

The Reel World

The Summer of 1981 in Film

By Rick Morrison

The purpose of film reviews in the C.C. Reader is to inform the readers what the various films in our area are about. Where possible, I will preview films which have not been released in this area. Critical judgments will be made on as many films as possible, so as to assist readers in determining if they want to see a particular film which they have heard little or nothing about.

A new feature which I hope to implement this term will be a brief, but complete listing of films being shown in our area. Included with the listing will be brief descriptions of each of the films.

Those of you who are seriously interested in learning more about films, or those of you who think you know what a "good" film is, should seriously consider taking M-M- 480, Language of the Screen, which will be offered in the winter term. Taught by Prof. Eton Churchill, it is an excellent exercise in developing your ability to watch movies and enjoy them much more. It's an essential course for multi-media students.

The summer of 1981 was a great financial success for Hollywood's major studios. When all the figures are calculated for the year, it will surely be one of the best revenue-grossing periods in recent memory. And, although some of the financial success may be attributed to people who went to movies because there was no baseball, I tend to believe that some films, on their own, were good enough to attract substantial numbers of viewers.

By far the biggest money-maker and the most entertaining picture was "Raiders of the Lost Ark." "Raiders" is an excellent thriller which should not be missed. As far as action-adventure films go, it beats "For Your Eyes Only," "Outland," and all the others hands down.

"Blow Out" gives us an excellent performance from Nancy Allen and a good performance from John Travolta. Directed by Brian de Palma, it's a story about a movie sound effects man who records the sound of land, is an eyewitness to a tragic auto accident, and then has to try to prove that it was a political assassination. This is a very good suspense film and it has a spectacular finish, set against a fireworks display at a Liberty Day celebration in Philadelphia.

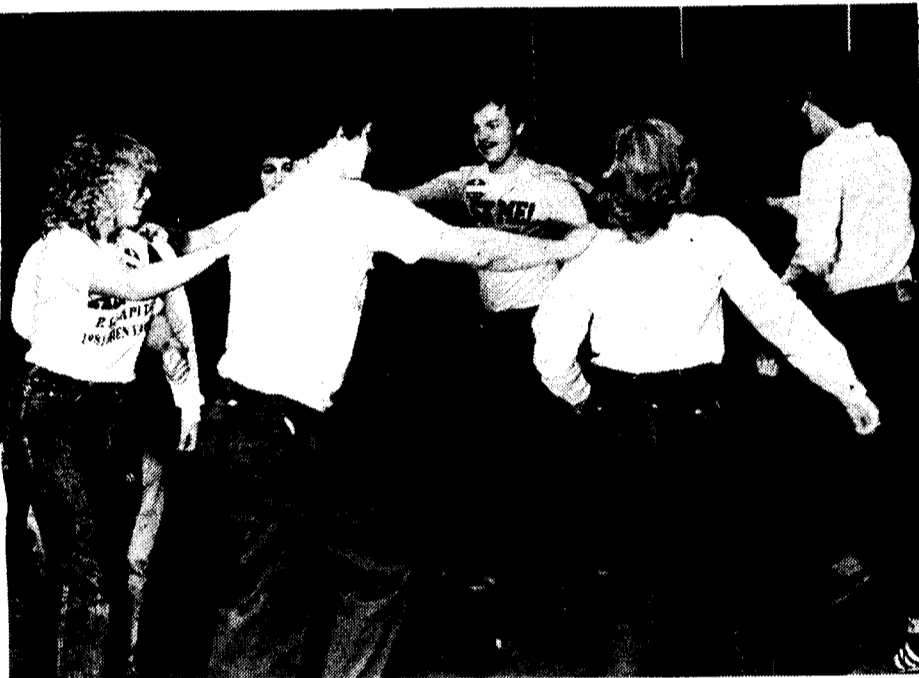
"S.O.B." comes to us from Blake Edwards (producer of "10" and the Pink Panther films) and is a satirical look at a producer's need to fight the "system" and all big detractors in order to make his movie a commercial success. It's a bitter look at Hollywood with a violent and sad ending. This is also the film (for those of you who don't know) in which Julie Andrews bares her breasts. After watching the scene, you'll agree with me when I say, "so what, big deal, who cares?" It does nothing to enhance "S.O.B.," and it does even less to enhance the film within the film.

My next article will review some more films in greater detail. Film reviews to look for in the future include: "So Fine," "Only When I Laugh," "Prince of the City," "True Confessions," and "The French Lieutenant's Woman."



Some Capitol Campus students are bowled over (above) and enjoy square dancing (below) during the orientation festivities.

READER Photos by Steve Myers Photo Club



Newsmaker...



Secretary of State Alexander Haig — Trying to make nice with the Russians.



See your Jostens' Representative.

DATE Thursday, October 15 TIME 8:30 a.m.--7:00 p.m.

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