

ARTS and CULTURE

A BOOK REVIEW

By Frank Lynch
Staff Writer

Close Encounters of the Third Kind by Steven Spielberg. Dell Paperbacks, \$1.95.

If you have a couple of dollars you feel like throwing away on something stupid, buy **Close Encounters of the Third Kind**.

This book is obviously a "Rush" novel, planned to be sold in tandem with the movie so that they will produce hefty mutual profits during the current fascination with UFO's.

Basically, the book contains a very simple plot, written in a hackneyed style and pasted together with some splashy description of low-flying space craft. In fact, any redeeming value in this book is found in

the author's fluent use of flight terminology. But most of his credibility is lost by his careless plot structure.

The story begins by hinting that the U. S. Government knows what's going on and it doesn't want anyone else to know. But Roy Neary has had a close encounter of the **second** kind, and wants to know what is going on. So the entire book is a race between Roy and the United States, and the contest ends in a tie. Roy then experiences a close encounter of the **third** kind. In case you want to see the movie, I won't tell you how it ends, but it's really not that exciting.

Spielberg's treatment of characters is also unbelievable.

For example, Roy can not understand why his wife disapproves of his lying on the roof all night looking for space saucers. She finally takes the kids and goes to her mother after Roy, in his pajamas, shovels dirt and shrubbery into the family room to recreate the vision he has had. The author and Roy treat her as a misguided, misunderstanding woman, which is ludicrous.

Let me finish by saying that I still believe life exists somewhere in this big universe, in spite of **Close Encounters**. I'm just amazed that the movie from whence this non-professional novel originated will be among the top-grossing profitable ventures of all time.

Coming In February...

The Tarnhelm Film Festival

The Creative Voice focuses on major poets, writers and Charlie Chaplan.

Watch this space for further information, show times and places.

Grass

By Bob Buckingham
Guest Columnist

Snow curtailed much of the activity in the area last week, but you can't keep a good thing down. Thursday night at Dante's Still on the Hill will bring their special blend of bluegrass and rock to the Harrisburg area.

Last Saturday night found bluegrass at such diverse places as Round Top and the Midway and even at the Penn Shire in E-town.

NEW LP'S

Just out is "No. 3 Special", the third lp by the Highwoods Stringband. As they even say in the liner notes, it is more of the same, but better than ever. The vocals improve with each outing and the quality of songs and tunes never wavers. The recording and five years as a collected effort give this lp strength and continuity. The twin fiddles sound a little scratchier than other times but their rhythm is as true as it is funky.

The material spans the Sons of the Pioneers with "Way Out There" to Ron Hughey, a local favorite in fiddle circles in California, with "Pig Ankle Rag". Mac Benford turns in a great piece for all you assertiveness freaks with Charlie Poole's "You Ain't Talkin to Me".

The fine color photos on both sides of the sleeve reveal the HWSB to be serious musicians high on life or

News

something. For all you that missed them when they performed at C.C. in 1973, they will be at the Shidig in the Barn in Lancaster on March 4th.

The Boys of the Lough have brought the folk styles of the Isles to us in the US for several years now. Here with their new lp, "Good Friends and Good Music", they join with friends from Isles, Canada and the USA to bring us the best of our mutual heritage.

Primarily an instrumental lp we hear galeic mouth music and lilting, both are a type of scat singing, and a few bars "Hop Light Ladies" from Kenny Hall, Californias living encyclopedia of traditional American and Irish folk music. Besides Kenny, the Boys are joined by Jay Ungar, formerly of David Bromberg's band and the All Night News Boys. Aly Bain is joined by his mentor Tommy Anderson and Louis Beaudion for some of the cleanest fiddling this side of Dr. Mahar's tape player.

A local band worth noting is the West Orrtanna String Band. They released an lp this past summer encompassing a diversity of styles. They are best at the breakdowns and recreations of the old commercial hillbilly musics. Their best efforts being "York County Tunes" and "Young McAfee on the Gallows".

The WOSB is growing and their current performances out shine this record so catch them if you can.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Jan. 13 thru Feb. 5

'Anything Goes'(musical) - Harrisburg Community Theatre, 513 Hurlock St., Hbg. Thurs., Fri., & Sat., 8:30pm; Sun., Feb. 5, 2:30pm; \$5. Information: 238-7381.

Jan. 16-31

Oils, Watercolors, and Graphics by Kathleen Piunti - College Center, Lebanon Valley College, Annville, 10am-10pm.

Jan. 17 thru Feb. 18

'Mousetrap'(mystery) - Host Inn Dinner Theatre, Rtes. 283 & 441, Hbg. Tues. thru Thurs. dinner 6:30pm, showtime 7:45pm, \$11; Fri. & Sat. dinner 6:30pm, showtime 7:45pm, \$12; Jan. 25 matinee buffet 12pm, showtime 1pm, \$8.

Jan. 27

'Deliverance'(drama), '72, Burt Reynolds, Jon Voight, HACC auditorium, free.

Jan. 27 thru Feb. 7

'Best of Friends' - York Little Theatre, 27S. Belmont St., York. Information: 854-5715

Jan. 28

'Cocoanuts' a Marx Brothers film, Student Center Capitol Campus 8:30pm.

Jan. 31

'The Smile of Reason' - College Center, Lebanon Valley College, Annville, 6:30pm.



FREE

Color Portraits for all 11th and 12th term students will be taken on January 31, February 1, and February 2. There is no sitting fee for this photographic session.

Sign-up sheets are posted by the round table, next to the Records Office. Remember, if you want your yearbook photo taken, **IT IS MOST IMPORTANT THAT YOU SIGN UP FOR AN APPOINTMENT AND KEEP IT.**

YEARBOOK

Capitolite 1978

subscriptions will be on sale in Vendorville February 13, 14, 16, and 17 during 3, 4, and 5 periods. This is also the time when the \$5.00 balance must be paid for those who made a down payment last term for a subscription.

Capitolite 1978 will have a staff meeting for all old and new staff members on Tuesday January 31, in Room W-129 at 3:30 p.m.

Anyone interested in photography, copywriting, illustration, layout, and advertising is invited to attend.

Spanish speaking people needed to help Mexican exchange visitors of the Friendship Force. Contact Prof. Clem Gilpin in Room W-154.

Contributions Welcome

The scope of the arts is unlimited in its potential. You can help us realize this potential. Have you been to a movie, play, art exhibit, or concert that was so good [or bad] that you'd be inspired to write about it? Well, then write about it, and submit it to the Arts and Culture page of the Reader.

MARX BROTHERS FILM
COCOANUTS
STUDENT CENTER
SAT JAN 28
8:30 P.M. \$.50