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"The Empire Strikes Back" "Return of the Jed?" **Special Edition Soundtracks RCA Victor** Grade: A+

All the true "Star Wars" buffs probably have these already, but those of you who just loved the films should pick them up, too.

Until now, most of the majestic scores of George Lucas' visionary films had gone unreleased - to hear the music, you had to watch the movie.

John Williams' epic scores, however, often get lost under the sounds of blaster fire, screams of dying stormtroopers and the Millenium Falcon screaming into orbit.

No more.

In three two-CD sets, all the music ever heard in the "Star Wars" movies is now available for listening, sans distractions.

The first set, "Star Wars: A New Hope" contains all the classic mulsic that began the series, from the sweeping theme itself to the incredibly subtle background music contained in "The Dune Sea of Tantooine/Jawa Sandcrawler."

You can stop and listen to both sections of the "Cantina Band" or re-experience "The Battle of Yavin" as the music overwhelms

As with all the sets, "Star Wars" contains music that was never heard in the movie. Along with an alternate "Binary Sunset," several other versions of the classic "Main

Theme" grace the end of the first disc and it's easy to hear how much work went into perfecting it.

Some of the alternates have less brass, more bass, a slower tempo - while they may seem minute at first, listen to all of them, and then listen to the "Main Theme" itself again and realize how subtle composer Williams is.

Most of the music on "Star Wars" has been released before, having been around the longest. But even the "Star Wars" box set lacks a lot of the music contained on the three two-disc sets.

Once you move to "The Empire Strikes Back," you realize how little of this great music was released, mainly because of its subtleness when compared to the urgency of pieces like "Attacking A Star De-

While much of the brassy stuff from "Empire" was released, the little odds and ends that weren't available left fans wanting so much more. "Empire" fulfills that desire.

Tracks like "Betrayal at Bespin" and "Arrival On Dagobah" close the gap that was left with earlier releases and make excellent listening in their own right.

"Return of the Jedi" is perhaps the most changed of the three soundtracks, though. It begins on Tantooine with dramatic pauses and solid brass and eventually moves to the more tribal sounds of

To answer the most important question, yes, the new musical number that was added to "Return

of the Jedi" is indeed on the soundtrack - it's called "Jedi Rocks."

There is also a lot of unreleased music on "Jedi," especially towards the beginning. Most of the first disc is composed of unreleased stuff.

How "Speeder Bike Chase" or "Han Solo Returns" got passed over on the original releases is almost incomprehensible. That is amended with the new release, though, and rightfully so.

On top of it all, each of the three CD sets starts with the "20th Century Fox Fanfare." You really have the entire score for each movie from beginning to finish.

While it may not be cheap to pick them all up, if you find yourself longing for the sounds of Jedi and don't want to watch the movies, these will sate your hunger quite nicely.

- Cliff Hicks

Humor's no accident at Noyes **Art Gallery**

JEANI from page 11

Specifically, Gustafson plans to look just like the woman dressed in pinkish-red in her painting, "Lighten

The title of that painting is the theme of the show starting Friday at Noyes. Gustafson looked for a group of artists to do a humor-themed show, and the result is works by Grand Island artists Sandy Newman, Karen Neppl and Nancy Fairbanks Grim and Creighton artists Phillip Pageler and Jim Javorsky.

Noyes artist Lois Meysenberg got a sneak peek at one of Newman's paintings, "Good Old Boys." According to Meysenberg, the painting features four men with ample beer guts sprawled out on a couch.

"And you just know these guys are drinking beer, eating nachos and watching the Raiders or something," Meysenberg laughs.

That's just the Focus Gallery. Noyes' Main Gallery will have paintings by Dorothy Dane of Lincoln and

— a special treat — new works by
world-renowned oil painter Faridun Negmat-Zoda of Tajikistan (once a part of the former Soviet Union).

It all runs from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Noyes, 119 S. Ninth St.



Spring fling



PHOTO COURTESY OF BURKHOLDER PROJECT

"HONEYMOON," a watercolor painting by Greenwood artist Linda Beaton, is one of the works featured in Burkheider Project's "Spring Filing Art Exhibition." Also featured this month at Burkheider will be three-dimensional acrylic abstracts on canvas and paper, and metal sculptures, by Crete artist Elaine Williams, along with mixed media works by North Platte artist Patsy Smith. The show's opening reception is Saturday evening from 7-9 at Burkholder, 719 P St.