

Midnight Cowboy Isn't Pretty

by Tom Cavanaugh

The question after Mike Nichol's *The Graduate* was "is Dustin Hoffman really an actor?" His first film performance as the confused, inarticulate college graduate was a brilliant type of crazy portrayal that marked either an intelligent, intuitive, courageous actor, or a neurotic who was cast because of the similarity between his personal neurosis and that of the fictional character.

Hoffman's performance in *Midnight Cowboy* is equally intense as it was in *The Graduate*, but in *Midnight Cowboy* his character work is more complete. The result is a one hundred percent performance as well as proof that Hoffman is a rare and talented actor.

The movie's other star, Jon Voigt, in his first leading role in films, plays the superstud pseudo-cowboy come to take New York City by the libido. He does a complete job of character presentation and balances Hoffman quite well.

The camera work and filming techniques were excellent without being showy. The scriptwriting and film editing managed the always sticky problem of flashbacks and stream of consciousness symbolism without being uncomfortably gimmicky, and it succeeds in relating the past with the compression of poetry and the eloquence of a novel.

The story is of a Texas lad with the unlikely name of Joe Buck (Jon Voigt), who makes his way to New York to win his bread by the graces of satisfied female patrons of the bed. Like any young artist fresh into the City, he meets disappointment quickly as he learns that "a hustler" (as he calls himself) is no match for city
(Cont. on page 3)



The ASOLO Civic Dance Company as seen by our Dance Department this past summer in Asolo, Italy?

"Easy Rider"

by Mike Ferguson

Easy Rider. Columbia Pictures. Starring: Peter Fonda, Dennis Hopper, Jack Nicholson. Directed By Dennis Hopper. Produced by Peter Fonda. Written by Peter Fonda, Dennis Hopper, and Terry Southern.

"Are the birds in the sky free from the chains of the skyway" - Bob Dylan / *Ballad in Plain D*

The theme of the "American Dream" and the search for the dream has been a dominant topic in several areas of artistic mediums in the 1960's. Often, however, these approaches have been shallow, rather
(Cont. on page 3)

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