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because of the slim chances of catching up with the thieves. "We're aware there are going to be some road signs in people's rooms, but we don't have the right to go in and look for that sort of thing."

Comar also said that usually at the end of each school year, several signs are found and turned in. "They've probably served their purpose," he said.

"I'm not going to throw mine out at the end of the semester," John Fanney, a junior political science major from Roanoke Rapids, said. "I don't know what I'm going to do with them though. I guess I'll take them home with me."

Fanney said he had a parking lot sign and a HIGH WATER sign that is colored "department of transportation yellow."

"I've got these barewalls in the room — had to put something up there," he said. "They won't let you wallpaper them, so signs are the next best thing."

Joe said, "You know, the funny thing about the whole deal is that I don't feel too bad about it. . . . I don't feel as if I'm really stealing in the true sense of the word."

"I'm just getting back at the establishment," he said with a laugh.

Fanney said he didn't feel guilty about taking the signs usually. "Well, I did feel a little guilty about the one I just took, but just a tad."

"I don't really plan to get any," Fanney added. "They just kind of show up and I have to take them. I think it's a bit addictive — once you take one, it's hard to stop."

Versatility is key to Mahal's success at blues, folk music

Rob Sherman
Concert

Taj Mahal, a solo blues pianist and guitarist, gave a stellar performance Monday night at the Paul Green Theatre. The versatility he demonstrated in his playing and singing were simply amazing, and the audience could not seem to get enough of his unique combination of blues and folk music styles.

He began the evening by giving an impressive show on the piano. His manipulations of the blues progressions and his rhythmic variations were fascinating. The audience quickly became enthusiastic and wondered how the concert could improve from that point.

Mahal played and sang through extended and lyrically-embellished versions of "I'm Going to the Country," "If I Ever Get Lucky" and "Crossroads."

His voice was as amazing as his piano skills, and it was perhaps the most expressive part of his performance. It could be harsh and loud, filled with frustration and pain, and then suddenly it would be deep and sultry.

But the concert really began when Mahal picked up his guitar. When he was playing the piano he had to sit with his back to most of the audience. When he stood to play the guitar, his imposing

six-foot-plus frame and his gliding lunky dance steps brought a new energy to his music.

The dynamic contrasts he used in his vocals were even more dramatic in his guitar techniques. Without any of the exaggerated and theatrical physical movements used by pop-rock stars, Mahal could accent one note in a long and intricate rift.

He could just as well shape long phrases into intense peaks and sweeping decrescendos or begin with a brash and vibrant chord pattern only to collapse the music into sweet harmonic country patterns seconds later. This was especially effective in "Walking Blues."

He also produced "sound effects" from his guitar. When the music or the lyrics enabled him, he produced sounds like those of a fisherman casting in "I'm Going Fishing," gunshots in "Staggerly" and a woman talking in "Cakewalk."

As the show progressed, he persuaded the audience to join him in his music.



Blues singer Taj Mahal captivated the audience with his unique guitar style

For "Long Gone" the women in the audience sang a high blues rift for the men. Then the men returned the rift on Mahal's cue. In another song, the audience sang the "doobie-do-wahs"

while Mahal continued to play and sing. Finally, in the final minutes of the show, an audience member was coaxed from the shadows by Mahal and played harmonica with him in an inspired

version of "Little Red Rooster." The audience gave him a standing ovation as he closed, and he returned to play a wonderfully mellow and soulful "Come With Me."

WEEK'S FARE

TODAY
24 *Mach Ado About Nothing* will be performed by PlayMakers Repertory Company through Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 2 and 7 p.m. in Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.
Leo Kottke and New Grass Revival will perform at 8 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Call 942-5273 for ticket information.
Dr. Roger A. Gorski will speak on "Biological Foundations of Sex Roles" at 4:30 p.m. in Hanes Art Center Auditorium.
HEGE V and the BJOUs will perform at a School's Out Party at 10 p.m. at Cat's Cradle. Call 967-9053 for more information.

FRIDAY
25 *Morocco* will be shown at 7 and 9:15 p.m. at the North Carolina Museum of Art. Call 833-1935 for ticket information.
Ruth Bollinger and Tom Kenyon will perform at 9 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

SATURDAY
26 *Sleeper* will be shown at 7 and 9:30 p.m. in the Union Auditorium.
The *Woman at Farmer's Market* and *Remembered Music* will be performed at 2 p.m. at the

ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.
Richard Rodney Bennett will perform at 8 p.m. in Hill Hall Auditorium. Call 966-5454 for ticket information.

Raleigh Consort will perform with violinist Nicholas Kitchen at 8 p.m. in Christ Church in Raleigh.
The Amateurs of Greenville will perform at 9:30 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

SUNDAY
27 *Tapestries* by Silvia Heyden will be displayed through May 30 at Somerhill Gallery.
Durham Civic Choral Society will perform at 4

p.m. in Baldwin Auditorium at Duke. Call 383-6255 for ticket information.
Howard Jay, magician, will perform at 2 p.m. and North Carolina School of the Arts Jazz Band will perform at 7 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

MONDAY
28 Mose Allison will perform at 8 p.m. in Paul Green Theatre. Call 962-1121 for ticket information.

TUESDAY
29 Nicholas Fox Weber will speak on Anni Albers and her art at 8 p.m. in Hanes Art Center Auditorium.

2 To Have and Have Not will be shown at 7 and 9:15 p.m. at the North Carolina Museum of Art. Call 833-1935 for ticket information.
The Blue Ridge Mountain Band will perform at 8 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

SATURDAY
3 The Phantoms of Greenville will perform at 9 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

SUNDAY
4 Brother Yusuf Salin will lead an open jam session at 7 p.m. at the ArtSchool. Call 929-2896 for ticket information.

Plaza I—*The Money Pit* at 3:15, 5:15, 7:10 and 9:10.
Plaza II—*9 1/2 Weeks* at 3, 5:10, 7:20 and 9:30.
Plaza III—*Brazil* at 3, 5:30 and 8.
Varsity I—*A Trip to Bountiful* at 2:10, 4:25, 7:10 and 9:25.
Varsity II—*Hannah and Her Sisters* at 2:25, 4:40, 7:25 and 9:40.
Varsity Lateshows—*After Hours* and *Pink Flamingos* at 11:30 Friday and Saturday.
Carolina Blue—*The Band of the Hand* at 4:45 ends today. *Murphy's Law* at 7 and 9:15 ends today. *Violets Are Blue* starts Friday at 7 and 9; weekend matinees at 3 and 5.
Carolina White—*Legend* at 7:30 and 9:30.
Compiled by Elizabeth Ellen, arts editor.

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