



Alien creatures visit earthlings

Until recently, most science-fiction films seemed to concentrate on technology or on extraterrestrial monsters invading earth. In "Close Encounters of the Third Kind" (PG), "Jaws" director Steven Spielberg reveals the old clichés.

The subject of the movie is UFOs (unidentified flying objects). Writer-director Spielberg treats that subject in a way which gives us the mystery of space without the menace of monsters. It isn't as sick as "Star Wars" or as thoughtful as "Planet of the Apes," but it is oddly inspiring and optimistic.

The first two-thirds of the movie establish the occurrence of strange phenomena throughout the world and display the reaction of witnesses. The phenomena are sightings of UFOs and odd manifestations associated with them.

Special effects invest these experiences with humor as well as grandeur. Electro-magnetic storms rage, brilliant lights illuminate the darkest night, a fleet of spaceships zoom by and one small one, like the littlest dwarf, trails after.

WITNESSES TO the UFO phenomena are obsessed by the extraordinary experience. Some are haunted by an implanted vision of a dark, towering rock. Others are fixated by five musical notes repeated over and over.

Roy Neary (Richard Dreyfuss) is a power repairman in Muncie, Ind., whose life is unalterably changed by the experience. He is possessed by the vision of the towering rock. A scrunched pillow, a pile of mashed potatoes—everything he sees assumes that compelling shape.

How can a normal wife (Teri Garr) and children compete against a vision, or even try to understand it? They can't. Neary becomes as alienated from his family as from the rest of the "normal" world. But he isn't the only one. From Indiana to India, people are drawn to the landform that they saw in their vision while others are occupied with the five-tone theme.

Officials are not oblivious to what is happening. Spielberg, however, never informs the viewer whether they are acting out of ignorance, obtuseness, or deceit. It is the one time in the movie when Spielberg hovers on political comment, but he quickly abandons that theme.

As Claude Lacombe, a scientist trying to piece together and interpret the data, Francois Truffaut plays a key role in "Close Encounters." Lacombe is important because he is a humanist as well as a scientist.

IF ROY REPRESENTS ordinary man's sense of awe and curiosity about the universe, Lacombe represents a Greek ideal of reason and imagination. He is able to meet new experiences with resourcefulness and composure. Lacombe has "deciphered" the tonal message and realizes the use of music as a communication tool.

The stage is set for the conclusive encounter with aliens. The concerted efforts of Spielberg, Vilmos Zsigmond who directed the photography, Douglas Trumbull who directed the special effects and John Williams who wrote the musical score make the last 40 minutes of this movie a spectacular space cantata.

In "Close Encounters," space beckons man, not with icy death or solar storms, but with gentle creatures, a hint of immortality and a glorious radiance that encourages the leap from planet Earth.

The joy of this movie is that you can walk out on a high, look at the night sky and smile at some distant star-child.

Glimpses

NEW RELEASES

THE CHOIRBOYS (R). Joseph Wambaugh's story of big-city policemen who relieve the pressures of their jobs in periodic drunken reveries.

EQUUS (R). Intense, realistic film of prize-winning painting by Richard Burton as the self-doubting psychiatrist treating a boy (Peter Firth) who has blinded six horses.

THE GOODBYE GIRL (PG). Neil Simon comedy of set-up situation and laughs when an actor (Richard Dreyfuss) moves in with a twice-dumped, actor-hating hoofer (Marsha Mason).

JULIA (PG). Jane Fonda and Vanessa Redgrave excel in Lillian Hellman's deeply moving story of the warm, courageous friendship of two women.

LOOKING FOR MR. GOODBAR (R). Judith Rossner's steamy best seller brought to the screen with stunning impact. Diane Keaton comes as woman who teaches child by day, picks up men by night.

MR. KLEIN (PG). Alain Delon in a love suspense story about a man mistaken for a Jew in France, 1942.

PETE'S DRAGON (G). Combination of animation and live action in Disney adventure about desperate boy helped by friendly dragon. Helen Reddy and Mickey Rooney featured.

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER (R). John Travolta (of "Grease") is the main man in film with plenty of disco action.

SEMI-TOUGH (R). Consciousness-raising fads and football take equal lumps in comic but raunchy film with Burt Reynolds and Kris Kristofferson.

STAR WARS (PG). Stereo-comic sci-fi adventure about a rebellion of solar systems in a distant galaxy. Good time movie with laughs and special effects. Two robots steal the show.

TELEFON (PG). Charles Bronson plays a Soviet agent in this thriller about good and bad Soviet spies.

THE TURNING POINT (PG). Outstanding acting by Anne Bancroft and Shirley MacLaine; outstanding dancing by Mikhail Baryshnikov and Leslie Brown in film about character, choices and ballet.

WHICH WAY IS UP? (R). Odd reworking of Lina Wertmüller's "The Seduction of Mimi" with Richard Pryor in three roles.

WORLD'S GREATEST LOVER (PG). Zany activities of Gene Wilder who goes to Hollywood to establish himself as Valentine's rival. Dom DeLuise is manic producer and Carol Kane is Wilder's wife.

MOVIE RATING GUIDE

- G General audiences admitted.
- PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
- R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
- X No one under 18 admitted.

Detroit Concert Band releases album

Leonard Smith, music director of the Detroit Concert Band, announced the release of the sixth LP album in the band's continuing production of its "Sousa American Bicentennial Collection."

