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Midler rescues 'Fortune'

The Ring-tum Phi, March 5, 1987

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By MICHAEL TUGGLE
Movie Critic

With Bette Midler and Shelley Long on the wings of the new comedy *Outrageous Fortune*, one would expect the film to take off. Instead, the film rides up and down, ever threatening to crash and burn with Midler acting as its only salvation.

The story involves two "professional" actresses. One is a serious actress (Long) who knows every great soliloquy ever written, while the other (Midler) refers to Shakespeare as "Bill" and wants to know who the hell "Hamlet" is. Both land into a two thousand dollar acting seminar with one of the premier acting coaches in the world. O.K. Both get involved with the same guy and fall in love. O.K. One afternoon, the guy walks into a building and Long subsequently watches it explode. Both lovers head for the mortuary, where they confront each other for the first time as love rivals. They insist on identifying the body and discover that (surprise!) the doctors have the wrong body.

At this point, normal people return to "life before the missing exploded lover," but not these two. They track him down at the airport just as he is leaving and then fly all over the country in an attempt to pin him down. When they eventually do

catch up with him, he threatens to kill them (a huge chafe, after spending thousands of dollars trying to find him).

You see, Mr. Explosion, as well as the acting coach, are really Russian spies, and they have managed to steal a top secret serum from the government by using the women as carriers for messages. The remainder of the film is spent in chase, as the women pursue the KGB and steal the serum back, and vice versa.

To make a long story short, this film is not very intelligent and not very funny. Pristine Shelley Long is a good foil to Midler's foul-mouthed character, but she does tend to overact. As for the KGB agents, they don't come close. John Schuck, who you may remember from the sitcoms of the '70s, still can't act and is still not funny.

Last week's *Time* magazine donned Midler on the cover with the headline, "You Bette!" The piece restated what everyone else has already realized: Bette Midler has finally made the Big Time. She again proves in *Outrageous Fortune* as she did in her last two comedy hits, *Down and Out in Beverly Hills* and *Ruthless People*, that she is hilarious and has the ability to make a movie work.

Midler is great. George Carlin, as a reservation exile from the Age of Aquarius, is good, and Long is

alright. Added together, this unfortunately makes *Outrageous Fortune* just O.K. If you like Bette Midler, you ought to see this film. On the other hand, if you are going in order to see Shelley Long, you will do just as well watching her on Thursday nights. Three cheers for Bette Midler; for Shelley Long, one on NBC.

TUG'S TAG **1/2

Chorus concert Tuesday

Staff Reports

The Washington and Lee Chorus will give a concert Tuesday, March 10, at 8 p.m. in Lee Chapel. The concert is free to the public.

A mixed ensemble which was formed last year, the chorus will present a variety of choral literature ranging from Renaissance motets to Israeli and American folk songs to a medley from "Cats." The program will close with a highly acclaimed arrangement of "Shenandoah."

Accompanist for the group is senior Robert Viennet. The chorus is conducted by Gordon Spice, associate professor of music at W&L.



Little Saints big on talent

By MICHAEL TUGGLE
Entertainment Editor

While the Hoodoo Gurus may be taking center stage in the small gym of Doremus at Friday night's Fancy Dress Ball, you can be assured that the warm up band, "the south's favorite", Little Saints, will indeed create some heat of their own. The four year old band from Nashville, Tennessee returns to Lexington Friday night following a recent 50 week tour to bring their mix of original and cover music to the Fancy Dress extravaganza.

The Little Saints quintet, Jeff Holmes, Scot Evans, Randy Parsons, Greg Eicnaugle, and Freeman D'Angelo, has quite a varied repertoire, but one that always electrifies the crowds they play for. U2, Talking Heads, and R.E.M. are the band's favorite and most heavily played tunes, but other favorites like Springsteen, the Clash, the Violent Femmes, and the Ramones are sure to surface before the night is over. And for the die hard Saints fans, not to worry. With a Little Saints album set for possible release this spring,

originals like "Girls Who Don't Wear Jewelry", "Get Inside", and "Great Big Hands" will not be left aside.

For those of you that have never seen Little Saints, let their reputation precede them; they are crowd pleasers. Their show is energetic,

and their music is fantastic, and the whole put together is lots of fun. Don't miss their performance Friday night when the Little Saints come marching into Doremus Gym to kick off the 8th Fancy Dress Ball. You'll be sorry if you do.

It's beginning to look a lot like FD

By CATHERINE MCCUBBIN
Staff Reporter

"You should see the dress I found, it's gorgeous...No, I don't have a date yet...I'll get one, don't worry! I've still got a week left and I AM GOING to Fancy Dress!"

Yes, it's that time of the year again — the famous last-minute rush when friends-of-friends and high school boyfriends are resurrected to escort students to the biggest party of the year — Fancy Dress. As the day draws closer, standards lower — tall, dark and handsome turns into someone who eats with utensils and bathes regularly. Many people seem to think of FD as a do-or-die affair — either you DO go or you DIE of humiliation. Getting a date for FD is on people's minds almost from Orientation week, but the issue really heats up around mid-January. Girls who hate parties start dressing up and going out every Wednesday, Friday and Saturday night, sizing up every male they meet according to availability and GQ quotient.

What do women — from W&L and surrounding colleges — think of FD? One hears a variety of opinions. From a student at a local women's college: "FD? Oh, you mean the Fancy Dress Ball? Is that some time soon?" From a W&L student: "Fancy Dress is special if you have someone special. I wouldn't go with just anyone." From yet another W&L student: "Just find somebody you can

stand for an evening and get drunk!" And from still another W&L female: "I'm not taking my boyfriend to FD — he doesn't go to W&L so I wouldn't have much fun."

Apparently, FD is only as important as one makes it.

At least everyone seems to agree on one thing: FD should be a weekend to remember.

Evans Dining Hall Presents:



Fancy Dress Meal

Friday March 6, 1987

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

- Charcoal Grilled Fillet Mignon
- or
- Steamed Lobster Tails w/ Butter
- Broccoli Spears
- Baked Potato Bar
- Fresh Garden Tossed Salad
- Homemade Wheat Rolls
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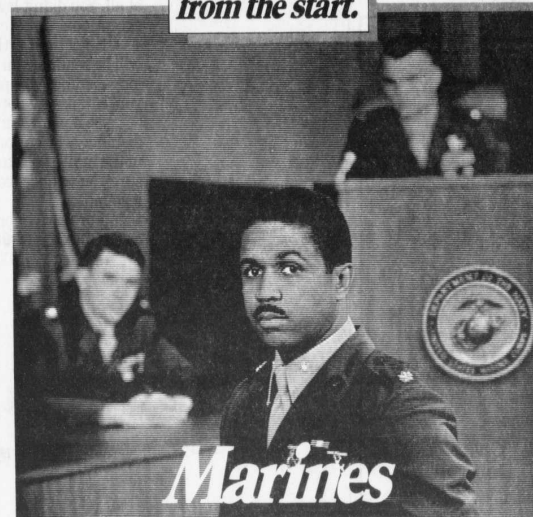
Fancy Dress Specials On:

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- Korbel Champagne

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