

# Carolina!

## Be on the alert: 'Sirens' screams success for Elle

Like a mythical force of nature, their brazen melody seduced sailors closer and closer to shore. Their broken call lured the men until their ships came crashing up against the jagged rocks.

The women of John Duigan's "Sirens," like their legendary parallels, lull people into enchanting sexual escapades, changing their lives forever.

Hugh Grant and Tara Fitzgerald star as a minister and wife who have been given a special assignment to pay a visit to the home of a controversial artist (Sam Neill) in an effort to change his ways.

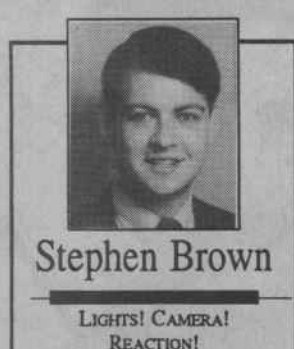
Most offensive to the minister is a piece of art depicting a naked woman being crucified. Not only is it sacrilegious, he observes, but it is arrogant as well.

Upon arrival at the artist's countryside manor, the couple discovers the inspiration for his artwork: three

beautiful women, the main one played by fashion model Elle Macpherson. Slowly but surely, the minister's wife becomes fascinated with their carefree lifestyle and begins to indulge in behavior unbecoming of her prim-and-proper persona.

Director Duigan frames the film nicely with falling petals and slithering snakes which are harbingers of things to come.

He has crafted an erotic comedy of manners full of classical artwork, refreshing fountains, playful swings and textured meadows. The film is a passionate meditation on sexuality, raw and untempered.



Stephen Brown

LIGHTS! CAMERA! REACTION!

Tara Fitzgerald is superb in the central role as a woman discovering the richness of her sexuality for the first time. Equally convincing as she forces herself to deal with her relationship with an emotionally stunted husband and as she seeks out an anonymous encounter with a mysterious man from the local village, she comes full circle in her development during the film.

The real surprise is the sheer quality of Macpherson's performance. The same woman who graces the cover of this month's "Playboy" magazine is an actress of impeccable talent. Her giddy, worldly and wise human portrait

is a wonder to behold. Her complete control of situations is tinged by a childlike sense of wonder and freedom.

"Sirens" is a film of emotional catharsis, most literally expressed as the film comes to a stunning climax. The water imagery allows the actresses to experience a baptism of earthly pleasures away from the film's more weighty dialogue about the co-existence of religion and art.

This film probably would not have received the exposure it has if it weren't for the presence of a major supermodel. For those people seeing the film to see her, rest assured, you will enjoy it. For those who want to see a stirring film about the awakening of a woman's lost desires, "Sirens" charts new waters.

### Datebook

#### Friday, April 15

Housing signup for men wanting different room in different building, 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., RH Ballrooms B and C. 777-4283.

College of Journalism peer advising, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Coliseum lobby.

Spring Fling events from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Greene Street include airwalk volleyball, sumo wrestling, sonic splash zoomball, a limbo contest, food and prizes.

"The Nightmare Before Christmas," 9 p.m., RH Theater.

"Heavy Metal," 11 p.m., RH Theater.

Beta Alpha Psi field trip to Policy Management Systems, 10309 Wilson Blvd., Blythewood. Wear professional dress. 544-0396.

#### Saturday, April 16

Outdoor benefit for the Women's Shelter, noon to 7 p.m., Immaculate Consumption, 933 S. Main St. Live music by Marlee McLeod, The Losers and The Drivers, as well as food and drinks. Tickets are \$5 plus a canned food item. 779-4706.

Icehouse beer and Rock 93.5-FM present karaoke day at The No Brainer, 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Donations of \$2 per song or joke benefit Connections for Youth, a non-profit organization that assists runaway, homeless and at-risk youth. Prizes will be donated by area merchants. Call Jean at 256-3637.

"The Nightmare Before Christmas," 9 p.m., RH Theater.

"Heavy Metal," 11 p.m., RH Theater.

#### Monday, April 18

College of Journalism peer advising, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Coliseum lobby.

Free salsa dance lessons by instructor Ernesto Cucalon, 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m., Golden Spur.

Pink Floyd's "The Wall," 9 p.m., RH patio.

#### Tuesday, April 19

"Hair," 9 p.m., RH Theater.

#### Wednesday, April 20

Applications due for 1994-95 Peer Educators in Creating Attitudes for Rape-Free Environments (C.A.R.E.). Complete training provided. Call the Sexual Assault Programs and Services at 777-8248 for information, or apply in person on the bottom floor of the Thomson Student Health Center.

