers shout at him, "You didn't hear anything! You didn't see anything! And you won't say anything!" Tommy's deafness, dumbness and blindness is the psychosomatic result of this.

Tommy has dreams where he imagines he is normal. It is these dreams that give him the power to stand in front of a pinball

machine and dethrone the pinball wizard.

In the rest of the film, we see Tommy undergo cures holy and unholy alike. He is taken to a psychiatrist, to a bogus faith healing rock church-an interesting scene where Townshend and The Who's drummer, Keith Moon destroy their instruments in classic Who form (reason enough to see the film)-and also taken to an acid queen who proves that while hard drugs might not heal the sick, it's sure fun trying.

In the larger scheme of things

the film has to deal with people doing what it appears they can't. "Tommy is an exploration into how to forget that you don't know how to do something," a Behrend student related. It is to show us that the unconfident should have confidence-the weak should be strong.

The all-star cast includes Eric Clapton, Tina Turner, Jack Nicholson, Elton John and Oliver Reed.

The film will be shown in Reed 117 on Jan. 29, 31 and Feb. 1, 2 at 8:00 p.m..

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January 22, 24-26 in Reed 117 at 8 p.m.

## Screen Talk: "Spies" offers creative mix of comedic talents

by T. McGee  
Collegian Staff Writer

Welcome back, kids! Did you enjoy the holidays as much as I did? Did you see fit to spend any of your cherished break time in one of our fair city's deluxe cinema palaces?

I did. As a matter of fact, I saw two of the season's hottest flicks and neither of them starred Sylvester Stallone!

However, "Spies Like Us" did star Chevy Chase and Dan Aykroyd and let me tell you, they're a lot more fun to watch.

"Spies" is the story of two bumbling government employees who are about to be thrown out of public service for cheating on an advancement test. Instead, they are recruited by the CIA to act as decoys for real spies on a mission behind enemy lines. Of course, Chase and Aykroyd believe they are the real spies and thus begins a hilarious series of diversions, chases and ridiculous conversations.

Director John Landis guides the audience comfortably through the chaos, deftly pointing out landmarks of the script's ironic humor. This film gives his career a healthy upswing after the dismal, cranky "Into the Night".

Dan Aykroyd plays the part of a brilliant but slightly confused computer engineer whose misfortune it is to meet up with the Chase character. (I'm sorry, but for the life of me I can't

remember the character's names. After all, it was the holidays.)

Aykroyd's straight-laced performance is the perfect compliment to Chase's wildly influential, loveably aloof caricature of a government employee who got his job "because his father worked there."

Do I recommend this film whole heartedly? Yes, with a single reservation. I believe that the film makers missed an opportunity to make "Spies Like Us" even better than it is. By choosing not to deal with 1985's rash of spy captures both in the U.S. and abroad, the film fails to make an important comment on governmental trust in, and surveillance of, it's own people.

Also, the movie ignores one of last year's most potentially comic headlines; the story involving the invisible "spy dust", which every country seems to be accusing every other of using.

Despite these missed points, however, the viewer will find "Spies Like Us" an enjoyable film with several types of creative strengths working for it. Aykroyd and Chase may never win Oscars, but they'll keep us laughing on their way to the bank.

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