

wolf. It combines music with natural sounds. It's very mystical and atmospheric." He also mentioned that when it's on in the store it sells itself every time. Hey, that's something to howl about!

Be An Opening Act

Spirit Square Center for Arts and Education, in association with Jerry Klein Productions, is looking for opening acts for the '94/'95 concert season. These are the people who have brought such acts as Koko Taylor, Judy Collins, Cowboy Junkies, The Smothers Brothers and Lyle Lovett to town in the past.

They're looking for everything from bands to comedians to jugglers and magicians. This could be your chance to open up in front of a large crowd for a widely recognized act.

If you're interested, you'll have to act fast. You need to submit a video or audio tape and a personal biography to BY MAY 5 (that's this Thursday) to Dawn Womack, vice president of Arts and Education at Spirit Square, 345 N. College St., Charlotte, N.C. 28202. After every submission is reviewed, selected artists will be asked to audition in person at Spirit Square on May 11 and 12, between 1 and 9 p.m. each day. And all tapes will be returned on completion of the audition process.

Not Hitting the Shelves

If you're going to Michelle Shocked's concert Thursday night at Spirit Square, you'll probably want to take along a little extra cash. At this show you'll have your only opportunity to buy Shocked's latest album, *Kind Hearted Woman*. This is a disc she cut herself while she is — by her own choice — between record labels. Bull says that the album is pure, solo Michelle, with just her and an electric guitar set up in front of one mic. He also said he thinks it's some of the best songwriting she's done in years. Want to check it out yourself?

You'll have to get it Thursday night.

Another album you might be interested in — but won't be able to find in any record stores — is a recording of an all-acoustic live set from June 1992 of The Allman Brothers Band. This CD-only release, which doesn't have a title, is available solely through the mail. To get a copy you should send \$20 (check or money order; includes postage) to: IRSA, 9121 Piscataway Road, Clinton, MD 20735. IRSA stands for International Retts Syndrome Association. Retts Syndrome is a disease affecting only girls that very little is known about. The Allmans have a good friend whose daughter suffers from the disease, and all proceeds from this disc will go to benefit Retts Syndrome research. But if you want it, don't delay. Only 15,000 copies are being pressed, and once they're gone — sources promise — that's it. You'll have missed your chance to own this rare disc.

And We Won't Have a Job

What will the rock star press conference of the future be like?

Neil Peart made a personal appearance in over two million homes on a recent Thursday night (March 31, to be exact) to answer questions posed by fans. Not in person, of course; not even the super-talented and near-messianic Rush drummer could pull that one off. He held this little tete-a-tete online, via Prodigy's Music Bulletin Board.

Rush fans were allowed to post questions for two weeks, and then Peart selected several of them to answer.

What were his answers like?

"Been there, done that" he said in response to a query about Rush putting out another concept album; "Soundgarden, Pearl Jam, The Tragically Hip, Candlebox, Lies" are the new bands he's listening to; and he likes the direction that rap, with its "infusion of jazz and hip hop," is taking.