

'Visitor': rhythms of Africa Grease brings back '50s

Friday, July 31 8

"Say Goodbye" Eco-action sponsors this

"Star Wars" featuring the same ever-popular "Tarzan and the Ape Man" Bo Derek stars in the latest of a long line of Tarzan movies

"Blowout" John Travolta stars as a movie

"The Fox and the Hound" Feature length "Arthur" Dudley Moore tops the bill as an

Nazis as he searches for the original tablets "Stripes" Cabdriver Bill Murray joins the

tonight at Gatsby's free of charge. The show

"Grease" at the Playhouse Theatre and "On

- "The Visitor," Mick Fleetwood, RCA Records, AFL1-4080 By JUDD A. BLOUCH **Daily Collegian Staff Writer**
- Africa, looking for something lost, something misplaced in our a bit of money for the company with "Rumours" and "Tusk," complicated world. Actually, Mick Fleetwood's journey to Ghana to record his projected \$300,000 bill. Warner Bros. was not.
- well worth the bother. Fleetwood. the co-founder of Fleetwood Mac. said his African interview. experiment was a life-long dream. "I'd always wanted to do an RCA new better and gave Fleetwood the backing to make the
- rock-symphonic synthesis of Western and African music," says Accra, Ghana to put out his first solo album. Fleetwood in the news release for "The Visitor." jumbo way of saving that he has combined rock 'n' roll with the ear to listening and the body to swaying.
- starts with an old Fleetwood Mac tune "Rattlesnake Shake," the African melodies and the professional sound of the Ghanian written and sung in this case by former band member Peter musicians. The first taste of the nasal vocals or oddly synco-Greenbaum. However, background vocals are not sung by pated rhythms may shock the Westerner's audio tongue, but



Mick Fleetwood

Stevie Nicks and Christine McVie, and, instead, are provided by Ebaali Gbiko, a children's drum ensemble. To get the project off the ground Fleetwood first went to Like Stanley searching for Livingston, he went into darkest Warner Bros. Because Fleetwood and his band had made quite Fleetwood thought the company would be willing to pay the solo album "The Visitor" isn't that romantic, but the result is "I think people felt I was gonna come out here and record

ethnic grunts and groans," Fleetwood said in a Rolling Stone album that would use African rhythms as a base for a modern, dream a reality. Off went the 6 foot, 6 inch Englishman to "The Visitor" is most certainly not a collection of grunts and

"Modern, rock-symphonic synthesis" is Fleetwood's mumbo- groans, but is a smooth, well-engineered album that sets the vocal and percussion sounds of Ghana. For instance, the album Perhaps the albums most startling quality is the sweetness of

> getting used to the flavor takes just a second. Greenbaum's "Rattlesnake Shake" starts off the LP and uickly disperses any notion that this is not a-rock 'n' roll recordir

"You Weren't in Love With Me" follows and introduces George Hawkins, bassist of Kenny Loggins' band, on lead vocals. Hawkins, along with guitarist Todd Sharpe of Bob Welch's band, make up Fleetwood's "band" for this album. Hawkin's voice immediately proves itself, passing easily from the lower melody to a pleasant falsetto on the chorus. So much for a pure rock 'n' roll album. Along comes "O'

Niamali," starting with a whiney, nasal African solo and breaking into a superb congo exhibition with a chorus of sweet voices doing harmonies that both sooth and arouse. "Superbrains," a high-spirited, pulsating jazz piece by the Ghanian group Superbrains and Sharpe's "Don't be Sorry,

(Just be Happy)" end side one with typical diversity. Lindsay Buckingham's "I Walk a Thin Line" begins side two the way side one began - all Fleetwood Mac. George Harri-

son's guest appearance on 12-string and slide guitars adds a pleasant suprise to an already good song. You've heard the next two on the radio. "Not Fade Away." the Charles Hardin/Norman Petty song made famous by Buddy Holly and recorded by the Grateful Dead and others. features a heavy rhythm line featuring Lord Tiki and the Adjo group on drums. Hawkins' "Cassiopeia Surrender" is a steady, subdued song that promises to make its composer a big stack of

The album ends with two African numbers: "The Visitor" and "Amelle (Come on Show Me Your Heart)." The first is | and his vibrant dancing captured the quick and busy, with a Prophet 5 synthesizer adding more | limelight. sound, and the second, in contrast, is the mellow side of Ghanian music Filetwood actually keeps a low profile on the album. But it is | summoned forth by Frenchie, Teen An-

still his brainchild, and bears his mark in the form of a fine | gel - played by Samuel Smith in one of study in rhythm and a damn good rock 'n' roll album.

Rydell High.



By JAMES STEWART **Daily Collegian Staff Writer**

The Playhouse Theatre vibrated with an audience, ostensibly cherishing flashhoola-hoops and Mickey Mouse.

During the 1950s, high schools came complete with rowdies. The 1959 class of Rydell High was no different. Everybody was raunchy and cool, and used foul language. But director David Bell. flaunting his artistic genius, has presented the opposite side of the students of

Bell adds a new dimension to the students of Rydell High by portraying them as real people. He permits the Burger Palace Boys and The Pink Ladies to laugh and to cry. Unlike the original rendition of "Grease," where the the Rydell High bunch was passed off as a group of junior-flip, hot rod-loving juveniles. Bell allows them to be loving, feeling students for a moment. You can even care about them. Bell's approach to "Grease" has created a more playful and energetic musi-

The nostalgic journey begins when Eugene, your typical nurd, played by Tim Lorah, makes a speach at Rydell High's 1969 class reunion, reflecting on the memories of past 10 years. The speech is an original, tailored for the occasion by Bell himself.

Kenickie, played by Kim Strauus in his first professional theater performance, is a positive force in the show. His voice and his James Cagney mannerisms highlighted him on the stage as he bumped and bounced to two-fisted rock 'n' roll. With only six theater appearances before

"Grease," he is the flavor of the cast. Lee Lobenhofer, who appeared in the lead role as Danny, took a back seat as Kenickie's strong vocal performances

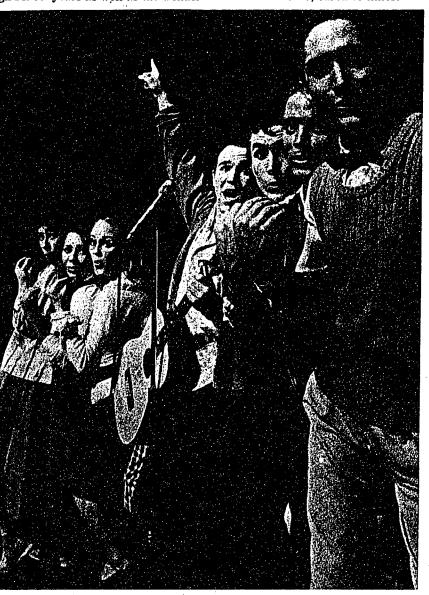
"Grease" restored faith in wishes. And at Bell's Rydell, wishes came true. When his three roles in the show — provides the

distraught girl with the counsel and ful experiences. Everybody tries to fit in. guidance she needs to make her wish But everybody can't. come true. Slowly wafting from the imnostalgia last night as the opening of mense Playhouse "sky," Teen Angel "Grease" was reminiscently received by drops in to make things right. backs to energetic days of poodle skirts, experiences one goes through during yourself to "Grease" and experience an

If you've lived the '50s and ache to

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recapture them or if you've missed the "Grease" brings to mind the nasty '50s and long to experience them, treat high school years as well as the wonder- era of vulnerable, carefree times.



The gang from Rydell High whoops it up in "Grease," which opened last night

Photo by Dan Voceley