

WOMEN'S WEEK

March 5-11

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Arthur Agee appears in the documentary, "Hoop Dreams."

Courtesy of Fine Line Features

Dreams

Continued from Page 15

The year-by-year scenes and interviews culminate into a good plot and great dialogue that show the changes in each athlete's life.

The two young men start out idealistic, hopeful and naive. By the film's end, life has taken some of the spirit from their dreams.

This film will truly keep both sports enthusiasts and non-enthusiasts captivated.

The sudden twists and turns show the tough truths of inner-city life and what people will go through to try and build better lives for themselves.

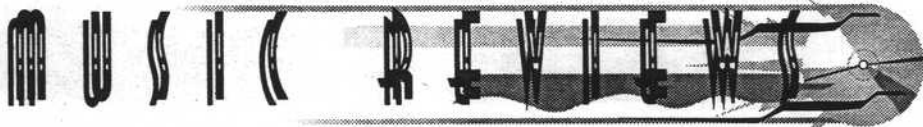
No matter what occurs, the film's focus is still on Gates' and Agee's quests to make it to the NBA no matter what it takes.

The sacrifices these two athletes make in an attempt to achieve their dreams do not come without

problems. In the end, the dreams of both Gates and Agee turn in different directions than they had hoped.

"Hoop Dreams" shows the sometimes harsh realities of life, and the hopes of two young men who try to overcome those hardships.

The film starts Thursday at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater.



Spankin' Rufus
 "Spankenstein"
 Big Thumb Productions
 Grade: B-

Spankin' Rufus is a six-piece funk-rock band from Columbia, Mo., that boasts the added flavor of a horn section complete with trumpet, saxophone and trombone.

Though this may seem rare in the Midwest, Spankin' Rufus manages to do very little that is original or creative on "Spankenstein." The result is a 10-song romp through the greatest hits of Fishbone, James Brown and the Specials.

"Busted Again," the opening song, sounds promising at first — the horns sound eerily like they belong in the late-great James Brown Orchestra. Unfortunately, the old is quickly bumped out in favor of a rehashing of Fishbone's hardly tolerable "Sunless Saturday."

I don't know, maybe I'm just too fond of James Brown to see his musical stylings desecrated in this manner. Maybe I'm too spiteful of Fishbone to tolerate anything that resembles it.

Okay, when I take a more objective listen to this recording, I'm not so turned off. It's really not all that bad. If you're a fan of light-hearted and danceable party music, this is definitely what you're looking for. In fact, I found myself tapping my foot against my will at times while I was listening to it.

"Spankenstein" contains a variety of carefree tunes that aren't designed to make any sweeping political or social commentaries, but are nonetheless entertaining.

But the band's immature outlook tends to wear on the listener.

Songs like "Drink and Drive," which encourages driving under the influence, aren't exactly responsible.

But, then again, neither is most music nowadays.

If you're inclined towards music with no thought required and lots of rhythm, this is it.

—Jeff Randall

Royal Trux
 "Thank You"
 Virgin Records
 Big Thumb Productions
 Grade: A

Jennifer Herrema and Neil Hagerty, the initial members of Royal Trux, have apparently decided to abandon their attempts to stretch the outer limits of lo-fi guitar noise. Nostalgia has set in, and they have taken up the long-lost sounds of early 1970s rockers.

"Thank You" is thick with the influence of Credence Clearwater Revival, Lynyrd Skynyrd and a hundred other urban hillbilly rock bands that sound like they belong on a "Freedom Rock" compilation.

Royal Trux's experiment in southern-tinged guitar, grooved up with a series of soulful vocals and chord progressions, is the ultimate in retro music.

Herrema and Hagerty wail away, half-screaming their half-harmonized angst with sly grins. They know exactly what they are doing, and they don't care if anyone else has the slightest clue.

Standout tracks include "A Night to Remember," "You're Gonna Lose" and "Shadow of the Wasp." These songs take the familiar, home-of-the-rock radio station format directly to the floor and don't stop kicking at it until it is all but forgotten.

Classic rock purists may see this album as blasphemy against the demigods of old, but the members of Royal Trux probably don't care. If anything, they seem to have little reverence for the past. Their responsibility lies only in their personal satisfaction with their product — no more, no less.

Herrema and Hagerty's music

grates with a faintly smug glee over turning the normal artist-label exploitation relationship around completely. Royal Trux abandoned its indie roots at Chicago's Drag City for the greener pastures of major label Virgin America, but they're laughing all the way home.

—Jeff Randall

Various Artists
 "Drum & Bass Selection 3"
 Moonshine Music/Sub Base Records
 Grade: C+

Beware America, jungle music has arrived.

You might expect from a name like jungle music the sounds of African tribes chanting along with their animal skin drums. Not so.

Jungle music is one of the newest hardcore dance genres. Initiated in the United Kingdom, jungle music features steady drums, snare and bass, beneath a mix of hip hop samples, scratches and bites from Jamaican dancehall vocalists.

"Drum & Bass" was distributed in America to expose the dance populus to a new style.

This 73-minute disc sports 19 European groups and their best jungle songs, mixed together into one continuous play by the British DJ Hype.

Supposedly, 19 groups all made separate songs before this compilation was made, but they all seem to use nearly the exact same drum beat. And the mix bleeds over so much that many of the key phrases of a song are still being used half way through the next track.

But the songs don't all sound alike. Many different techniques are used over the drums. Scratching and dancehall samples are the most common. Some very intricate scratching comes on "Mash Up Da Place" by Ganja.

The jungle format may appeal to some, but many techno and hip hop fans will be quickly bored and will want to find something more dynamic.

—Greg Schick

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Intro to E-Mail		
Tuesday, February 28	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Thursday, March 2	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Monday, March 6	10:00 - 11:30 a.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Monday, March 6	12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Advanced E-Mail		
Friday, March 3	2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Friday, March 10	12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Gopher		
Friday, March 10	9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Electronic News		
Friday, March 3	12:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Monday, March 6	2:00 - 3:30 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
Wednesday, March 8	10:30 - 12:00 noon	Bancroft Hall, 239
Finger/Talk		
Friday, March 10	2:00 - 3:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
FTP		
Tuesday, March 7	3:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Bancroft Hall, 239
World Wide Web using Lynx		
Friday, March 3	10:30 - 12:00 noon	Bancroft Hall, 239
File Manager		
Tuesday, February 28	10:30 - 12:00 noon	Bancroft Hall, 239