

Magic

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said. Nathaniel Watt, owner of Spellbound Books and Games in the Reunion, said the game's popularity was "the most amazing thing I've ever seen."

Watt said he saw a diverse range of people who bought the cards.

"There are a lot of college students, but I see a lot of 40- and 50-year-old people and young kids come in for the cards," he said.

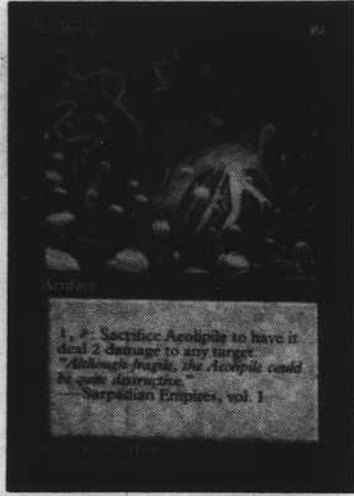
Watt, a player himself, thought the appeal for buying new cards stemmed from the gambling aspect.

"You buy a pack, and you don't know what you're going to get," he said. "It's a Christmas surprise!"

Chad De Moss, a freshman music and computer science major, said playing the game also was a good way to spend your time.



The above are cards from "Fallen Empires," the fifth "Magic" card game expansion set.

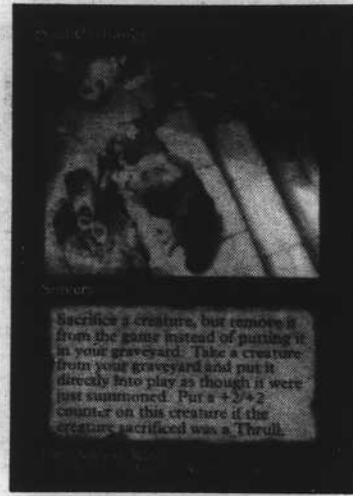


"I think that people are reflected by how they play their decks."

But Oslzly also thinks the game is fun to play.

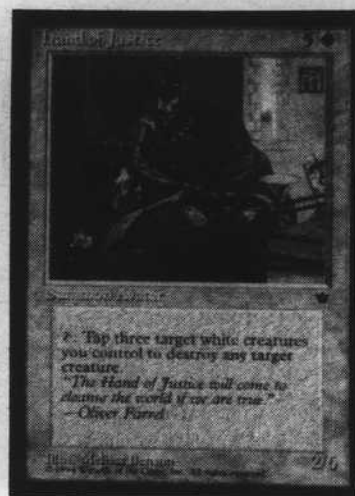
"It beats the hell out of rummy and pick up sticks," he said.

Wizards of the Coast Inc. has



big plans for its card game in the future.

"The new 'Ice Age' set will be coming out in May," Thearle said. "It will be playable as a self-contained game and will be 100 percent compatible with Magic."



Courtesy of Wizards of the Coast

With new sets every 2 to 4 months, novels being written about the game and a computer version of the game in the works, Magic promises to be around as long as the Arthurian legends — namely the one about Merlin.

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Gallery

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United States and was exposed to all of the different religions, she said she realized people were doing the same thing when they viewed religion.

"They're looking at God in one place, and they're convinced that's what God is," she said. "They're not realizing that is the same God we're all talking about."

Mahapatra also likes to use her gallery to help budding young artists who have been given no chance anywhere else, she said.

In keeping with this, she is displaying works by Aaron Sheppard, a senior at Norris High School in Firth.

"I think he's going to make a very good artist," she said. "I like the spontaneity of his art."

Surya also features performing art. Mahapatra said the gallery had

played host to American Indian flutists and drummers, jazz bands and Indian folk dancers.

Mahapatra has big plans for her gallery. She said her future plans included a major show on African-American artists, a show that depicted the life of immigrants after they entered the United States, and a show depicting the common person's life in war-torn areas like Bosnia.

Mahapatra, a member of the Lincoln Artists' Guild, will continue to paint for herself — for fun — even though she has won awards in several art competitions.

"I still consider painting a hobby, not a profession," she said.

Mahapatra said her profession was "mom," and it comes even before maintaining the gallery.

Surya Art Gallery, located at 227 N. Ninth St., is open Wednesday through Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Play

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Sheldrick excellently portrayed a British aristocrat become bumbling alcoholic. Her strong resemblance to English actress Emma Thompson made her character even more fitting.

Mix pounds of revolving domestic squabbles with a dash of social

instability and cook up a bizarre comic plot in "Absurd Person Singular."

"Absurd" runs Thursdays through Saturdays through Dec. 17. Two matinees are scheduled for 2 p.m. on Dec. 11 and 18.

Tickets for tonight's performance are \$8. Tickets for all other performances are \$16 and \$18. Student tickets are \$7 and \$8.

MUSIC REVIEW

"Hell Freezes Over"
Eagles
Geffen Records
Grade: B+

The first Eagles album of new recordings since 1980 has been released, and after their 14-year separation, Don Henley, Glenn Frey, Joe Walsh, Don Felder and Timothy B. Schmit sounded as polished as ever.

In "Hell Freezes Over" the Eagles deliver 11 live recordings of favorite hits, balancing out the oldies with four fresh studio-produced songs.

"Get Over It," penned by drummer Henley and guitarist Frey, possesses the sarcasm of Henley's "Dirty Laundry" days, highlighting hard rock and harsh repetitiveness. Because of the Eagles 1980 breakup, "Get Over It" has been called the band's theme song, citing a lyrical remedy for self-pity.

"All this whinin' and cryin' and pitchin' a fit/ Get over it, get over it."

Instead of releasing "Get Over It" as their first single from the album, the Eagles might have soared higher if they had released "Learn to Be Still." With Henley on vocals, this track is reminiscent of the band's gentler classic ballads.

Included in the new material is "Love Will Keep Us Alive," fea-

turing the heart-rending vocals of bass player Schmit. Unfortunately, the lyrics fail to measure up to Eagle quality when compared to Schmit's classic solo "I Can't Tell You Why," also found on this album.

Incorporating songs recorded by band members during their solo years was a nice touch, but it weakened the album. Henley's "New York Minute" sounds stronger by itself on a Henley album than on a commemorative release.

Also, fans might have benefited more from this album if it contained a broader sampling of newer material.

Songs like "Desperado" and the harder-edged "Life in the Fast Lane" may still have rock appeal, but the tunes have been played to death on the radio.

Except for "Pretty Maids All in a Row," Walsh was almost overlooked.

Never mind what's been left in or left out. What counts is the polish throughout, and gems like the intricate guitar work on "Hotel California" and the liquid vocals on "Tequila Sunrise."

Overall, the Eagles managed to breathe new life into classic refrains, which makes these 1994 recordings a good excuse to update an album collection.

— Jill O'Brien

Woodstock 94

140 minutes of Music

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Jackyl • Green Day • Sheryl Crow • Rollins Band
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