

## Scream 3 plots out slightly murderous finale

by Jermaine Hardy  
staff writer

In the opening scene black helicopters fly past the great, white Hollywood sign. Right then I knew that something fishy was up. Whenever emphasis is put on a Hollywood setting at the beginning of a horror movie, this means that the film is going to say something that is either subliminally arrogant or satirical. And what else could provoke such skepticism but...yep, you guessed it...*Scream 3*.

If the horror film genre is a religion, then *Scream 3* wants to be its revelation. Sticking to the *Scream* tradition, the trilogy informs us of all the theories of the horror film genre, but this time it focuses specifically on the trilogy.

In this movie within a movie, the stars of "Stab 3" apply the rules of "the horror trilogy" to save themselves. However, we are soon informed that when it comes to trilogies there are no rules, and *Scream 3* displays this well. It makes the ultimate mockery of itself. It knows that as a trilogy it wouldn't stand much of a chance amongst critics. Therefore in efforts of getting the last bit of juice out of a "been there done that" audience, this film is brilliantly doused with an extra glistening of the comedic parody element. The movie gets away with more cheap horror clichés that disabling, skeptical critics like myself would usually bash. I can only say that *Scream 3* has successfully

eluded my bashful criticism with its cleverness and is therefore a pretty good effort.

Sidney (Neve Campbell) is struggling to recover from the death of her mother and her previous encounters with the masked stalkers. She now lives secluded and works at home as a crisis counselor over the phone. Campbell doesn't play much of a role in the movie until the end with her one on one battle with her stalker. However, in the scenes she does appear in, she displays much progress as an actress with her astounding conviction.

Other survivors of the previous *Screams*, Gale Weathers (Courtney Cox Arquette), the suave news reporter, and Dewey (David Arquette), the small town cop, are back. The two met while making the first *Scream*, got engaged after *Scream 2* and are now married for *Scream 3*. The movie is mostly focused on them as they reconcile on the set of "Stab 3," and work together to find out who the latest killer is.

Also back again is the grim reaper look-alike. He is revived for the second time. He lurks on the set of "Stab 3" and takes the cast out one by one in order to lure his main victim, Sidney. As with the previous *Screams*, we are tempted to unmask the suspect and find out who he is, but for the trilogy, coming to a conclusion becomes three times as difficult.

Director Wes Craven takes the slasher parody theme to the extreme

with shower victims and the whole nine. The brilliance of the movie lies within its way of documenting the concepts of the horror film in an honorary way.

In sum, the movie seems to celebrate the horror film. It could pass for a going away party in honor of the slasher films by Wes Craven, the mind behind masterpieces like *Nightmare on Elm Street* and *Last House on the Left* as the host. Screen writer Ehren Kruger picks up where Kevin Williams, the writer for the first two *Screams*, left off. This might explain why the trilogy doesn't maintain consistency in relation to its predecessors. Despite the new writer, the *Scream* tradition is still present, and it shouldn't be a disappointment to fans. Although it doesn't make much sequential sense, the theme of the trilogy maintains its structure around the same idea as its predecessors.

The *Scream* series has always been Hollywood's way of reflecting on young American pop culture. *Scream 3* allows us to reflect upon the horror flicks like *Friday the 13th*, *Halloween*, and *Nightmare on Elm Street*, that scared us when we were younger and make us laugh now. The movie says goodbye to the genre, and we are left to anticipate the new waves of horror films coming forth in the new millennium. I give it a B+ for its consciousness.

Next week look for a continuation of this celebration of *Scream* as Katie Galley shares her less-than-favorable view of the final installment.

The *Beacon* celebrates the end of a trilogy that symbolizes our generation. *Scream* spawned two follow up movies and made Neve Campbell a noticeable, big screen actress. You'll find a synopsis and a comparison of good and bad points from the finale of *Scream 3*.

## Scream trilogy ends entertaining fans in many ways

by Douglas Smith  
features co-editor

All of those that saw the first two installments in the *Scream* "trilogy," as it's being coined, probably went and saw the final episode in this thriller sequence. This past weekend *Scream 3* premiered across the nation and set various records. Its over 32 million dollar premiere was the highest premiere ever for Miramax studios and was the highest February debut in film history. Also, it brought in the most money of the three *Scream* films in its debut. The question however is whether or not people turned out just out of principle, or did they really want to see the film.

Neve Campbell portrays Sidney Prescott for one last time. Courtney Cox and David Arquette, a newly married couple in real life, once again hit the big screen as the hated Gale Weathers and the lovable Dewey, respectively. Jamie Kennedy makes a re-appearance in *Scream 3* even though he was killed in the previous installment. He is brought into the film just to give the rules of a trilogy, much as he told all about the rules of a sequel and murder mystery in

the past couple movies.

The movie begins around the set of Stab 3, the last installment of the portrayal of the Woodsboro murders. The killer uses his same tactics of making phone calls and distorting his or her voice before striking his prey. The plot will be left a mystery from this point on.

