

In concert

tho, Roseville, (rock)
(810) 778-6404

MOSE ALLISON TRIO
Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, (jazz)
662-8310

WATERBURY DOWN
Aunt's, 5756 Cass, Detroit, (alternative rock)
832-2355

MARY MCGUIRE
Hoop, 2705 Leeper Road, Auburn Hills, (acoustic)
(810) 373-4744

MICHAEL ZAPORSKI
Followed by Ron Brooks Trio at Bird of Paradise, 207 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, (jazz)
662-8310

BIG DAVE AND THE ULTRASONICS
Perform during a benefit for Agenda Magazine at Bird Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, (rock)
596-8555

Y.O.U.
With Foot Ties at Giff's Grill, 49 N. So-

gnow, Pontiac,
(810) 334-9292

IV-4 ORCHESTRA
Soup Kitchen Saloon, 1585 Franklin St., Detroit, (big band)
259-1374

CLUB CHADS
With Benares and Formosa Pop at 3-D, 1815 N. Main St., Royal Oak, (alternative rock)
(810) 569-3344

NEUROMANCER
Studio Lounge, 6921 Wayne Road, Westland, (alternative rock)
729-2540

Friday, Jan. 14

BILLY JOEL
The Palace of Auburn Hills, 1-75 and Leeper Road, Auburn Hills, (pop)
(810) 377-0100

BARKMARKET
Wild Season to Risk and Cher U.K. at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (alternative rock)
961-MELT

LIVE REVIEW

Duran Duran/James The Palace of Auburn Hills Jan. 4

"Come Undone" may be the name of a Duran Duran hit single, but it should have been the official name of their winter U.S. tour.

Unlike their show this summer at Pine Knob, which featured an elaborate interactive set designed by Stefanos Lazaridis, the band opted for a scaled-down set that included a black curtain backdrop and simple lighting.

The stripped-down set, however, didn't hamper the show. Plagued by voice problems during the summer and early fall, lead singer Simon LeBon's voice sounded significantly fresher and less hoarse. Ex-Soul II Soul singer Lemuel Al Mugheiry boosted LeBon's vocals with her throaty rhythm and blues style. Like the show in the summer, her solo during "Come Undone" was one of the highlights of the performance.

During the two-hour show, Duran Duran opted for a moody, soulful rendition of "Hungry Like the Wolf," and a cover of Grandmaster Flash's "White Lines" (thanks to John Taylor's funky bass playing). The former 1980s heartthrobs

stuck with the original formula when singing many of their hits like "Girls on Film," "Rio" and "The Reflex." The set was less of a "greatest hits" show than the summer, choosing to include more tracks off their latest eponymous album.

Those who missed the show, can catch it on Fox 60's "Front Page" television series, which airs at 9 p.m. Saturdays. A crew filmed the show and backstage footage for a future telecast. (An air date was not available at press time.)

The British pop band James, which opened the show, performed a rather lackluster set. The Palace's massive stage swallowed the band although James boasts an 8-member band, including a violinist. Lead singer Tim Booth danced wildly during a few songs but rocked back and forth during songs off their latest album "Laid." Songs from moody yet hauntingly beautiful album were a significant part of the set which didn't include their alternative pop hit "Sit Down."

—Christina Fuoco

Subtle wit makes 'Snapper'

By JOHN MONAGHAN
STAFF WRITER

In "The Snapper," a young woman announces to her parents that she is pregnant. On top of that, she refuses to divulge the identity of the father.

What could have been either depressing or cloying is instead an incredibly wise and often hilarious film about fathers and daughters and their fragile place in the community. The new film, directed by Stephen Frears, plays at the Detroit Film Theatre this weekend only.

Set in Dublin, "The Snapper" is the second film adaptation of Roddy Doyle's "Barrytown Trilogy," short novels about the everyday lives of the Irish working class. "The Commitments," directed by Alan Parker in 1991, focused on a rag-tag group of musicians intent on introducing soul to Dublin, led by a young entrepreneur named Jimmy. The new movie is essentially about Jimmy's same large Irish-Catholic family, again headed by Colm Meaney as the beleaguered but good-natured father Desse. While there are no big-name stars in "The Snapper," you'll recog-

MOVIES

nize Meaney as a crew member on "Star Trek: The Next Generation" and be surprised at his tremendous depth.

Desse has the same weaknesses as any parent. He's incredibly supportive of daughter Sharon, reading health books and generally taking a much greater interest than he did in the birth of his own children. He can be a martyr, too, laying on thick doses of Catholic guilt because the girl's condition has caused him embarrassment at the pub.

The drinking scenes are especially vivid, whether they involve dad and his cronies sharing a pint or the tableau of loud young women shamelessly ogling men on the dance floor. It was on just such a night that the daughter got herself in trouble. Just who exactly did it with who, friends and family for a loop.

The other performers are nearly as strong, especially Tina Kellegher as Sharon. Her mother, meanwhile, has that special blend of wisdom and exhaustion that comes from raising a large litter of

children. As in "The Commitments," this movie captures perfectly the cramped living conditions that typify the working class in Dublin and London. The entire family squeezes onto the tatty couch to watch music videos or sail races on television.

And in each act, whether it's a tender pat or a biting vulgarity, the family shows a great natural affection for each other that is hard to convey on screen. More than any film in recent memory, "The Snapper" makes you feel like you're watching real people, not actors.

