

**Top Weekend Movies**

January 17 - 20 grosses nationwide

- 1 "Hand That Rocks the Cradle" \$11.8 million
- 2 "Juice" 8.1 million
- 3 "Hook" \$6.9 million
- 4 "Freejack" \$6.7 million
- 5 "Father of the Bride" \$6.4 million
- 6 "Prince of Tides" \$6.0 million
- 7 "Grand Canyon" \$6.0 million
- 8 "JFK" \$5.8 million
- 9 "Beauty and the Beast" \$5.3 million
- 10 "Kuffs" \$4.4 million

# Black and white defines E's outlook and new album

## Reviews



**"A Man Called E"**  
Polydor Records

Although you can't judge a book by its cover, sometimes you can, as the debut album by E substantiates.

The cover is black and white print. For the most part, the music on "A Man Called E" is pretty black and white as well — plain and simple.

E, a self-professed patron saint of the depressed, subscribes to the pop ethic of album-making — keep it plain and it won't offend anyone. At least that's the indication from listening to the LP's 11 tracks.

However, inoffensive music is preferable to offensive music (for most listeners), and E probably won't scare anyone off or make any enemies with his new work.

E's songs are all similar to pop songs in 4/4 time that reach a hook in the proper number of bars and end before getting excessively monotonous.

The strength of "A Man Called E" is in those pop hooks. "Hello Cruel World," "Nowheresville" and "Pray"

all have a catchy sound that should bring E some success.

E's lyrics are occasionally interesting as well. In "Hello Cruel World," he paints the picture (in black and white of course) of his cruel world, "Norman Rockwell colors fade/All my favorite things have changed/What the hell, hello cruel world."

E's voice is also a positive component of the LP. He sounds like a well-seasoned singer. Maybe he's just a well-seasoned smoker, but either way, he ends up sounding quite a bit like Andy Summers of the Police.

The problems with the album are few. First, the running time is only 32 minutes. This seems strange, because E claims in the liner notes to have "hundreds and hundreds" of songs. Why don't 30 more minutes of those hundreds of songs appear on this album?

Second, if E wants to portray a Charlie-Brown, always-bummed-out image, he blows it by including the love song, "Are You & Me Gonna Happen?" that stands out as remarkably up-beat compared to the rest of the work.

All in all though, this album is easy to digest, much like tofu — also a plain white substance. However, a little more spice and a few extra in-



Courtesy of Polydor

"A Man Called E," by E, is a new release from Polydor Records.

Ingredients would have made it better. Unless you're on a low-cal musical diet, this album might leave you a little hungry.

— Carter Van Pelt

## McFerrin

Continued from Page 6

gaged the audience in a sing-along of "John Jacob Jingleheimer Schmidt," followed by a gripping rendition of "Round Midnight."

Then came McFerrin's tour de force, a 5-minute trip through every song in "The Wizard of Oz," complete with movement and snippets of dialogue. The crowd roared its approval.

After intermission, McFerrin dedicated Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 in A Major to the memory of Leonard

Bernstein. Bernstein helped McFerrin learn how to conduct this piece. It was the first piece McFerrin ever conducted and the last piece Bernstein conducted before his death. McFerrin's musical knowledge was astounding as he conducted this piece and the entire concert without a score.

For an encore, he introduced the orchestra to vocal music, having its members sing their parts on Rossini's "William Tell Overture."

He told the audience, "I want to publicly thank the Nebraska Chamber Orchestra. I hope you realize what a treasure you have right here." The

orchestra lived up to the compliment; it was truly in top form.

McFerrin's performance ripped down barriers between musical genres as he demonstrated that the same excitement can come from the world of Mozart and the world of Bobby McFerrin.

## Fifth

Continued from Page 6

matter) that helps to enlighten, enliven or to engender awareness is revolutionary in some sense.

That is a broad interpretation, but that is what I am after, because they are the narrow, rigid interpretations of any idea that becomes repressive.

Currently, there is much discussion of the freedom to form and express ideas through whatever medium one might prefer, and this is good.

Yet until now the Fifth Column has unnecessarily restricted itself to

packaged media: primarily sound recordings, but also the printed word and painted image.

Of all the media, it seems that the most freedom is lost through packaging, production and presentation in the case of music.

When one creates music by and for oneself or directly for a small group, the strongest feelings are brought forth, for the sounds and emotions are direct and unchanneled, and it is this kind of pure experience that is both evolutionary and revolutionary.

The next Fifth Column will explore these ideas more fully in two weeks.

## Tomatoes

Continued from Page 6

actress and best supporting actress, respectively.

They were both great, but the larger parts and outstanding performances in the film truly belong to Masterson and Parker.

