

# Taster's Choice

## Cinema

"Jesus Christ Superstar." Carolina Theatre. Film version of the rock opera. Much of the music is quite good, but the voices are weak, and the cinematic effects, which are meant to dazzle, quickly become exasperating. 1:13, 3:03, 4:58, 6:53 & 8:48. \$2. Through Thursday. Late shows: Friday & Saturday, "Woodstock." Sunday, "The Good The Bad and The Ugly." Both shows at 11:15. \$1.50.

"The Life and Times of Judge Roy Bean." Varsity Theatre. 1, 3, 5, 7 & 9. \$2. Ends Thursday.

"Dillinger." Plaza I. Gangster film with every fashionable genre cliché from Bonnie and Clyde to The Getaway. Typical American-International sleaziness. 3, 5:05, 7:10 & 9:15. \$2. Ends Thursday.

"Battle of the Amazons." Plaza II. This film wins the booby prize. 3:15, 5:10, 7:05 & 9. \$2. Ends Thursday.

"The Way We Were." Plaza III. Big, glossy, garbaged, old-fashioned Hollywood romance. The two stars only rarely have the necessary personality, and the discussion of the issues involved is insultingly stupid. 2:45, 5:00, 7:15 & 9:30. \$2. Ends Thursday.

Chapel Hill Film Friends: "The Black Pirate." Douglas Fairbanks, among other things, sliding down a sail on a knife. Good, foolish fun, though Fairbanks doesn't quite have the panache he does in other films. Friday at 9:30, Saturday at 11:30 in Hamilton Hall. "Shadows." John Cassavetes' first film. Sunday at 7 & 9 in Gardner 103.

Free flicks: Friday: "Tom Jones." Saturday: "Sunset Boulevard." Sunday: "The Damned." All films in the Great Hall at 6:30 & 9.

"Top Hat," starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers. Film Society. Thursday at 8 in Murphey Hall. \$1.

Alternative Cinema: "Traffic." Jacques Tati's bubbly, delightful, funny view of modern highways. Wonderful entertainment. Friday at 7, Saturday at 2, 4:30, 7 & 9:30 in Hamilton Hall.

## Theatre

Two one-act plays, "Mother & Child" by Langston Hughes and "Black Bird" by Marvin X presented by the Black Student Movement. Friday at 8 in Upendo Lounge. Admission is free.

"Lemmings." Thursday at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Reserved seat tickets, \$3.50 and \$4, available at the Carolina Union information desk.

"Don't Drink the Water." Village Dinner Theatre. Raleigh. Buffet at 6:45, 8:30 curtain. Sunday through Thursday, \$9; Friday and Saturday, \$11. Through Monday, Dec. 31. For reservations call 787-7771.

"Anything Goes." by Cole Porter. Presented by Duke Hoof 'n' Horn. Friday at 10:00; Saturday and Sunday at 8:15. Fred Theatre. Tickets \$2 at Page Box Office, 684-4059.

"Elmatha's Apology." by Rebecca Ranson. Laboratory Theatre production and UNC's entry in the American College Theatre Festival. Thursday and Friday at 8 in 06

Graham Memorial. Free tickets available at the Lab Theatre Office in Graham Memorial.

The Department of Dramatic Art presents a series of scenes from such works as "The Glass Menagerie," "A Hatful of Rain," "Richard III" and others. Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 3:30 in 06 Graham Memorial.

"A Glass Menagerie," produced by the Durham Theatre Guild. Thursday through Saturday at 8. Presented at the Allied Arts Center, 810 Proctor St. in Durham. For tickets call 682-5519. Reservations are advisable. Directed by William Hardy.

## Concerts

Christmas Concert: Robert Porco directs the Durham Civic Choral Society in "Hodie" by R. Vaughn Williams and "Christmas Cantata" by A. Honegger. Sunday, Dec. 16 at 8 in Duke Chapel. Tickets available at area Record Bars and Page Auditorium Box Office.

Blood, Sweat & Tears, performing with the North Carolina Symphony Orchestra. Saturday, Jan. 12 in Raleigh's Dorton Arena. All those with 1973-74 North Carolina Symphony Society memberships are entitled to attend this concert. Tickets also available at the door for \$5.