Give plenty of credit to Stephen Frears, the director of "My Beautiful Laundrette" and "Dangerous Liaisons," who has abandoned Hollywood temporarily to create the kind of subtle film that established his reputation a decade ago. He has made a movie full of small miracles that will creep into your thoughts long after the lights come up.

You may not go home humming Otis Redding songs, as you did after "The Commitments," but you'll be singing the praises of this witty and intelligent film.

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

DETROIT FILM SOCIETY
Detroit Public Library, 5201 Woodward, Detroit. Call 833-4048 for information. (\$4 individual screening; \$25 series membership.)

HITCHCOCK — "The Man Who Knew Too Much" (Britain — 1934) and "The Lady Vanishes" (Britain — 1938), starting at 7 p.m. Jan. 14-15. In the original "Man," Leslie Banks and Peter Lorne star in the tale of a vacationing man who accidentally becomes involved in an assassination plot. Its climactic Albert Hall sequence remains one of cinema's most imitated. "Lady" is a whimsical comedy/mystery about a woman who mysteriously vanishes during a train trip. It's up to Michael Redgrave and Margaret Lockwood to find her.

DETROIT FILM THEATRE
Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Call 833-2323 for information. (\$5)
"The Snapper" (Ireland/Britain — 1993), 7 and 9:30 p.m. Jan. 14-15; 3, 5 and 7 p.m. Jan. 16. Stephen Frears directed this film adaptation of Roddy Doyle's novel about a young woman who announces to her parents that she is pregnant. The results are both humorous and poignant.

MAGIC BAG THEATRE
22918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call 544-3030 for information.
"Prelude to Victory March on Washington," 7 p.m. Jan. 12. A large-screen video presentation of the April 25, 1993, gay march on Washington presented by South East Michigan Pride. (\$3)
"Forgotten Voices" (USA — 1994), 8 p.m. Jan. 13. Filmed entirely on location in Western Wayne Correctional Facility in Plymouth, this documentary from

Gus Calandrino and Gary Glaser focuses on three poets and a visual artist.

MAIN THEATRE
118 N. Main at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday. Call 542-0180 for information and show times. (\$6.50; \$4 students; \$3 twilight/matinee)
"The Piano" (New Zealand — 1993), through Dec. 6 (call for show times).

"The Summer House" (Britain — 1993). Jean Poirier, Julie Walter and Jeanne Moreau star in this very genteel-looking story about a young woman trying to escape marriage to a most unappealing suitor.

"Schindler's List" (USA — 1993). Stephen Spielberg directed this uncompromising tale of Oskar Schindler (Liam Neeson), a war profiteer and Nazi enemy who protected and saved the lives of more than 1,000 Jews during the Holocaust.

Authentic Traditional **THAI CUISINE**

Try a new taste sensation. It's a little bit of everything sweet, sour, hot and spicy. From lemon shrimp soup to peanut chicken. Your senses will be delighted.

Daily Lunch Buffet 11:30-2:00 **\$6.95** "Best of Detroit" 1993 Detroit Monthly

BANGKOK CLUB
Southfield Road between 12 and 13 Mile Roads
Southfield Commons 569-1400

ZOO MAN AND THE SIGN

by Charles Fuller
Directed by Wallace Bridges
January 12-15, 1994
Wednesday thru Saturday at 8 p.m.
Saturday Matinee at 2 p.m.

lydia Mendel/John Theatre
For Tickets & Information, call 971-8807
Beginning January 10, 743-1085

Paralel direction advised: adult language and situations.

Kyoto

JAPANESE STEAK HOUSE
DINNER FOR TWO **\$19.94**

Hibachi Sirlin or Chicken Dinner, your choice includes entree, shrimp appetizer, rice, salad, soup, vegetable, and tea. Offer good for dinner only now until 1:30 p.m. excluding Saturday night. Not valid with any other promotion.

FARMINGTON HILLS (Across from Novi Hilton) 348-7900
TROY (West Big Beaver Road) 649-6340
DEARBORN (At Fairlane Center) 593-3200

Observer & Eccentric Lipton Original NORTHWEST AIRLINES
Don Hassey Cadillac

12th Annual **PLYMOUTH ICE SPECTACULAR** JAN 12 - 17

FIRST OF AMERICA In the Gathering **FANTASYLAND** "THE WILD WEST" A COUNTRY WESTERN ICE ADVENTURE

America's First Ice Beer! **ICEHOUSE** 24-Hour Viewing **LIGHT SHOW**

Ford ICE CARVING COMPETITIONS Featuring MEIJER Student Individual & Team Competitions

CELEBRITY CARVING COMPETITION SUNSHINE ACURA THURS, JAN 13 AT NOON IN THE GATHERING

Decorated Cakes & Congerbread House Competition & Display WESTCHESTER SQUARE MALL
Register to Win At Participating Businesses Over \$1,000 in Prizes
"A Weekend of Plymouth Hospitality" Including 7 round trip tickets from Detroit to anywhere in the Continental U.S. Return by Northwest Airlines

He has two very good reasons to clip coupons

When it comes to shopping these days we all need as much help we can get. So give your buying power a boost by clipping the valuable manufacturer's coupons that came with today's home-delivered

Observer & Eccentric