Jerky Boys shake up Chicago with their telephone

by John Hafner

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Jerky Boys, let me give you a brief description of them. They are two oversized, low-life pranksters named "Johnny" and "Kamal" who would rather sit around and make crank calls all day than get a job.

Although they're not exactly what you could call the "all American, boy-next-door" type, the Jerky Boys have used their telephone talent to carve out a name for themselves in America's entertainment industry. Using their profune and often gross gift of gab, Johnny and Kamal have sold countless tapes and CD's, touching the hearts of all those with sick senses of humor along the way.

Does this quick summary sound like the makings of a fulllength feature film? Of course not! But this is America, and if Bette Midler can star in movies. then so can the Jerky Boys.

Their self-titled film is

Answer's to last week's puzzle.

tells the story of how Johnny and city and its operations, including development as America's uncover the city's corrupt beloved telephone trouble institutions. Realizing they can't makers.

plot focuses on one specific prank. Using the made-up name "Frank Rizzo," Johnny calls a local businessman known to have mafia connections and tells him that his "boys" are in town and have just "pulled off a big job." Rizzo demands that his men are given a night on the town at the expense of the city's ruling mafia

Pretending to be Rizzo's thugs. Johnny and Kamal convince the city's mafia king pin that Rizzo is indeed a powerful figure in Chicago's organized crime ring.

Their prank gets out of control, though, as the Jerky Boys turn the entire city upside down and find themselves under the watchful eye of the police force, not to mention the suspicions of the mob.

After discovering that the mafia

"If you're going to draw

surprisingly entertaining, as it controls almost all areas of the Kamal began their life's the police, Johnny and Kamal are ambition, tracing their determined to nail the mob and (accomplish this by themselves, The majority of the movie's they call on the assistance of Frank Rizzo, their make-believe mafia boss.

The fictional Rizzo is credited with shattering the mob's control over the city and putting its members behind bars. As for Johnny and Kamal, they are appointed to high-level city positions and given their own office --- complete with a speaker phone. Who'd have thought?

America seems to cheer for the rude and crude elements of popular culture, and Johnny and Kamal definitely provide us with their fair share. What they lack in acting ability they make up for with their wide array of voices and crank calls. They use their wit, sarcasm, obvious lack of manners, and, of course, their touch-tone phone to make their film a unique and welcomed addition to this winter's movie

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'Boys on the Side'

Showing the "bonds of womenhood."

by Danette Parrett Collegian Staff

From its title and promotions, you would expect "Boys on the Side" to become the "Thelma and Louise" of 1995. Instead, it takes a very different approach at exploring the "bonds of womanhood."

"Boys on the Side" is a story that examines the fight against AIDS, the facets of homosexuality, domestic violence, and the support network of three women.

The story begins in New York when Jane (Whoopi Goldberg), a lesbian with a very harsh attitude, decides to leave for a music audition in Los Angeles. When her band decides to stay behind, she answers an ad for a driver to the West Coast

She meets Robin (Mary-Louise Parker), a prim and proper real estate agent, who offers a couplehundred dollars to drive with her to LA. Down on her luck, Jane accepts, and the two begin their journey across the United States.

On the way, the women stop

in Pittsburgh to see Jane's friend, Holly (Drew Barrymore). Things on the homefront leave much to be desired for Holly, as Jane and Robin get to see when they end up in a brawl with Holly's strung-out boyfriend, Nick. The end result? Jane's bloody nose, Holly's bloody baseball bat, and Nick's bloody forehead. The women leave to let Nick sleep off his high. Unfortunately, the next morning the police find Nick

Fearing for her freedom, Holly, eight weeks pregnant and nowhere to run, decides to make the trip with Jane and Robin.

The good times roll on their way to California. Filled with fun, laughter, and humor, the women begin to create an everlasting friendship.

Their trip ends abruptly in Tucson when Robin is admitted to the hospital. It is in the hospital that Jane and Holly finally find out that Robin is HIV positive.

Not wanting to leave their friend, Jane and Holly decide to stay in Tucson to care for Robin.

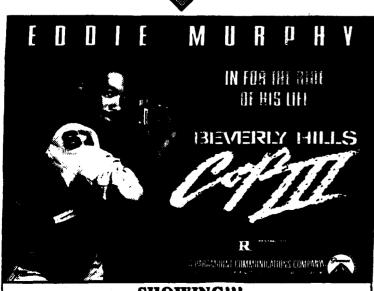
After an intense argument between Jane and Robin, Jane moves out.

Holly meets a Tucson police officer and falls hopelessly in love. Love must cure all because he has her arrested for Nick's murder, and not long after asks her to marry him. During the fight for Holly's freedom, Robin and Jane make peace. It is also during this time that Robin's health begins to deteriorate. It's not long before she is confined to a wheelchair with only several months to live.

Jane finally confesses her love to Robin and stays by her for the last few months of her life. She finally decides to continue her journey to California after Robin's death. Holly stays behind in Tucson with her baby and new husband.

"Boys on the Side" is an enlightening tale about tragedy and the strength to overcome. In the spirit of love, friendship and sisterhood, the movie allows an intimate look into the lives of three women with one mission--





SHOWING!!! Friday at 11pm, Saturday at 11pm, Sunday at 9:30pm.