Fad or Trend?

By KEVIN PASQUINO

Now that it's 1986 we're closer to the mysterious '90s than we are to the Me Generation of the '70s. Where we're heading is hard to determine, but where we've been . . . that's the subject for a documentary, and who better to analyze the past than the CBC, known world-wide for their award-winning documentaries.

But wait! This is something new! CBC looks at pop entertainment in the '80s! Aren't these the people that air the fifth estate and Hockey Night in Canada?

It looks as if the CBC is trying to broaden its range of audience appeal, and The Revue, a TV special airing Friday, March 21 at 7:00, attempts to combine CBC analysis techniques with Entertainment Tonight's celebrity appeal. Video jockey Catherine McClenahan and disc jockey John Majhor are the hosts of this show that looks back at the '80s and the trends that formed the international entertainment industry of 1986.

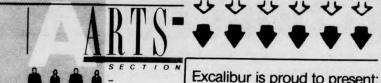
Comparisons to Entertainment Tonight are inevitable, so let them be discussed openly. Both shows have male and female hosts, both shows attempt to take an "in-depth look" at the entertainment world, and both shows feature interviews with popular celebrities.

But while Entertainment Tonight tends to glorify its guests to the point of god-like worship, The Revue makes sure its subjects stay on topic. The Revue has more than its fair

share of stars being interviewed (Paul Shaffer, Roger Daltrey, Giori Armani, etc.) but each celebrity deals with one specific topic, one specific question. Kate Bush speaks only about how she uses videos to enhance her music, and if she has one of the best albums of her career released, it's not mentioned unless it's part of the question.

While limiting the stars interviewed to only one topic deadens the show's potential for spontaneity, it allows many different aspects of the entertainment scene to be studied. Television, movies, comedy, rock videos, fashion-all are studied in this documentary. It's a scatter gun technique, and it tends to overlook some trend-setters (such as Bill Cosby on televion in favor of Miami Vice) but such oversights are inevitable in a show that has such large ambitions and only an hour to express them.

A problem with the show is that 1986 may be a little too soon to separate the trends of the '80s from the fads (was Madonna fad or is she still a trend-setter?) but the show strongly argues that we are in the age of the entertainment crossover: music begat videos, videos begat Flashdance, Flashdance begat Miami Vice, Miami Vice begat Pepsi commercials, and so on. The by-product of these crossovers are stars such as Eddie Murphy and Sting who act, sing, perform on television, produce and do whatever else they feel is a challenge. They are mega-stars who



can do anything and will try

Another by-product of the crossover age is the show itself. The Revue combines the techniques of a CBC documentary with the stars of a TV newsmagazine. It analyzes and interviews in equal amounts. Where we've been is studied, and while where we're headed is still uncertain, The Revue gives one an idea where things might go. If nothing else, things look interesting.

Excalibur is proud to present:

HENRIETTA

(third cousin to Carmella)

Henrietta says: Don't chicken out on end of year performances. Nestled into Burton Auditorium the theatre grads are planning an eggstravaganza of events. See p. 14

Theatre Theatre Theatre Theatre Theatre

Crossroads, Turns of Mind: Some ReadingsReadingsReadingsReading

> Stong Student Show: works of visual art by Samuel J. Zacks Gallery, until Mar. 23

Samuel J. Zacks Gallery, Mar. 24-Apr

Visions: work of the Founders Photography Tutorial Founders College Gallery, until Mar. 23

Experimental Area Exhibition

Crisp & Schnappy,



After your favourite activity here's a cool blast of freshness. Peppermint Schnapps, Spearmint Schnapps and new Orange Schnapps. So what are you waiting for? Schnapp to it.

> HIRAM WALKER SCHNAPPS TASTE THE DIFFERENCE