

Blueprint Poll

Voluntary lyceums asked

Eighty-nine percent of Ramsey students believe that lyceums should be made voluntary, according to a Blueprint Poll. The poll was taken last Tuesday, the day of the awards assembly.

Concerning where else students might go during an assembly, the poll offered three alternatives; sixty-two per cent said they would go to a "talk study hall"; 17 per cent said they would go to a quiet student hall; 13 percent listed other comments which included "go home" and "sleep study hall."

To the question, "Do you think most lyceums have in the past been worthwhile," seventy-eight percent of students answered YES, 17 per cent answered NO. "Who do you think should plan lyceums," was the final question; students were permitted to check more than one answer. The results are tabulated as follows:

Students - 36%
Faculty and Students - 32%
Faculty, Students and Administrators - 23%

Those who thought that students and administrators faculty and administrators, or faculty, or administrators should decide, totals less than six per cent. Figures may total less than 100 per cent because some students did not answer all questions.

MOVIE REVIEWS



Alice's Restaurant' dead place

'Easy Rider' about freedom

by Mark Johnson
Blueprint Editorial Editor

If "Alice's Restaurant" is any indication of the "new American Cinema," perhaps one is better off sticking with the old school.

Director Arthur Penn, seemingly convinced that the American public will swallow anything after "Bonnie and Clyde," has sloppily thrown together a tedious screenplay dealing with Arlo Guthrie's wanderings, added subtle but ineffective anti-establishment humor, and heavily reasoned his concoction with clumsy, inept, and totally pointless sex scenes. It is tedious, dull, and, at times, a downright bore.

Those with enough stamina may, with luck, be able to struggle through the film long enough to catch the celebrated "Alice's Restaurant Massacre," the only worthwhile part of the film.

In his "acting" debut, Arlo Guthrie casually strolls through the film looking like a sophomore with a bad case of self-pity. Officer Obbenheimer, playing himself also, plays his part with such vigor that he could be considered theatrical dynamite -- were this a Christmas pageant.

The film is predicatable and uninvolved. You know a "tragic scene" is coming when Arlo looks sad. You know a "sex scene" is coming when Alice and Ray smile. You know a "funny scene" is coming when Officer Obbie lumbers across the screen. It is only inevitable that Arlo gets beaten up once and receives a multitude of dirty looks for his long hair for all the stereotype characters: the red-neck cop, the super-patriotic Army personal and the hell-fire evangelist.

When viewing the finished product, one can only hope that the real Alice and Ray Brock's lives weren't as dull as the motion picture.

◆◆◆

by Jeff Holman

"Easy Rider" is a motion picture about freedom, and being free.

mcj

I am curious (preoccupied)

by Mark Johnson
Blueprint Editorial Editor

As I sit, with my "Classics Illustrated" comic book of "How to Win Friends and Influence People," I can't help but think that someone "up there" must like me.

For example, this issue I was completely drained of column material and just when I thought I was going to have to cut my column I found that someone had already done it for me. I received an anonymous letter which would've been more appropriately delivered, had it been attached to a flaming arrow and shot through our living room window.

At any rate, the actual letter reads as follows:

Dear Mark,
I am writing this letter to you because I am concerned about you. I am the mother of a friend of yours

and have known about you through him for quite a while. I like you and am well aware that God gave you much talent and intelligence. That is why I am concerned.

After reading your column, "Pornography and Me" in the BLUEPRINT, I wonder if you are aware of the impression you are giving of yourself as a person. I know the column was written as humor, but one can't help wonder why you chose that subject. I felt it is very poor taste and rather disgusting. Is that the kind of person you are becoming? And if that is the kind of person you are, then please have the decency to keep it to yourself.

I realize that boys your age are curious about all aspects of sex and this is natural, but in my opinion decent boys don't put it in print for all to see.

Are you trying to impress everyone with your "cool-with it" attitude? You are only degrading and hurting yourself and giving yourself a bad reputation. Your friends and the parents of your friends could well begin to think that you are overly preoccupied with sex.

Not only are you damaging your name and reputation but you are not living up to the responsibility you should feel towards others. If you have moral and ethical integrity plus a Christian belief you must be aware of that responsibility to others. I believe you do have those values and therefore I do not understand what you are becoming.

I am writing this letter with the kindest of intentions. Maybe you will just crumple this and throw it in the wastebasket, but I think you are the kind of a person who will at least pause and wonder if maybe the old girl doesn't have a point or two there. Don't try to find out who I am. Mysteries are more fun.

What shall I sign myself?
An MCJ Watcher, I guess.

mcj replies

Well, "old girl," in answer to your letter I say: OH, COME ON NOW! Are you putting me on?

Actually, I didn't realize that I had such vast and far-reaching influence as to actually corrupt the future of America. Good Heavens!! That almost makes me as dangerous as the Communists.

Nevertheless, it is heartening to know that there still is someone, someone, out there in the cold cruel world who still cares. It just warms the cockles of my rotten heart to know that there is someone who actually cares who still has the wisdom to pass judgement on articles and people as "decent and indecent," "moral and immoral," and "pious and impious."

Yes, "old girl," you are truly "one-in-a-million." You show a rare talent in the discrimination of good and evil and I would advise you to exercise your divine power to censor your reading material in the best possible way known to man -- namely -- fold the newspaper and refuse to read the article.

Now, don't get me wrong. This reply is written with the kindest of intentions. Incidentally, the next time you feel the need to write a letter of criticism -- sign your name. Mysteries may be fun, but they don't gain of my respect.

P.S. Next time, please write your letter in ink. Besides, creating bad impressions, color crayons smear terribly.



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