"Plants and Song," a concert by balladist Clark Jones, sponsored by the North Carolina Botanical Gardens. Sunday at 4 in the Wesley Foundation, 214 Pittsboro St. The program will also include some Christmas carols.

Grateful Dead. Saturday at 7 in Cameron Indoor Stadium, Duke. Advance tickets \$5 & \$6, general admission, on sale now at Page Box Office, area Record Bars, and the Quad at Duke. Monday, Dec. 10, at 7 in the Charlotte Coliseum. Tickets at \$5 and \$6 on sale at the Coliseum Box Office. Mail order tickets available. Send money order or cashier's check to the Coliseum Box Office, 2700 Independence Blvd., Charlotte. For further information, call the Coliseum, 704-372-3600.

## Art

The fourth annual Carolina Designer Craftsmen's Fair. Friday from 6-10, Saturday from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday from 12 noon to 6 p.m. General admission \$1; students with I.D. cards 75 cents. Dorton Arena, North Carolina State Fairgrounds.

Fifth annual Student Art Auction. Thursday in New Hamilton Hall. The public is invited to bid on art works by students and faculty which will be on display from 2 until the bidding begins at 7:15. Proceeds support scholarships and strengthen an Art Department endowment fund.

## Planetarium

The Morehead Planetarium is presenting its annual Christmas show, "Star of Bethlehem," through Monday, Jan. 7. Weekdays at 8; Saturdays at 11, 1, 3 & 8; Sundays at 2, 3 & 8. \$1 for students, \$1.25 for adults.

"The Great Comet," special program about Kohoutek. Monday through Friday at 9, Saturdays at 12, 2, 4 & 9, Sundays at 4 & 9. Admission 75 cents.

Switchboard: 929-7177

# Help is just a call away

by Harriet Sugar  
Feature Writer

Editor's note: Because of switchboard's policy of complete confidentiality, last names of all switchboard volunteers and "drop-ins" have been omitted.

2 a.m. Rrrring...

Sneaking in some sketchy sleep for the night on his makeshift bed—a black couch complete with a slashed leather cover—Mark remembers he is on duty. Mark awakes.

As he scurries to the telephone through the cold, dark room (the house owners are trying to conserve energy). Mark composes himself.

Rrrring...

"Switchboard. Mark speaking. What's up?" Mark recalls the Switchboard philosophy: Each phone call is a possible crisis. Be alert, even if it is 2 a.m. "Well...uh...uh..." The caller is a bit hesitant. Mark remembers that the first thing to do is to help the caller clarify his problem. This requires reflective listening. Mark listens reflectively.

Switchboard, a 24-hour confidential counseling and referral service, does not profess to have all the answers. But the approximate 45 volunteers who handle the phone calls and talk with the people who drop by the shabby yellow house at 402 W. Rosemary St. are willing to help.

"Well, I've got a problem," the caller in the night continues.

Great. Mission is on the way to being accomplished. Once Mark succeeds in specifying the problem, his final steps will be validating the person's feelings and helping him devise alternatives.

The caller goes on.

"Well...uh...you see..." (long pause) "My boyfriend is coming to dinner and...well...How do you bake a potato?"

Switchboard handles problems both light and serious—any problems callers have—because "being available to people is what Switchboard is all about," Bill, a part-time volunteer, said.

Dial 929-7177. Switchboard can provide you with everything from counseling in drug problems or severe depression to medical legal referrals to simply somebody to talk to.

The 30 to 40 calls received monthly in 1970 when Switchboard first opened have now risen to approximately 600. Most calls are from depressed or lonely people who just want to talk. Vickie Greene, one of the two Switchboard directors, said. Suicide calls are the least frequent.

Switchboard also operates a Women's Assault Line, which provides aid for women who have been assaulted but are not ready to report the attack to the police, and a Women's Health and Pregnancy Counseling service.

Mark remembered a woman who called up during the middle of the night, frantically asking if it were possible for her to get pregnant by kissing.

