

In a different way, Sneetches provide 'happy' pop music

By RANDAL BULLOCK
Staff Writer

Tuesday, midnight — the tireless record reviewer, soaked in coffee, is beginning to get second thoughts about this entire process, waxball *et al.*

A Thursday night in the not-so-distant past, midnight — the innocent reviewer begins to get not the first, but as it turns out, perhaps the last subtle hints that maybe the void into which his murmurings are spewed is just a bit too void-like, almost uncomfortably so.

Re: one Gil Scott-Heron concert, sparsely attended. Which is not to imply that the show transcended all other forms of reality that may have happened that night, but that there is such a thing as respect, and by association, a lack thereof as well. The empty seats mocked all that is good in this world.

The thousands of records that have rolled across my body since I began writing this column have cut their own groove in my flesh, threatening virtually to cut me in half.

They tell me that the album is on the way out, anyway, and that I should "convert" to tapes and CD's. As anyone who knows me can tell you, my only talent is the ability to buy records. I was hoping I could do this until I collapsed under my own weight. Instead, I am a dinosaur, waiting for my food supply to dwindle completely so I can fall to the ground and begin rotting.

And a half-filled arena for Gil Scott-Heron confirms my most vivid nightmares. The voices that scream at me from deep inside are right — this town is owned by the Connells. By Love Tractor. By 10,000 Maniacs. (Did I mention R.E.M. . . . and I feel fine?)

I am a dinosaur. I cannot even write a review using the "inverted pyramid" like I'm supposed to. UNC has one of the best journalism schools in the country and here I am, unable to write like this — "The Sneetches are a band from San Francisco and their debut album harks back to simpler times. They play simple, ingenious pop tunes that might remind the listener of the Beatles, if the

Beatles ate a lot of sugary things (ha ha). It also might remind one of the Partridge Family. (When unscrambled, "inverted pyramid" yields "I did pervert many" — now, who is the I in that sentence?) This record is enjoyable, sort of for when you want to get away from it all and just listen to good music. I recommend it. . . . and I consider that maybe if I had only gone to a liberal arts college . . ."

The black obelisk in "2001: A Space Odyssey": her name is Beatrice. (But they are from San Francisco, and they do sound like the Partridge Family.) For anyone under the age of 25, the Partridge Family is, in a sense, primal. There were the dreams — of Susan Dey's legs, David Cassidy's winning smile — dreams that belied the pre-pubescent spring from whence they sprang, dreams that foretold

"And the Sneetches came in," they will say, "and they wiped the slate clean. They are the unmoved mover, unabashed, scrubbed, dangerous. Music will never be the ---- again."

"But wait a second," the attentive reader says. "Are you saying that Beatrice is Hal and Hal, Beatrice?" The light fills the face, the face falls. "But — but — but that means . . ."

Exactly.

The "musically-minded" reader takes up the fight. "But '2001' didn't have a happy ending, and the Sneetches are happy music. This does not fit into my 'inverted pyramid' understanding of the not-so-inverted pyramid structure of the music business. Besides, movies without happy endings are no fun. The Partridges didn't play

any of their own music either, so they were just puppets."

Puppets? Like puppets in the sense of "we are just being manipulated by outside forces, our heads are made of wood, when they tell you to dance, I dance" puppets? Oh, I'm sorry. My mistake. I must have lost my own head for a second. That often happens when I defend the powers that be.

For indeed: all accusations of conspiracy are absurd and a defense in their favor is needed and noble. Conspiracy implies secrecy. Hal and Beatrice are quite aboveboard, coupling openly and wetly to bring you the very best for your music dollar, and the reviewers to tell you exactly what that is. Invariably, it will not be the Sneetches. Buy the Sneetches. On LP. *Sometimes It's All We Have.*

General College

By ANDREW LAWLER
Staff Writer

After a week-long hiatus, General College returns with an all-new episode.

Scheming Sarah is back, arriving just after Lisa and Joseph's plane crashes, killing Joseph and hospitalizing Lisa. Chris and Sarah plan to pin Sarah's abduction on the late Mr. Kingsley by leaving Sarah bound in his room and leading Mary Catherine to discover her.