Masterson portrayed stubborn Ildgie with toughness and tenderness. Parker's

Ruth was gracious and ladylike, but had a streak of spunkiness a mile wide. The two young actresses worked very well together, each enhancing the other with a strong performance.

The supporting cast was also good, with legend Cicely Tyson turning in a solid performance as Sipsy, the cook at the cafe. Big George, the strong handyman and longtime friend of Ildgie, was played by Stan Shaw. This subtle

performance means Shaw is someone to keep an eye on in the future.

Author Flagg has a cameo as a marriage counselor, and television-watchers will recognize Evelyn's friend Missy as the mayonnaise woman from commercials.

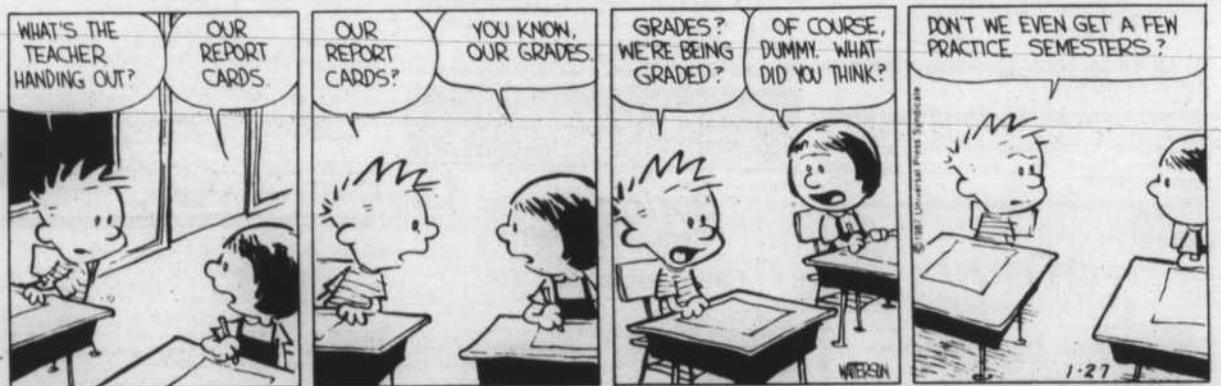
"Fried Green Tomatoes" is an excellent portrait of true friendship and a fine example of solid storytelling.

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## Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



## Tower

Continued from Page 6

of changing the tapes, "but somebody's got to do it."

He picks a tape that fits his mood that day, he said, and away he goes.

About four feet from the tape system is a spinet-sized organ with a built-in cassette recorder for recording new tapes for the machine. Although he wasn't sure, Klein said he

thought that no new tapes had been made since 1984.

Anyone interested in recording a tape to be used by the Bell Tower would have to contact the facilities management department during business hours, he said.

Keeping the Bell Tower in tune adds some diversity to his job, Klein said.

"It's better than taking care of elevators," he said, "It's something different."

## THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Bad guy comin' in, Arnie! ... Minor key!"

### ACROSS

- 1 Browning's "Ben Ezra"
- 6 Author Ferber
- 10 Ripens
- 14 From another planet
- 15 Go kaput
- 16 Stubborn one
- 17 In a line
- 19 He helps
- 20 Ancient sect
- 21 Left port
- 23 Toddler
- 24 Vestibule
- 25 Tentmaker-poet
- 29 Private eye, at times
- 33 Religious maxims
- 35 Letter sign-off
- 39 All-out bet
- 43 Hold back
- 44 Weird
- 45 McGuffey product
- 48 Abbr. on an envelope
- 49 Plunger's loss
- 53 Kind of bridge or brow
- 55 Torment
- 57 Traveling bags
- 61 "Terrible" ruler
- 62 Baseball rarity
- 65 Network of nerves
- 66 Eye part
- 67 Part of AWOL
- 68 Patella's site
- 69 S-shaped molding
- 70 British sand hills

### DOWN

- 1 Headland
- 2 "It's a Sin to Tell"
- 3 Compartments
- 4 Importunes
- 5 Cove
- 6 Decadent
- 7 Podium
- 8 Nothing
- 9 Pub drinks
- 10 With full force
- 11 Culpability
- 12 Church bigwig
- 13 Gone to pot
- 18 A grandson of Adam
- 22 Make bubbly
- 25 Antiquated
- 26 Secure a ship
- 27 Malarial fever
- 41 Eggs
- 42 Army V.I.P.
- 46 Pass by
- 47 Kind of call
- 49 Dodge
- 50 Port
- 51 Furious
- 52 Rajah's lady
- 54 Handle
- 56 Historic Norman town
- 57 Honeysuckle or cucumber
- 58 Graf
- 59 Verve
- 60 Buy a C.D.
- 63 Col.'s command
- 64 Word of assent

### ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

