

Comedian a success

Steve "ain't" White was spontaneous and hilarious

by Craig Campbell
The Collegian

"Cause Snickers satisfies you...now really, does anyone ever come home really horny and say...Oh man, I need a Snickers!"

Steve White put on a hilarious show Friday night at Bruno's. After appearing on shows such as *MTV Half Hour Comedy Hour*, *Comic Strip Live*, *Showtime at the Apollo* and many others, he came to our campus.

Steve joked about his name, Steve White, saying "his middle name must be ain't." He also brought the audience into his act by either dealing with hecklers or purposely talking to members of the audience and bringing them on stage.

White was raised around talent. He attended Roosevelt High School with celebrities such as Julius Erving, Chuck D from Public Enemy, and Eddie Murphy. He worked on a radio show with Chuck D and says Eddie Murphy was funnier when he was still in school.

While attending a community college where he was an accounting major, White began his comedy career. His debut performance killed the audience, and he soon became a regular. Although he has a bachelors degree in accounting, White has entertained full-time because "having something to fall back on leads to failure in one field."

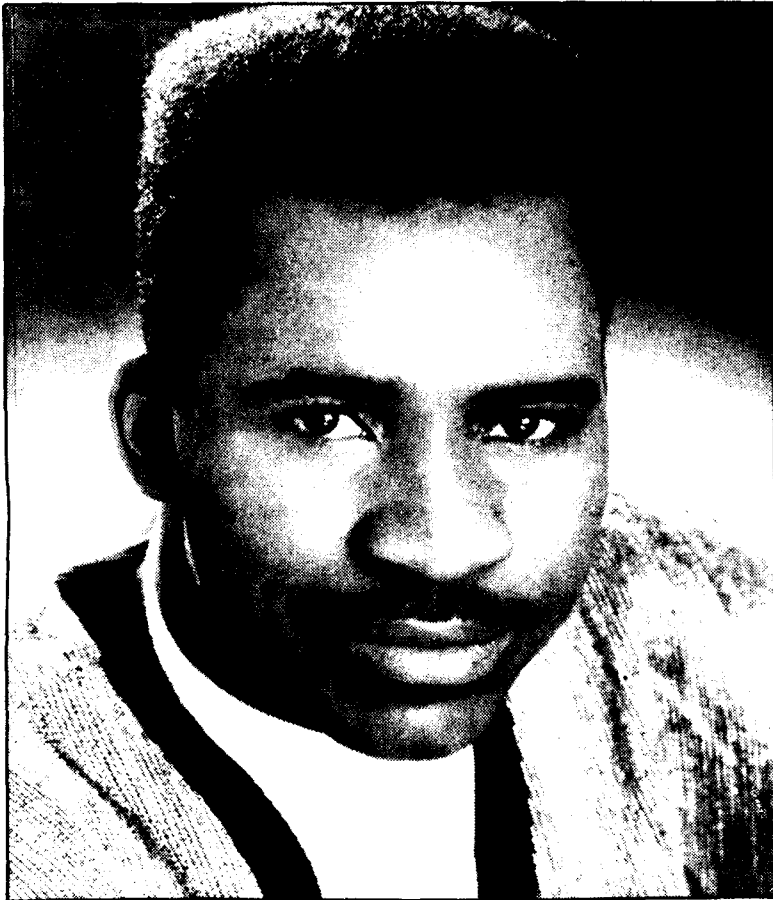
Along with his stand-up career, White has been in

numerous films. He has appeared in *Coming to America* with Eddie Murphy, *Ford Fairlane* with Andrew Dice Clay (whom he says is actually the most passive guy off stage), *Do The Right Thing*, *Mo Better Blues* and *Jungle Fever*. Most of those films were directed by Spike Lee and White says he can't say one bad thing about him (Lee): "He's a good director, great businessman, and a real person."

When asked about other

interests White says, "Besides comedy, writing, acting and directing...Nope!" and his future plans are to have a son and become a Supreme Court Justice.

Steve White's stand-up is spontaneous and hilarious, and his acting career is now leading him into a career as a director. If you missed him at Bruno's, look for him in Spike Lee's next film *Malcolm X*.



Film full of

plot twists

Barton Fink is a dark comedy

by Paul Plisiewicz
The Collegian

Barton Fink is a dark comedy about a blocked writer in 1941 Hollywood from director Joel Coen (*Blood Simple*, *Miller's Crossing*, *Raising Arizona*). The film is at once humorous, depressing, horrifying and satirical.

Barton Fink (John Turturro), is a left-wing New York playwright whose concerns lie solely with establishing artistic integrity as he creates what he thinks theater should be: theater "of and about and for the common man."

In order to support his artistic crusade, Fink accepts an offer from Capital Pictures to write screenplays. The revolutionary writer cannot get started on his first assignment - a wrestling picture for Wallace Berry.

Coen uses this premise to satirize every level of Hollywood, from the disillusioned writer to the vulgar studiohead Mr. Lipnick (Michael Lerner). The entire film achieves an atmosphere of amusement in a peculiar and macabre way.

The hotel in which Fink stays is inhabited by an overzealous desk clerk, a cadaverous elevator operator and a likeable insurance salesman named Charlie Meadows (John Goodman).

The only other visible life in the hotel is the wallpaper that continually peels itself from the walls. The halls are endless and desolate and the slow journeys of

the camera through them are mystical and eerie. A sense of imminent danger pervades throughout.

Due to his inability to write, Fink employs the help of his idol, W.P. Mayhew. Mayhew wastes no time in showing Fink that he's a had been; he engages more in angry boozing and sex with his secretary (Judy Davis) than he does in his work. Fink is frustrated even further.

The writer's interest in the common man is revealed to be only an abstraction when he refuses to listen to Meadows. As Fink alienates himself from the common man, he is thrust into a bizarre love triangle and winds up a murder suspect. Meanwhile, his script remains unfinished while the studio head still admires his artistic muse.

After more startling plot twists, Fink miraculously begins writing. In a fit of inspiration, he creates what he feels to be his most important work. The script is vehemently rejected, and Fink is cast off as an artsy hack who doesn't know what Hollywood is about.

Barton Fink is full of surprising plot twists, allusions, impressive camera work and an amazing, almost surreal, atmosphere. The film took three of the top prizes at the 1991 Cannes Film Festival, including best picture, best director and best actor (Turturro). It is now showing at the Plaza Theatre in the West Erie Plaza.

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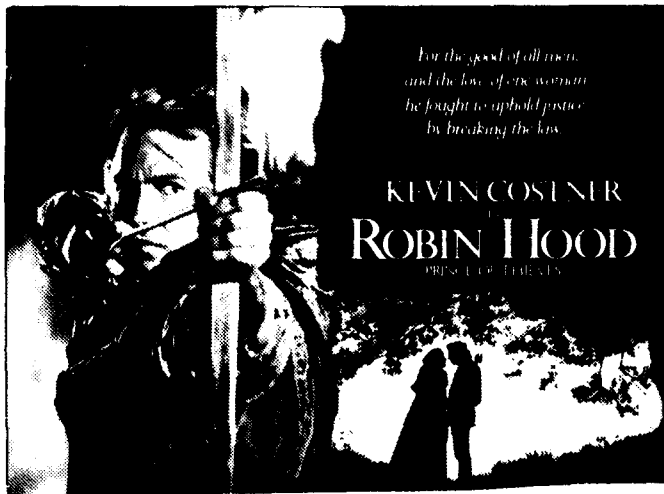
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