

'Squanto': story of a brave Indian's journey

by John Hafner
Collegian Staff

If you enjoy Native American adventure films like "Dances with Wolves" and "The Last of the Mohicans," you'll be equally impressed with "Squanto: a Warrior's Tale," Disney's latest hit.

A young warrior in the prime of his life, Squanto is destined for greatness within his tribe. He has it all: a beautiful bride, the respect of his people and the promise of leading them one day.

His dreams of leadership and glory quickly shatter though when English merchants from the Plymouth Shipping Company sail in to his village in search of trade.

The "honest" Englishmen show their true colors by kidnapping Squanto and a few of his fellow braves with the intent of taking them back to Britain as sideshow acts.

After a long and dehumanizing voyage at sea, Squanto finds himself alone in a strange land, forced to entertain the English crowds. Calling him a "noble savage," they think of him as their property and "lower than livestock."

With thoughts of home and his young bride Squanto engineers a clever escape and becomes a fugitive from the greedy English businessmen. Fortunately, he is taken in by a group of monks who show him

the kindness and care that their fellow Englishmen would not.

Over time Squanto's relationship with the monks proves to be mutually beneficial. He learns the English language and culture while teaching the monks about his people's god and way of life at the same time.

One monk in particular, Brother Daniel, befriends Squanto and, seeing the need for him to return home, aids his passage on a ship bound for the New World.

Now home and eager to see his wife and people again, Squanto returns to his village to find it ransacked and pillaged by the English who spared no one in their senseless raid on the defenseless Indians.

Describing himself as a "sachem without a tribe," Squanto is determined to stop the pointless fighting between the English colonists and the natives. He is instrumental in helping the Plymouth colony get started without the threat of Indian resistance.

Squanto's insight and tireless efforts result in years of peaceful relations between the English and the Indians.

Disney's "Squanto" combines action, adventure and breathtaking scenery to tell the story of one young brave's fight against the greed and ignorance of his English oppressors.

A historical legend, the film does a superb job of portraying Squanto's life and times.

'Hard Promises': easy to watch

by Megan Dearth
Collegian Staff

You don't have to make promises to be loved and this is proven in the film "Hard Promises."

In this 1992 movie, Joey Coalter (William Petersen), while working away from home on a dude ranch, finds himself stunned when he receives an invitation to a wedding - his wife Christy's wedding.

As soon as Joey reads this he jumps into his car and goes

home to his wife to straighten their marriage out. Once he gets home Christy (Sissy Spacek) tells him that there is no more marriage. She divorced him while he was gone.

His problems don't stop there. Soon his daughter Beth (Olivia Burnette) comes home from school to find that her dad has come back. As a hopeful eleven-year-old, would want Beth has an eager desire for her parents to get back together.

Joey and Beth want their family to stay together but Christy has found a loving,

reliable man, Walt, who will be committed to their marriage unlike Joey who is gone more than he's home.

Confusion arises when Joey and Christy confirm they're love for each other. But is love enough?

No matter what, Joey will always have a place to call home. He'll always have Beth.

"Hard Promises" is a romantic comedy which fills your heart with love and hope without any promises.

'Puppet Masters' bad horror on a string

by Portia Kelly
Collegian Staff

No, "Puppet Masters" doesn't star the muppets. Actually, it's a movie based on a 1950s science fiction novel by Robert A. Heinlein, in which aliens attach themselves to human beings and literally take over their minds and bodies.

Mary Sefion, played by Julie Warner, is a NASA scientist who studies the predictions of what aliens are really like. She suspects that the aliens are in Iowa and there are cases of alien activity in certain areas. With this curiosity she gets herself into a "sticky" mess.

The creatures look like huge

slimy jellyfish. They connect their tentacles that connect to the human brain and spinal cord, which gives them the knowledge of the humans' desires and genes, making them "ironically" puppets.

Donald Sutherland and Eric Thal star as private investigators who are also father and son. With Mary they discover a UFO in Iowa and guess what was on this spaceship? Yes, the Puppet Masters themselves.

The aliens are unleashed everywhere in Iowa and even Mary and the investigators are affected by the aliens' evil tactics.

Many hidden secrets and resentments are revealed which

cause serious problems for the whole country. Give me a break!

This movie has more bad points than good. The actors do a good job to uphold the plot but unfortunately they are defeated. The movie goes downhill when even the audience can predict logical explanations and ways of getting rid of the aliens before the scientist and investigators do. The aliens are more disgusting than terrifying, and throughout the whole movie no one has an idea why the aliens come to earth in the first place.

If you want to watch a good horror flick, stay clear from "Puppet Master." The thought of seeing it is scary enough.

Oroboros and Smashing Pumpkins: the review

by Brian Esper
Collegian Staff

It's time to take a look at an Erie favorite, Oroboros. The band formed twenty years ago in Cleveland, Ohio and has been rocking ever since.

Oroboros played with the likes of The Allman Brothers and The Blues Travelers in this summer's Hoard Tour '94.

The band's first album *First Circle* was its debut with hits like "Water into the Stone" and "Whispers of Love." This album was a good start for the band but was average in production quality.

The band's second album *Serpents Dance* is a live album. All the songs for this album were recorded at various bars throughout the country. The problems with quality were eliminated with this album.

The title for the second album originates from the band's name. "Oroboros" is Greek for "serpent dance."

Oroboros has a unique sound as a cross between the Grateful Dead and The Allman Brothers. The tend to play a rhythmic folk background with a blues upbeat.

Oroboros is a band of imaginative talent and vibrant synergy.

- The Smashing Pumpkins are not a one album wonder. This is not a sell-out band, but the exact opposite.
- This summer at a Lollapalooza the Pumpkins were electrifying from the light show to their synthesizing energy. The crowd was in a rage at the show with their hit album *Siamese Dream* rapping up the night.
- I gave that album a ten. I was sitting in Dig Doo's one day and heard of the Pumpkins but didn't know what they sounded like. I strapped on the head phones and away they took me.
- This band is a cross between The Cure and The Cranberries. The album *Siamese Dream* was the most amazing album I have heard from them.
- Their new album with rare-b-sides and takeoffs from *Siamese Dream* is the new beginning. The Pumpkins picked up right where they left off but with a lighter beater and a heavier load of lyrics.
- The album is a very electrifying and masterful project. The Pumpkins have given the grunge/gap generation a new breed of music.
- To put it in laymen's terms the album is melodic, methodical and down right awesome. I give this album a 9.5 on the charts.

Studio Theatre
Penna State-Behrend
November 11, 12, 17, 18, 19 at 8:00 p.m.
November 13 & 20 at 2:30 p.m.
\$3 Students
\$5 General Admission
For Reservations
Call 898-6016



FOUND A PEANUT

BY
DONALD MARGULIES