

Movie releases continued...

that's where the similarities stop. Newman plays Louisiana Governor Earl Long who causes a huge political sex scandal when he takes up with famed stripper Blaze Starr, played by steamy newcomer Lolita Davidovich. Although this story revolves around strip-tease, today's movie-goer must remember that the "art" of stripping was a little more respected back then than in today's society. Written and directed by Ron Shelton (*Bull Durham*), released by Touchstone.

Glory: Set during the Civil War, this serious drama already sounds, respectively in the epic sense, slow. Although "slow" does not necessarily mean bad, or not worth seeing. It promises to be interesting, focusing on the black soldier-heroes of this American war and how white soldiers react and treat this situation. Two of the most talented black actors, Morgan Freeman and Denzel Washington, star in this historical drama. Matthew Broderick also stars. Directed by *thirtysomething's* Ed Zwick and brought to us by the people at Tri-Star.

National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation: The family we love to laugh with the most: the Griswolds. Yep, they're back and in the holiday spirit of things. Clark and company are staying home for a change to celebrate Christmas and are clumsier than ever. Returning, of course, are Chevy Chase and Beverly D'Angelo. Also starring Randy Quaid and written by the I-can-always-find-humor-in-real-life John Hughes.

She-Devil: This black-humored film unpredictably pairs the too-respected Meryl Streep with larger-than-life domestic goddess Roseanne Barr. Streep plays a sophisticated top romance novelist who has an affair with Barr's husband (Ed Begley, Jr.). When Barr, who plays, well, a domestic goddess (how original), learns of this betrayal, she becomes ultra-vengeful and promises to ruin both their lives as they've trashed hers. Barr takes the part and runs with it. She sports a big, fuzzy mole on her right upper lip to give her that vengeful-looking edge. Surprisingly enough, Streep does not really talk with an accent in *Devil*, (she's done so many accents, it's hard to believe that SHE even knows what her original voice actually is.) It should be worth your \$4-plus-popcorn to witness Streep in a comedy, especially set against Barr. Directed by the colorful Susan Seidelman (*Desperately Seeking Susan*, *Cookie*).

Tango and Cash: An action-buddy (yes, another one) movie starring Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell. Expect some humor in between gun fire and a little more

U2, R.E.M. in Top 10 LPs of 80's

by Jim Titus
Editor-in-Chief

At the end of every decade the media seems to sum up everything that occurred during the previous ten years. Two weeks ago *Rolling Stone* listed its critics' choices for the top 100 albums of the 80s. Since lists like these are arbitrary and cause disagreement among almost everyone, I would like to offer my list of the top ten albums of the 80s (in order, of course):

1. **The Joshua Tree**, U2 - Part of the problem with becoming a hugely popular group is that your popularity can actually backlash and cause people to dislike you after awhile, especially if your songs are played on the radio every two minutes. But sometimes popularity and radio burnout have to be overlooked. The Joshua Tree is simply such a good record that it deserves every bit of praise, popularity, airplay, and sales that it got.

2. **Sandinista**, The Clash - This album is the "War and Peace" of music. It takes almost three hours to listen to the record from side one to side six (yes, side SIX). I have always been a fan of the Clash and Sandinista isn't by far my favorite Clash album. But this album deserves to be number two on a "best of the eighties" list for its sheer diversity. One musical group (and one that started as a punk band at that) created a three-record album that has almost every type of music but country on it. There's even a *waltz*, for God's sake!

3. **The River**, Bruce Springsteen - Well before "Born in the USA" or "Tunnel of Love," The River hooked me on Springsteen. He's a great storyteller,

along with an outstanding musician, and The River is full of stories I love to listen to over and over.

4. **Empty Glass**, Pete Townshend - As a devout, maybe somewhat overzealous Who fan, I had to add something by my guitar hero. Townshend was the driving force behind the Who, and his solo projects prove it. "Let My Love Open the Door," "Rough Boys," and "A Little is Enough" reserve this album's place on my list.

5. **No Guru, No Method, No Teacher**, Van Morrison - It's Van Morrison, what can I say? It was a toss-up between this one and "Live at the Grand Opera House, Belfast."

6. **Appetite for Destruction**, Guns N' Roses - Putting all the controversy aside and only considering the music, Appetite is a great album. This is the album that renewed my faith in metal.

7. **Green**, R.E.M. - Everything by R.E.M. is good, but this is the album that finally made more than just the "art-fags" realize it.

8. **Speaking in Tongues**, Talking Heads - An infinitely listenable album by a band that can often be too strange to stomach.

9. **Iron Man**, Pete Townshend - (I know, it's the Who influence again.) Aside from being the "Tommy" of 1989, Iron Man gives us two new Who tunes and blues man John Lee Hooker as the iron man.

10. **Rainmakers**, Rainmakers - There are very few albums about which I can say I actually like every track, but this is one of them. These Missouri boys aren't very well known but they should be. This debut album proves why.

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3. Don't take a chance, take a cab.
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