

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Rattle and Hum

by A. Thomas Mamaux  
Collegian Staff Writer

"When you get to the bottom / You go back to the top / And you stop / And you turn / You go for a ride / You get to the bottom / And you see me again"

Such will be the life of U2. The words originally penned by the Beatles will now be used to analyze U2's career. Since U2 is now financially secure they are free to sing and play whatever they please, and they take full use of that advantage. U2 was the darling of the media throughout last year. They were on the covers of such magazines as; *Time*, *Rolling Stone*, and *Musician*. They were seen so much it was overkill. It got to the point where I and fellow U2-heads would turn off the radio if U2 came on. We would get together and listen to "Boy" and "War". We would rent "Red Rocks Under a Blood Red Sky" and think of the good old days. We U2-heads knew that U2 would come back if we could just wait. Well the wait is over because U2 has just released *Rattle and Hum*. *Rattle and Hum* is the best U2 album; a diverse musical achievement. The best thing about *R&H* is that it won't be played to death on local radios. U2 fans will not understand *R&H* and heads will devour it.

Being such a diverse album makes it hard to review. Some songs are live while others are recorded in the studio. Some of the songs are original and others are cover tunes. The first song has U2 doing hard rock, the next song sounds like Willie Nelson, the next is gospel and then there's blues.

During the Joshua Tree tour, U2 visited the deep south, Midwest,

and west. U2 was deeply fascinated by the American Country Western and Blues styles. Now this heavy influence can be heard throughout *R&H* (it also can be seen). Bono and Edge can regularly be seen sporting cowboy hats and western cut shirts and jackets. "Van Diemens Land" is the first taste of country on the album. It is not sung by Bono and it is not listed on the credits who does the vocals. To me it sounds like Willie Nelson, but it probably is Larry Mullen Jr. who made his vocal debut on the Joshua Tree tour.

U2 covers "Helter Skelter" from the Beatles, "All Along the Watchtower" from Bob Dylan, and they even do a copy of Hendrix's "Star-Spangled Banner."

Bono is no longer afraid to share the microphone. On *R&H* he sings with BB King, Bob Dylan, and Voices of Freedom. U2 and BB King do "When Love Comes To Town" together. BB is one of the best to learn blues from and U2 is willing and eager to learn. And learn they do. Edge is no longer the "one trick" guitarist. He now uses tons of distortion, reverb, and plays the lap-steel guitar. Bono more frequently plays guitar and is a master of the harmonica. Larry Mullen and Adam Clayton have also had to learn a new rhythm section to accommodate country and blues.

Since U2 is a Christian band, it was their destiny that they hook up with gospel. They hooked up with the "Voices of Freedom" and totally redid "Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For". The new version is an inspiring bone-chiller that will probably find its way into Baptist hymn books. It is also probably the only time that Bono has been upstaged during a U2 concert.

Other songs with a gospel flavor are, "Hawkmoon 269", "Love Rescue Me", and "Heartland".

The songs that were recorded live are just incredible. The stand out is "Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For," but "Silver & Gold" runs a close second. Basically the song is about a black in a suppressive white South African city. He is sick and tired or suppression and ready to fight back. "Broken back to the ceiling / Broken nose to the floor / I scream at the silence / As it crawls under the door." Fight as he may he will only learn "The warden says / The exit is sold / If you want a way out / Silver and gold." It is probably one of Bono's most lyrically accomplished songs. "Pride" is also done live on the album and it is a big disappointment. It is as if they lack the energy to do the song any justice. No longer does Bono scream in praise "sing this song for John Lennon, Jim Morrison, Janis Joplin, and Jimi Hendrix." Another letdown is that the songs "People Get Ready" and "40" are not on *R&H*. These songs are staples of a U2 show. Pulling someone out of the audience to play guitar on "People Get Ready" was great. And almost everyone leaves a U2 concert humming "how long to sing this song". So there are some disappointments in the album.

The basic theme of *R&H* (if there is one) is love. "God Part II" is the song that pulls it all together; U2 rocks and Bono wails "I don't believe the devil / Or in the work he does / But the truth is never the same / With the lies he has made up / I don't believe in excess / Success is to give / I don't believe in riches / but you should see where I live / I believe in love".

who performs in a nun's habit and a New Jersey housewife named Lilah (Sally Field) whose shared desperation and growing relationship with Hanks provide the storyline. The film is written and directed by David Seltzer. Seltzer clearly has a great sympathy for the comics he deals with and persuades us to share his feelings. The problem is with the plot-- it is slim to a fault-- and with the Sally Field character. Misconceived and miscast, Field's Lilah simply isn't funny enough to make us buy her as an aspiring comedienne. She does have her moments though-- the best scene is her pulling off a last minute dinner at a breakneck pace for her husband's clients. The movie belongs to Hanks who, in the tradition of the greatest clowns, isn't only brilliantly funny, it tears your heart out.

