



DTH file photo

The Varsity Theater on Franklin Street

Triangle theaters give movie-goers a wide variety from which to choose

By JOANNE GORDON
Arts/Features Editor

From the comical "Adventures in Babysitting" to the aesthetic "Man Facing Southeast," movie theaters in Chapel Hill, Durham and Raleigh feature a wide variety of movies — first-run films as well as classics.

The oldest theater in Chapel Hill is the Carolina Blue and White. Located on the corner of Franklin and Columbia next to Top of the Hill, the Carolina shows first-run feature films such as "Innerspace" and "Revenge of the Nerds Part II." Tickets sell at \$4.50 and \$2.75 for senior citizens and children and \$2.75 for the 1:45 or 2 p.m. matinee.

The Carolina was built in 1944 and originally had piano players and other live entertainment before films. There was a different movie every day, and the manager, E.C. Smith, was an important figure in Chapel Hill. The theater was split into a two-screen operation in 1976, projectionist Bryon

Settle said.

Another favorite Chapel Hill theater is the Varsity, located on Franklin Street next to the Intimate Bookshop. Shows are \$4.50, with \$3 matinees playing before 6 p.m. on weekdays. The Varsity is known for its 11:30 and 11:45 late shows.

According to projectionist Bob Cummings, the theater shows mostly art and foreign films. The Varsity used to be one theater until it was bought out by Janus Co., which turned it into an art house and made it a duplex.

The Carolina Union Auditorium shows feature films at discount prices. The Union shows over 200 different movies during the school year and summer, most of which are free with a UNC I.D., according to Ellen Barnard and Suzanne Bolch. The fall schedule of films includes recent features, classics and foreign films, with special speakers sometimes featured before some films. The fall schedule includes "Peggy Sue Got

Married," "Children of A Lesser God," "Little Shop of Horrors," "Citizen Kane," "Doctor Zhivago," "Platoon," and "The Mission."

Movies are planned by students on the Film Committee, one of the 11 student-run committees within the Carolina Union, which is looking for new members for the fall. Schedules of fall movies will be available during registration.

Other theaters in Chapel Hill are the Ram Triple, located on Rosemary Street next to Molly Maguire's, and Plaza Theater on Elliott Road in Kroger Plaza. Special discounts at these theaters include a \$2 Tuesday bargain night at the Ram, and \$2.50 matinees on weekdays until 6 p.m. at the Plaza. Regular ticket prices are \$4. Both theaters show first-run features, including "Spaceballs" and "Full Metal Jacket" at Ram Triple, and "Roxanne" and "The Squeeze" at Plaza.

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