Meg's attempts to cheer Kyle up fail miserably — he tells her to take a hike.

Brendan confronts Mary Catherine at her parents' home. She tells him their marriage has no chance of succeeding. Inexplicably, Brendan and Mary Catherine begin to kiss and end up making it.

Margot informs Simone that her father is dying. Simone, who is bitter over her teen-age rape by Dad's best friend which resulted in pregnancy, couldn't care less. Dear old Dad had reacted sensitively to the rape by calling her a whore. But Margot reveals that Dad lied when he told Simone one of her twins was stillborn.

Mark and Randy discover fugitives Courtney and Jason hiding in the woods. Mark offers his grandmother's inn in S.C. as

a hiding place — a highly illegal but noble action that Courtney and Jason agree to readily.

Trisha and Tonya discover from Zoe that Jack and Alex are back together. Priscilla, overhearing this, tells them she has some news of her own about the two lovebirds.

Tessa tells Trisha and Tonya she was the one who plugged Trevor and is taking advantage of Anne's amnesia to blame Anne for the deed. Damon Davenport calls to have his Davenport sisters come to his club to pick up frumpy runaway sister Tara, who has just arrived to enroll at UNC.

Alex tells Trip it's all over because she's back with Jack.

Jason's brother Josh, a Morehead finalist, hears from Zoe that his brother is a fugitive murder suspect.

Detective Hooper interrogates Anne and Tessa.

Billy and Paige decorate Billy's younger brother's (Charlie's) new apartment. Charlie will be attending UNC.

Lovely, innocent Violet, we learn, led a double life as a hooker for Damon Davenport. Damon demands she peddle her wares for him or he'll tell Ken, her true love, all about it.

"Curioser and curioser," said Alice. Indeed she was right. Stay tuned for the next exciting episode of General College.



Just A Taste!

RESTAURANT GUIDE



GREEK

Mariakakis Restaurant and Bakery

Famous in Chapel Hill since 1963, offers a variety of famous Greek pastries and breads made fresh daily in its on-premises bakery. Pizza is the restaurant's trademark but many authentic Greek dishes are offered along with sandwiches, homemade barbecue, chicken, seafood and 60 brands of domestic and imported beers and 25 wines.

INTERNATIONAL

Marco Polo International Restaurant.

Chefs from Italy and China prepare fabulous dishes from the finest provinni veal, stuffed clams, to szechuan shrimp. Thailand chicken and spicy Indian curried dishes,

pleasing the most critical palate. Come for a casual lunch or delightful dinner. The average price of our 100-item dinner menu is about \$8.00.

Il Palio Ristorante

There is no spectacle in all of Europe like The Palio in Siena, Italy. In Chapel Hill there is no finer dining than that at The Siena Hotel. Il Palio serves breakfast, lunch and dinner. Its highly trained chefs prepare magnificent Italian cuisine that is served by attentive staff in an elegant setting.

MAGICAL

Brass Rail

Come enjoy "Magic at Your Table" on Friday and Saturdays at The Brass Rail, 1301 E. Franklin St. 933-1323. Steaks, grilled seafood and chicken dishes

served in an elegant atmosphere provide for a special evening that won't kill your budget.

CAFE

Colonel Chutney's

When it's time to relax! Serving gourmet burgers, super salads, fresh seafood, prime rib, grilled steaks and chicken, homemade desserts and lots of fun. The best late night menu available seven nights a week until one a.m. at reasonable prices. PATIO NOW OPEN! Just a block from campus, 300 W. Rosemary St. 942-7575.



Answers

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ACROSS: 4. UMPIRE
7. MANTRA 9. AROMATIC
10. STUPOR 11. IDEAS
12. CALABASH 15. TRUANCY
19. AUTARKY 21. OVERTURE
23. SODOM 25. OPAQUE
27. SINISTER 29. SUMMER
30. STOKER

DOWN: 1. DART 2. STOP
3. PATRIA 4. UXORIOUS
5. PEACE 6. RUINS 8. NAUGHT
13. ABBA 14. AIN'T 16. NEWT
17. YEAR 18. PROMPTER
19. YOGURT 22. EGOIST
23. SAINT 24. DRINK 26. ARMS
27. USER