Hanks brings his enormous gift of comedy to the screen with an even more memorable performance. He plays Steven Gold-- a broke and miserable medical school flunk-out whose strategy for covering up his pain is playing out antic shenanigans and delivering a barrage of jokes. Each night he performs in a seedy New York comedy club called the Gas Station. Along with other has-been and would-be-comics, he waits to be discovered and sent soaring to stardom by over-the-hill club comic, a transvestite singer



It only hurts when you laugh!

by Tammy Furiesz  
Collegian Staff Writer

**PUNCHLINE**. Starring Sally Field and Tom Hanks. Rated R for language and adult situations At Cinema World.

IT has been said that comedy is the medicine for a sad heart. Why is it then that comedians aren't the happiest bunch of people around? "Punchline" explores the life of the stand-up comic and the constant ups and downs they live with. Tom

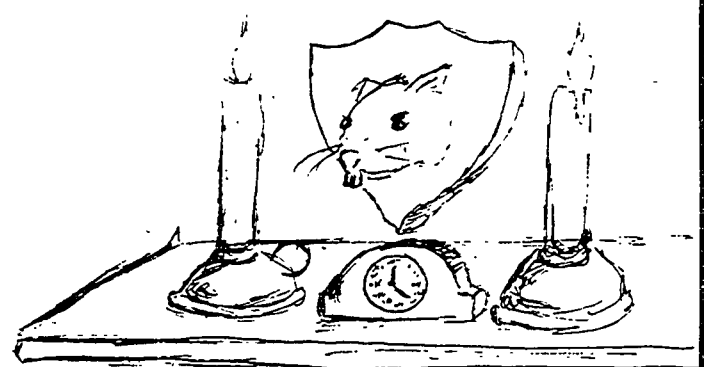
## GO TO THE MOVIES - FREE!!!

When was the last time you could afford to see a movie? Chances are when somebody else paid! Now you have the opportunity to win two free movie tickets from the Millcreek Mall Cinemas in each Collegian issue. We will print a movie related trivia question in each Entertainment section. Simply write the answer, your name, and phone number down and drop it in the box in the Collegian office. Every two weeks, ten lucky people will win two tickets each!!! The following people are the lucky winners from the trivia question asked in our last issue (two weeks ago):

Darrell White	Michele Beisler
Pam Peter	Darrell Freund
Heather McKinley	Kerry Peterson
Audra Reibel	Holly White
Wendy Noble	Kimberly Seiber

The question was, who portrayed Sonny Corleone in *The Godfather*? The correct answer was James Caan. Those of you that answered correctly, if you have not already, can pick up your tickets in the Collegian office.

**THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:** What did *The Wicked Witch of the West* write in the sky over the Emerald City?



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# REVIEWS

## New FM Station

By Tammy Furiesz  
Collegian Staff Writer

Tired of the same old beat? WMYJ-FM (97.9) will offer the latest opportunity to diversify your listening pleasure. The new Erie-area station plays adult-contemporary music aimed at the 25-plus crowd. It is a lively, uptempo radio station with a lot of personality. The station's playlist includes artists such as Sade, George Michael, Bruce Hornsby and the Range, and Peter Dinklage, as well as oldies from the seventies. The station will play some reggae and jazz but no metal or hard rock.

Disc Jockey Scott Stevens, formerly of WRIE, will play the all-important wake-up show from 5:30 to 10:00 a.m. Natalie Massing, formerly of Classy 100, will report news and also serve as Stevens' "sidekick." The sidekick relationship in radio is a very important one because it can make or break the show," Stevens said. "The station's format gives the DJ's an opportunity to ad-lib and discuss issues happening in the Erie area and the freedom to disagree about topics on the radio. So many area stations have gotten into the passive rut which listeners want a change from."

The station has also managed to snatch a few other Erie radio personalities. Ron Kline is no longer Eddie Munster (JET-FM 102) but... Ron Kline! Another former JET jock is Mike McKay (then known as "The Owl"). Jessie Hiller, formerly of K104, is yet another WMYJ convert.