Beta Alpha Psi, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., NBSC, Main Street. Will audit funds of March of Dimes WalkAmerica. Wear casual dress. 777-4710.

College of Journalism peer advising, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., Coliseum lobby.

Students for the Ethical Treat-

ment of Animals demonstration in front of the School of Medicine, 4 p.m., Garners Ferry Road.

"Hair," 9 p.m., RH Theater.

#### Thursday, April 21

Gamma Beta Phi meeting, 8:30 p.m., Nursing auditorium.

#### Friday, April 22

Beta Alpha Psi, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., NBSC, Main Street. Will audit funds of March of Dimes WalkAmerica. Wear casual dress. 777-4710.

College of Journalism peer advising, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., Coliseum lobby.

#### Saturday, April 23

"Cockstock '94," featuring the Soul Mites, Liquid Pleasure, Lay Quiet Awhile and Uncle Mingo, 12:30 p.m., P.E. Field A.

#### Tuesday, April 26

Beta Alpha Psi FAD seminar, 4 p.m., Lumpkin Room, B.A. 8th floor. Initiation at 6 p.m., followed by banquet at 7 p.m. in Capstone House. Wear professional dress. 777-4710.

#### Weekly Meetings

■ Sundays, Ballroom Dancing Club, 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., P.E. Center.

■ Mondays, Bible Study, 6:50 p.m., Baptist Student Union, 700 Pickens St.

■ Mondays and Wednesdays, free income tax assistance, 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., RH lobby. 777-4710.

■ Tuesdays, gay, lesbian and bisexual students support group, 4:30 p.m., Counseling Center.

■ Tuesdays, Chi Alpha Christian Fellowship, 8 p.m., Humanities 403.

■ Tuesdays and Thursdays, free tutoring for accounting students, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., BA 402. 777-4710.

■ Wednesdays, Student Outreach (USC admissions recruitment program), 5:30 p.m., Leiber College. Call Leigh Stoen at 777-4080.

■ Wednesdays, College Republicans, 8 p.m., Gambrell 250. Call Eric Dell at 926-7902 or Chip Payne at 750-5162.

■ Wednesdays, Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Association, 8 p.m., Gambrell 402.

■ Thursdays, Common Ground, 4:30 p.m., RH 203.

■ Thursdays, RHA, 7 p.m., RH 305. Call Rebekah at 544-2109.

■ Thursdays, "Heart to Heart," 7 p.m., Baptist Student Union, 700 Pickens St.

■ Thursdays, Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 8 p.m., RH 303.

*The deadline for Datebook is two days before publication date. Submissions are free and printed according to available space.*

## Carolina Alive to perform at Koger Center

By ANGIE CAMPBELL Staff Writer

Music, dancing and laughter will hit the stage Saturday night when Carolina Alive hits the Koger Center.

"We'll be doing Broadway-type melodies, some really funny comedy pieces, and there will even be a patriotic salute," said music Professor Richard Conant, who founded the organization 21 years ago.

Carolina Alive is an annual pop ensemble involving about 35 students singing and dancing. This year's performance will include a variety of songs, including "Purple People Eater" and a medley of songs from the Walt

"We've literally been all over the world with this. We've been to Rumania, Mexico and Australia, and we were once invited to perform for the president of Egypt."

Richard Conant Music professor

Disney movie "The Little Mermaid," Conant said.

"I established (Carolina Alive) as a means of public relations for the university," he said. "So far, we've had a lot of success."

"We've literally been all over the world with this," he said. "We've been to Rumania, Mexico and Australia, and we were once invited to perform for the president of Egypt."

And that doesn't include the various cities across the United States, such as Dallas and Washington, D.C., Conant said. The group performs regional and national levels of political and campus events and are sometimes the featured entertainment on cruises, he said.