Volume VI (HL-80171-S) is titled "A Sousa Potpourri" and contains 12 marches: "Glory of the Yankee Navy," "Atlantic City Pageant," "Jack Tar," "Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company," "Who's Who in Navy Blue," "Hands Across the Sea," "High School Cadets," "Gallant Seventh," "Bride Elect," "Harmonica Wizard," "From Maine to Oregon" and "Rifle Regiment."

All albums in the collection, along with the recently released "Soloists of the Detroit Concert Band," are produced by H&L Record Co.

THE DETROIT Concert Band has received two grants—one of \$5,000 from Ford Motor Co. Fund and one of \$2,500 from Selmer Corp. of Elkhart, Ind.

In a letter to Smith announcing the Ford grant, Ford Motor Co. Fund Director Ray Kooi said, "This grant is in recognition of the important place of the band in the Detroit community."

I hope this may serve as an incentive for other corporations to do likewise."

Director Smith said, "Nationwide, there's an increasing awareness and appreciation of the Detroit Concert Band's vitally active role in assuring perpetuation of the professional concert band tradition in America."

The 60-member band (the only fully complemented all-professional concert band in the United States) is well on its way toward completion of its ambitious project begun in mid-1975—the recording of all 126 known John Philip Sousa marches.

THERE'S ROOM AT THE INN

A thoughtful way to welcome visitors or clients is a reservation at the Kingsley Inn. We are near all business, sports, and educational centers in Oakland County.

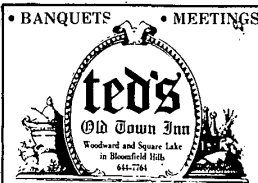


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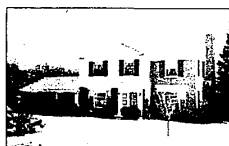
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SPACIOUS COMFORT in 5 bedroom home with both a built-in library with bar and paneled-beamed family room with brick wall fireplace. First floor laundry, Central Air. Immaculate. Backs up to park. 646-6000. \$132,500.



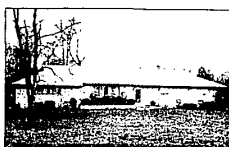
PRESTIGE LIVING in Bloomfield Village. Big and nicely decorated home with center-entrance plan. 4 large bedrooms, 2½ baths, paneled library, beautiful rec room, 2 fireplaces, lovely glassed porch. 646-6000. \$125,500.



PALATIAL 5 bedroom, 3½ bath home in Rochester's prize Christian Hills. Enjoy over 3300 sq. ft. with 24' x 22' living room and fireplace family room with wet bar. Plus superb rec room, Central Air, etc. 651-8850. \$123,900.



VALUE EXTRAS include 4 ton Central Air, electronic filter, AM-FM Dickcraft fire and burglar alarms, first floor laundry plus 4 huge bedrooms, big fireplace family room. In prime Potomac Green. 626-9100. \$104,900.



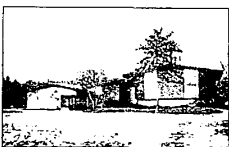
SPACIOUS 4 bedroom, 2½ bath brick on 1½ acres of pines and quiet and towering trees in Birmingham. Family and rec rooms, den, large porch, 2 fireplaces, country kitchen. Immediate possession. 647-5950. \$105,000.



DRAMATIC Contemporary compliments 147' rolling country acres with equipped horse barn and corral. Doorways and decks plus 2-story living room with fireplace, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths, etc. 626-9100. \$124,900.



BEAUTIFUL DECOR, lots of T.L.C. in this 4 bedroom, one owner home. Magnificent fireplace family room with wet bar, big first floor laundry, Central Air, slate foyer, gas grill, garage openers. 689-8900. \$83,500.



NICELY GROOMED GROUNDS, home to match. Spacious 4 bedroom Contemporary Tri-level on almost an acre with professional landscaping. Step-down living room with cathedral ceiling, 2 patios, much more. 557-6700. \$97,000.



PRIZE PEBBLE CREEK community of luxury Condos includes this new unit with the size and privacy of a house. Two 18' x 15' bedrooms, 2½ baths, family room, 26' x 14' living room, fireplace, Central Air. 626-9100. \$87,900.



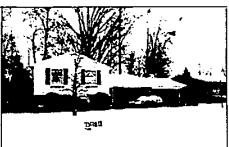
SPACE GALORE in stately pillared Colonial. 4 good-sized bedrooms, 2½ baths, Oak plank flooring in family room with fireplace, great kitchen with built-ins, first floor laundry and Central Air. 557-6700. \$71,900.



SELECT YOUR finishing touches and move into this new, custom 4 bedroom, 2½ bath home. Ceramic foyer with circular staircase leads to fireplace family room with wet bar, first floor laundry, etc. 626-9100. \$87,800.



PRIVACY in Bloomfield Hills on 1½ acres with roomy Ranch. 4 bedrooms, 2½ baths plus 2-way fireplace in family and living rooms. Since 1974 new Central Air, turn-of, roof, kitchen appliances. Trees. 626-9100. \$77,900.



MINT CONDITION highlights this 4 bedroom home in quiet, desirable area of Southfield. 2 baths, family room with fireplace, laundry room; all spacious. Plus Central Air, storage building, much more. 557-6700. \$56,500.



COZY FIREPLACE in lovely family room enhances this 3 bedroom, 2½ bath home in Southfield. Handsomely carpeted living and formal dining rooms add to its charm. Well appointed kitchen and 557-6700. \$59,900.



END UNIT Condo with attached garage. Walk to shopping and schools from this 2 bedroom home with formal dining and living rooms, ample kitchen with built-ins, Central Air, full carpeting. 651-8850. Priced to sell. \$31,900.

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