The station has subscribed to CNN for national news, sports, and weather. Hourly newscasts will be broadcast around the clock. Like most stations, WMYJ will also conduct giveaways. The first involves a \$9,800 prize (as in Y-98).

Don't let the fact that the station plays "slower" music scare you away. The morning show with Scott Stevens is a refreshing change from the same hit songs being blasted in your ears over and over. The show also has a relaxing and appropriate amount of interesting conversation to bring you into this harsh existence gently. Opt for a change from the overrated safe hit stations and you are sure to enjoy the pace.

## Slippery When Wet

by Robb Frederick  
Collegian Staff Writer

A quick glance at any recent music industry chart will instantly squelch any doubts about the popularity of "mainstream metal." Albums from groups like Guns 'n Roses, Def Leppard and Van Halen, as well as new efforts by Poison and Cinderella, have solidified rock music's place in the top 20. With a showing this strong, it is only logical that a group with a similar style dominates the charts.

New Jersey, the fourth album by Bon Jovi, was expected to be a success. In 1986, the group finally found its deserved audience, through the smashing success of their album *Slippery When Wet*, which sold more than 13 million copies throughout the world. What's a group supposed to do after an album that triumphant? Why, make another, of course.

This album, however, is more than just a repeat of *Slippery*. The general sound is more aggressive, and from the beginning the listener is bombarded by strong bass, searing guitar solos and a forceful, ever-present drumbeat.

The opening track, "Lay Your Hands on Me," instantly assures listeners that their money was well spent. Drummer Tico Torres produces a charging beat that is joined by David Bryan's keyboard effects and the guitar wizardry of Richie Sambora. A sudden tempo change allows frontman Jon Bon Jovi to introduce the song's chorus, and then the band dives into what may be the greatest track on the album. This song is followed by "Bad Medicine," the first single released, which has already seen immense amount of airplay on both radio and MTV.

This forceful, energetic style is continued throughout the album. Songs like "Born to be my Baby" and "Homebound Train" demonstrate the band's ability to produce strong, catchy music. "99 in the Shade," with its lyrical description of sexual desire, perfectly conforms to the stereotype of rock and roll music. A short, catchy chorus and a fast beat can provide enjoyment for even the morose of listeners. Although this song may be an insult to the intelligence of members of the group's audience, the infinite, creative references to sexual activity deserve some merit.

Fans of Bon Jovi's previous ballads will not be disappointed with this latest release. Tracks like "Living in Sin" and "I'll Be There For You" painfully explain the frustrations found in many relationships. These songs also touch upon the themes of friendship, loyalty and doing what you feel is right. The song "Blood on Blood" best combines these principles. Jon Bon Jovi's convincing, inspired vocals transport listeners to the days of his youth, when friendships were established for life. He sings of the experiences they shared and the troubles they caused. As the song nears its end, he speaks about the current occupations and lives of these friends, and he repeats his promise of loyalty in the track's final verse. "Through the years and miles between / It's been a long and lonely ride / But if I got a call in the dead of night / I'd be right by your side," he sings.

Although the final product is better than any previous effort by the band, there were difficulties during the creation of *New Jersey*. The group's manager, Doc McGhee, was convicted earlier this year on charges of drug smuggling. Practicing their beliefs about loyalty, the group remained faithful to McGhee, although production was slowed. Another problem resulted from difficulties with Polygram, Bon Jovi's recording label. *New Jersey* was originally titled *Sons Of Beaches*, and was intended to be a double album. When Polygram disregarded the possibility of a twin-set, the group abandoned the title as well.

The group also experienced difficulty in the choosing of the album's songs. An excess of material, magnified by the reduction of available vinyl, forced the band to turn to its fans for assistance. A group of 50 youths was invited into the studio, where they voted on the songs to be used. Bon Jovi used this procedure during the production of *Slippery When Wet*, and the approach apparently worked.

In spite of the problems encountered during the creation of *New Jersey*, the group managed to release an album that could improve on the success brought from *Slippery When Wet*. The finished work is perhaps the best the group has ever released, and it will undoubtedly dominate the music charts for a long time.

## CONCERT CONNECTION

- Oct. 28 Prince Pgh. Civic Arena
- Oct. 28 Morton Downey Jr. Shay's Theater - Buffalo
- Oct. 29 New Edition, Bobby Brown, Al B. Sure Memorial Audi Theater
- Nov. 4 Mylon & Broken Heart Syria Mosque
- Nov. 9 Jimmy Page Syria Mosque
- Nov. 12 Reba McEntire & Steve Wariner AJ Palumbo

**OTHER EVENTS:**  
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