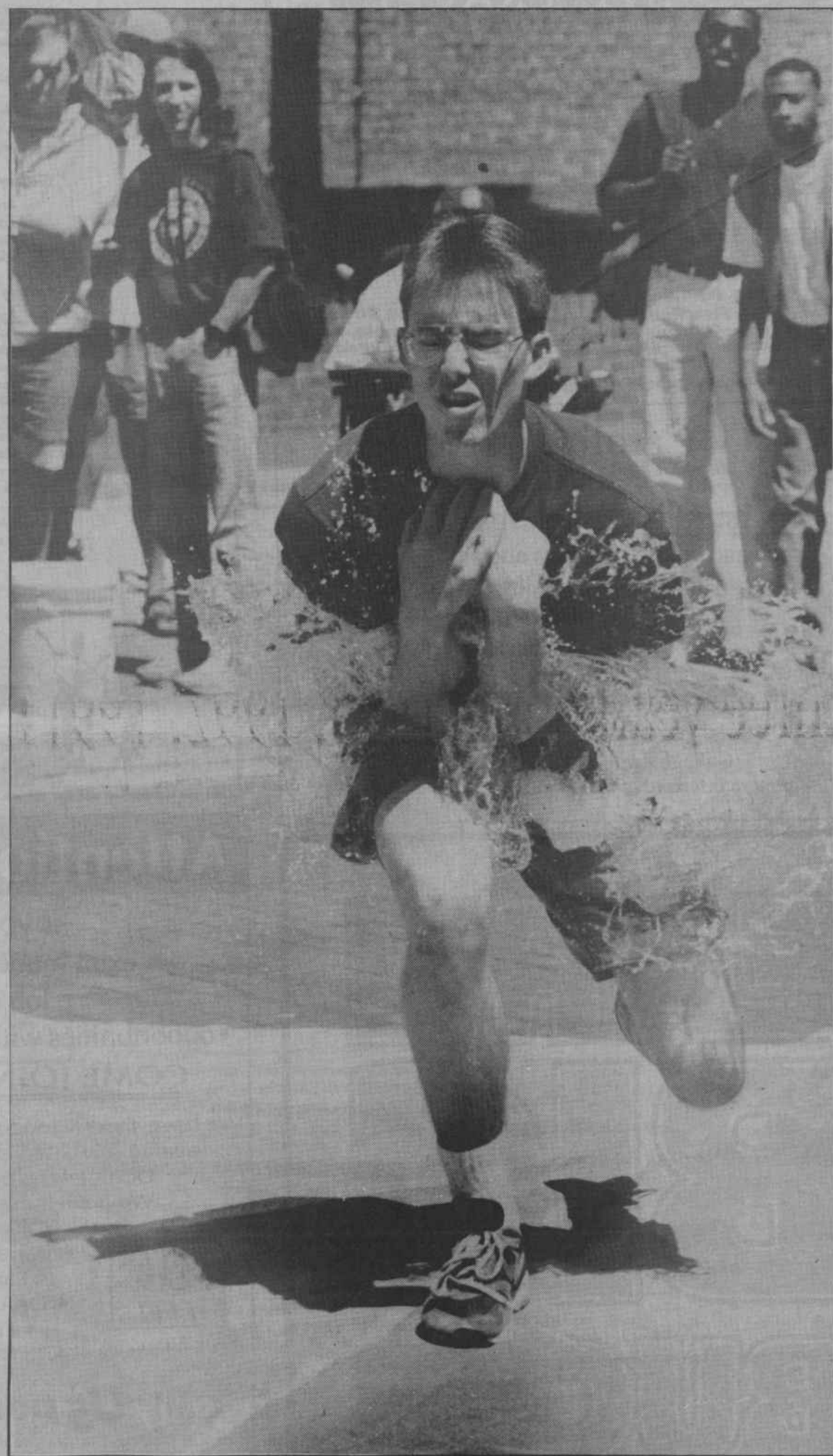
This USC choral group, believe it or not, is actually an official class, he said.

Sounds great, doesn't it? But don't fill out those schedules just yet. This is one class that requires an audition.

If you're still interested, auditions for next year's class will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, April 19 in McMaster 325. And don't worry if you're not a music major. Most of the students in the group aren't either, Conant said.

Saturday's performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Koger Center. Tickets are available at the Coliseum for \$8 for the general public and \$4 for senior citizens and USC students.

## Wet n' Wild



David Mandrell/The Gamecock

Johnny Cooley gets wet Thursday during a balloon toss at the Sprint Spring Break '94 activities.

## Folk artists bring musical heritage, traditions to life

By College Press Service

**Sequentia**  
"Ancient Music for a Modern Age"  
RCA Red Seal  
Grade: A-

Sequentia is one of the finest vocal ensembles performing early music today.

Led by Benjamin Bagby and the dusky-voiced Barbara Thornton, the group has earned special praise for their ground-breaking recordings of works by 12th-century abbess and mystic Hildegard of Bingen; a highlight of the group's catalog is a stunning performance of Hildegard's morality play, "Ordo Virtutum," which is now available on CD at mid-price.

Sequentia has also recorded a very fine trilogy of early Spanish plainchant and polyphony, as well as several other excellent discs.

"Ancient Music for a Modern Age" is a sampler of Sequentia recordings which draws on the group's Hildegard discs and the three "Vox Iberica" recordings produced, in part, by an all-male version of the group under Bagby's leadership. The performances are magnificent, and the music itself is revelatory; Hildegard's thoroughly haunting and transcendently beautiful melodies are a wonder to hear, and the Spanish is similarly fine.