If you are the type that laughs at horror movies, be prepared to endure stomach pain from the laughter this time. The simplicity level of some of the attacks and answers are so stupid

However, if you are the type clutching the arm of the chair, then you will find *Scream 3* worthy of a few screams of your own. The killer still uses his same techniques of trickery and surprise. Jenny McCarthy guest stars as an actress in the "Stab 3" movie and, unfortunately, she dies. Her death scene is very well planned out. It takes place in the offices of the production people of "Stab 3", so you can imagine what is around for the killer to use to trick McCarthy.

The actresses who portray the real life Sidney Prescott and Gale Weathers play pivotal roles in discovering who the murderer is. Parker Posey portrays Gale Weathers and Emily Mortimer plays Sidney Prescott in the "Stab 3" movie. Sidney's dead mother also has a pivotal part in



Courtney Cox and David Arquette that they are hilarious. This actually adds to the movie. The comedy is not expected, so the little pieces of lightheartedness eases any tension. Pay close attention to the assistant detective who provides laughter virtually every time he speaks. Even during the important cameo by Jamie Kennedy as Randy, the movie expert, he throws in a couple of one liners to lighten the mood.

the plot. The drawing out of the entire plot may be odd, but it all comes together in the end. There is also a definite sense of completion to this trilogy at the end when the killer lets out all his or her deep dark secrets to the intended prey.

Go see it out of principle if nothing else, but realize it offers more than just horror.

Neve Campbell and Jenny McCarthy in *Scream 3*.



## DICK and Jane



Dear Dick and Jane,

Am I too young to be experiencing erectile dysfunction? I am only 21. Whenever my friends and I watch porno movies, I'm the only one who can't get it up. What can I do?

Limp-Biscuit

LB,

About 30-40 million men in the US suffer from erectile dysfunction, aka impotence. The signs? Inability to get it up or inability to keep it up, because the erection is too weak, too brief, or (ouch!) too painful. Since most ED men are over 40, it is quite possible that your problem is not medical. It may be mental.

First, may I say that porno with friends may not be the best way to gauge whether or not you have a problem getting an erection. Porn doesn't do it for everybody. And even if it does do something for you, the pressure of a room full of "friends" doesn't help, especially if these porno-parties are co-ed (but, of course, nothing that exciting happens at Behrend, right?). That kind of pressure could kill many an erection.

Another possibility is the use of "recreation enhancers"... alcohol and/or drugs. Just one or two drinks

can cause problems for some people. Lastly, stress about school, work, or relationships can cause problems for your little friend. (Also, for those of you out there with a girlfriend or sexual partner, worrying about his or her thoughts or opinions on your performance can cause problems too.)

So, let's say you are in the privacy of your own home, free of alcohol, stress, pressure, and expectations. If you are still finding it hard... um, difficult... to get or keep it up, then you should see a doctor. ED is linked to many medical problems like Diabetes, nervous system problems (including Syphilis-been tested lately?), and decreased blood flow to the penis. Believe me, if you have decreased blood flow to your penis, you want to see a doctor.

If this problem only happens once in a while, there is probably nothing wrong; it happens to every guy once in a while. But if you're worried about it, there are many Web sites that have information on treatments and suggestions. My favorite impotence websites are <http://www.thriveonline.com/sex/ed/impotence.html> and <http://www.pslgroup.com/ERECTILE.HTM>. Both sites have a lot more information than I can fit into a column. Good luck. Jane

Dear Jane,

My girlfriend broke up with me because of a fight about whether or not I love her more than my "guy" friends. I just couldn't say she was more important than my friends. We were only together for six months. My question is, how can I get her back without lying?

Friendly guy

Dear Friendly,

Why would you want this girl back? These sorts of hang-ups in a girl do not just disappear, especially if this issue is big enough to her for her to break it off. She expects you to give up your friends, and that is something a partner should not do. Funny thing is, would she give up her friends for you? Probably not. My suggestion is to find greener pastures. Jane

If you have questions about your relationship or sex (and who doesn't??) write to Jane at [dickandjane@wildmail.com](mailto:dickandjane@wildmail.com), or put your letters/questions in the Beacon mailbox marked "Dear Jane". All correspondences will be answered as possible.

## HOROSCOPES

**Aries** (March 21-April 19) Let your textbooks be your guide.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) Simplicity is the key.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 21) Disregard *Lex* this week.

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22) Think about your birthday because it means sun and summer scents.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22) Write a letter to the editor. They'll appreciate your input.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Set a goal this week to drink less than last week.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Go home this weekend. People there miss you.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 21) Apples, they're lovely center pieces.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Travel to Buffalo and catch something at the Marine Midland Arena.

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Splurge this week and buy something for yourself.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb 18) Happy Birthday, well at least it's close to it.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20) Deep thought-this is just an added bonus, no need to take it to heart.

by Bongo the three legged monkey