Switchboard is the target for sex callers in various forms. Some people call up and shout obscenities over the phone, Greene said. "But at least they're not dialing names in the phone book." She said that during the time Switchboard recorded a rise in sex callers, the police reported a decline in the number of complaints about obscene phone calls.

"Of course, we frequently get funny calls," Greene said. Requests for recipes come often. One time a group

*"Being available to people is what Switchboard is all about."*

*—a Switchboard volunteer*

of people called late at night, wanting to know the capital of Arizona. They were placing bets.

Though Switchboard's philosophy is to treat every call as serious, volunteers sometimes detect a suspicious one. But, Greene explained, the callers that sound like fakes are sometimes trying to check out the reliability of Switchboard before placing a more serious call.

Drug problems were once the prime area requiring counseling. When Switchboard began, the only calls it received involved drug problems. The summer of 1972 saw Switchboard handling two to three drug overdoses per day. Since, then the number of drug problems has consistently declined. Switchboard now receives about 60 drug calls per month.

It's approach to drug problems involves finding alternatives to drug abuse. "People take drugs for as many different reasons as they have problems," Greene said.

"Switchboard began when all these kids who didn't know anything about drugs were flipping out," she recalled. Parents, concerned with the problems of drug abuse, formed the Chapel Hill Drug Action Committee (DAC) and decided to confront the street freaks for aid in seeking slolutions.

In March 1970, the first of a variety of structures of Switchboard was set up and was operated mainly by street freaks. In May 1971, under the direction of Buck and Kay Goldstein and Meyer Dworsky, Switchboard took on its present structure with five full- and two half-time staff members.

Like most organizations, Switchboard has its rules. The sign on the door says: "You are welcome on this property but you must be clean. Absolutely no drugs, no alcohol on Switchboard premises."

Approximately a year and one half ago,

Switchboard altered a rule which has caused some dissent among Switchboard requesters. Sleeping on the premises is no longer allowed except in special cases, and visitors must leave by midnight.

Greene explained the reasoning behind the rules. Last year many people were living at the house. The large crowd hampered the volunteers' efficiency in answering phone calls and counseling visitors.

Switchboard's working relationship with the police is good, she said. Even though its image within the community has improved since the beginnings, "we still are suffering from some hangovers when things were not so good."

Its image is reflected in its lived-in atmosphere. Shambles of furniture, including homemade cardboard chairs, are surrounded by bright carpeting and walls swathed in yellow and orange. An "Impeach Nixon" sign stares at the door.

The door opens. "Burp...Here I is." Bill has decided to drop in for a while to chat with his friends.

What Switchboard calls its "drop-in center" a room where anybody can come for counseling or chatting with friends has become a valuable asset of Switchboard.

"It gives me and everybody a feeling of belonging," Millard, a 19-year-old who stops by often said.

Millard got out the rapbook, a composition notebook open to anybody who feels like writing and sharing his thoughts. He turned to one of his entries.

"Dear People I am moving back to Durham. Because of my probation so I won't be around so much anymore. Be good and I Love You. Millard."

Millard said he has been in prison six times but is out now and will enter UNC next fall.

UNC and a few high school students and townspeople comprise Switchboard's staff. Some counselors have formerly experienced the types of problems Switchboard deals with. But the experience is not necessary in effective counseling, Greene said. "Most people can identify with other kinds of human problems. It all depends on if you are willing and empathize."

Volunteers undergo 12 to 15 hours of training and a 10-hour apprenticeship before becoming counselors. "We are not professionals and we realize that," Greene said. "We also realize we cannot expect our counselors to always come up with some magic word to make everything super."

Confidence in counseling just develops over time, Marcia, a UNC sophomore volunteer, said.

Switchboard's busiest times are Friday nights during a full moon, Greene said. More strange calls, suicides, depressions and drug crises come then. "We get more strange people dropping then too," she said.

"I like the time a guy came in, climbed up on the roof, and just sat there howling."

"We climbed up and got him down."

# CASH

## for your

# BOOKS

## during

# EXAM PERIOD

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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

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# SCRIPT

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