The question is, why did the compilers of this sampler draw only from those five discs? Sequentia has also produced some wonderful recordings of works by Philippe le Chancelier and Philippe de Vitry, not to mention their highly praised collection of English troubadour songs, and nothing from those albums is included.

That neglect is almost made up for, however, by the inclusion of a second disc in what looks like only a single-disc package: another full-length sampler of early music from other acts on the Deutsche Harmonia Mundi label, including Skip Sempe, the Camerata Koln and the Smithsonian Chamber Players.

This sampler is full of delightful pieces, and it's free. While the Sequentia disc could stand to be more representative of their catalog, there's no arguing with this kind of value.

**Helicon**  
"The Titan"  
Dorian Discovery  
Grade: B+

Helicon is a trio of exciting young virtuosos whose folkie roots run both broad and deep: flute wizard Chris Norman, who is also a highly accomplished baroque player, guitarist/citternist/fiddler Robin Bullock, and hammer dulcimer player and

fiddler Ken Kolodner.

The group's stated purpose is the "cultivation and interpretation of traditional folk music from around the world," and their expansive repertoire shows that they're serious.

This disc, their debut album from 1990 (released, strangely enough, a year after their 1992 follow-up), features traditional tunes from such far-flung places as Hungary, Scotland, Bolivia, Haiti and France.

Helicon's approach is clearly aimed at revealing unifying aspects of these disparate styles. And if Norman seems to Gaelicize most tunes just a bit more than one might think appropriate for, say, a French mazurka, only a grump would hold it against him; he and his cohorts play with such winsome enthusiasm and breathtaking virtuosity (check out Bullock's speed-of-sound rendition of Norman Blake's "The Old Brown Case") that the listener is drawn along inexorably and happily on this musical world tour.

It's impossible not to be charmed by a nine-and-a-half minute medley which includes Irish, English, Scottish and Polish dance tunes, and it really is fascinating to hear how much they have in common.

## '65mm' waste of paper

By JAMES W. TURNER Staff Writer

"65 mm" is a horror/suspense novel by Dale Hoover, due for release by Dell's Abyss Publishing this month.

It seems to me that most thriller novels build suspense by stimulating the reader's curiosity. Once the reader is hooked, the novel becomes a page turner. Dale Hoover seems to think that he has developed a new way to accomplish this goal.

As opposed to baiting the reader's curiosity, Mr. Hoover has concluded (through some twisted, sordid thought process) that by giving confusing pieces of dialogue lumped in with equally baffling character sketches, all assembled in totally unrelated scenes, he can confuse and aggravate the reader to the point of hair-pulling frustration, and in this way create a suspenseful story.

Well, Mr. Hoover, far be it from me to condemn a trend-setting new suspense genre, but it ain't gonna work.

The story idea itself is a terrific one, and if there was any justice, a reader should be able to sue for what Dale Hoover did to this story. Joe Moreson, an underappreciated disc jockey, quits his job and purchases the Farelant Cinema. He and his wife move to Farelant, pop. 150, and soon Joe is possessed by some evil spirit in the theater.

Joe holds special screenings, where the out-of-focus projector plays a 65mm film. (Hey! Just like in the title!) What exactly is on the tape is never revealed, much to the reader's chagrin. However, what is on the tape causes the audience to become blood-thirsty murderers and to slay their

families.

Joe Moreson's best friend, Kelsie Brown, rushes to Farelant to save the town and his friend from imminent destruction.

Yeah, right. This novel, quite frankly, is a waste of good paper. The entirety of it is completely confusing and frustrating. This is bad enough in itself, but there are so many apparently overlooked literary errors that the editors of "65mm" should be drawn and quartered.

A shape-shifting entity lives in the theater, but her presence is never explained. Why is the Farelant Cinema occupied by this strange evil aura? Who knows? Certainly not Dale Hoover, who continually forgets to insert important information to the plot, and then later inserts it where it doesn't belong in an "Oh, by the way, I forgot to tell you..." fashion.

At one point, a character named Jeff introduces himself to Kelsie as a friend of Rozina, who is a bartender and an old college friend of Kelsie's. Not even 20 pages later Kelsie asks Jeff if he knows Rozina.

I noticed it. Why didn't the editor?

The Farelant Cinema controls the characters (i.e. Kelsie, Joe, etc.) to the point of physical torture, yet in the climactic scene, the cinema is destroyed with such ease that the climax falls into the realm of lameness. These glaring errors I have mentioned are but a few of many.

DO NOT BUY THIS BOOK. And if you see someone else with a copy, take it from them and hit them with it. Trust me, they will thank you later.