

# MOVIE NIGHT

## Close Encounters is fantastic, but not much else

by Tanya Coad

It is only natural that those go to see "Close Encounters Of The Third Kind" are immediately tempted to compare it with "Star Wars", which has been declared the biggest box-office success of all time. But the difference is quickly made apparent as soon as the movie opens. "Close Encounters" is literally more down to earth, and though it includes some spectacular special effects, it is not nearly so overwhelming as is

the various individuals who witnessed them, leaves them struggling to discover and understand what exactly is going on. A landing is predicted by scientists who then try to prepare for the arrival of the U.F.O.'s and possible communication with them.

There is room for doubt in the manner in which certain things occur and appear in the movie, like the shape of the spaceship, or the form of the aliens for instance. But then it's hard case to

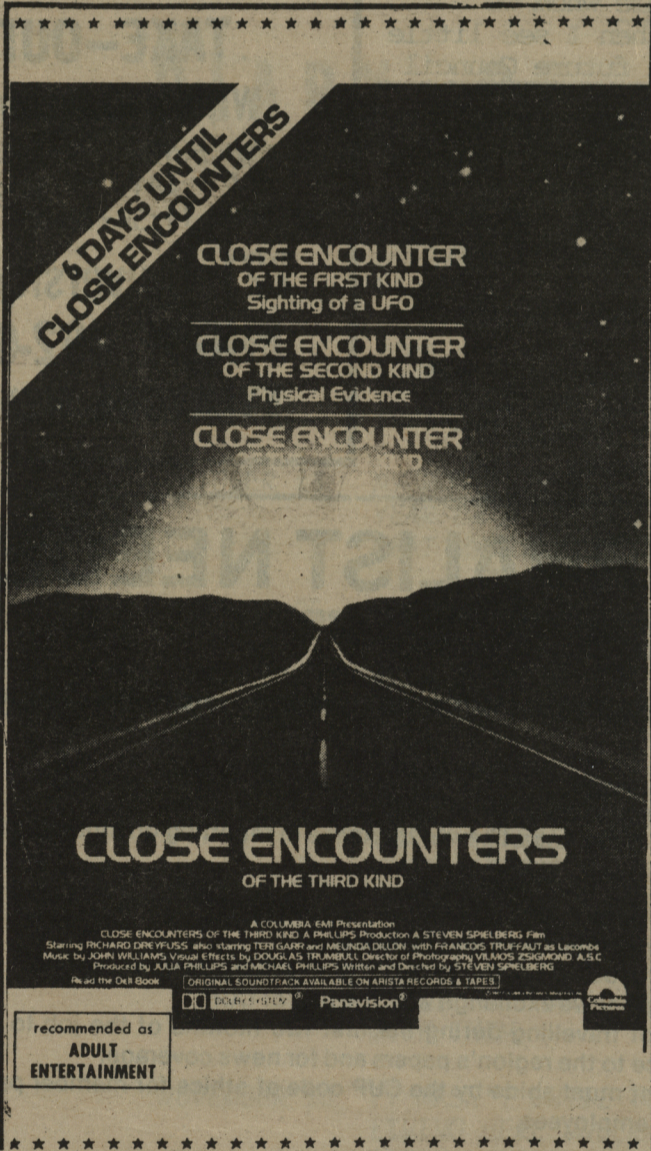
have been greatly improved if the thundering background music had been omitted. You'd have thought it was God who was about to descend. The way it was overdone tends to detract from the credibility of what is supposed to be happening.

"C.E." includes some fine acting as well as some clever touches of humor. Richard Dreyfuss, in the role of Roy Neary, portrays someone who can be a comical clown or a serious leader. Also believable is the

character Jillian Guiler, (Melinda Dillon), who lives alone with her 3-year-old son.

The hype which has surrounded "Close Encounters" since well before its release, has certainly built up the expectations of

those who go to see it, and few are disappointed. It is an intelligent film and a nice switch from all the usual cop and detective movies. You'll find yourself checking the sky as you leave the theatre.



"Stars Wars".

"Stars Wars" was a more fantasized tale with Robin Hood-like characters set in a futuristic world full of heroism and romance; whereas "C.E." deals with real people who have very real reactions to an occurrence that one never thinks could actually happen to them.

The story is about the sighting of a group of U.F.O.'s which appear to be sending signals of communication. The effect those encounters have on the lives of

argue since no one actually knows what they should look like.

A few basic reinforcements are added just for good measure. For example the spaceships and three police cars do a chase sequence that we've all seen a hundred times. Also, near the end the little boy, who was abducted earlier by the aliens, comes running out of the spaceship, the music swells, and he rushes into the arms of teary-eyed mother.

The entire ending would

## Sunday Night Movie

# MARCH 12

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