

'Sleepwalkers' has audience snoozing

Jason Sandhaus
Capital Times Staff

Two months ago you may have seen "The Lawnmower Man." Heck, you may have even read my review. In any case, the film was based on a short story written by "the master of horror," Stephen King.

Well, Mr. King has been keeping busy. The latest film with his name attached is "Sleepwalkers." While King had nothing to do with "The Lawnmower Man," he had everything to do with "Sleepwalkers."

For the first time in his illustrious career, Stephen King has written a story solely for the silver screen. So all of you people who see a King adaptation on screen then mutter how the book was better, have absolutely nothing to compare it to. Oh well, it's a good thing you don't.

From the opening scene, I knew this film was going nowhere. Even the title doesn't make sense. Sure it sounds nifty to name a horror film "Sleepwalkers," but I

MOVIE HAUS

think it should have some relevance to the story. Or is it just me?

The film stars Brian Krause, of "Return to the Blue Lagoon" fame, as the sleepwalking son. He'll do anything to keep his mother's lifeforce going, that includes sleeping with her. In his case, incest is best.

You might remember Alice Krige who plays the mother from the horror film "Ghost Story." The object of both the mother and son's desires is "Twin Peaks" alum Madchen Amick.

Anyway, the premise of this tale deals with a mother and son who are sleepwalkers, an interesting combination of cat and human. They can change shape at any moment or make themselves disappear to hide from danger.

The sleepwalkers feed on the spirits of virgins, and who doesn't these days? They're nomads, drifting from town to town, city to city...wherever they can get fresh young virgins.

The only thing these modern day bloodsuckers are afraid of are cats. That's right, cats. Don't ask me to explain it, I wouldn't know where to begin. I'm not sure King knew what the hell he was doing when he wrote it.

Wherever the sleepwalkers go a herd of tomcats are sure to follow. There must have been a hundred pussycats perched outside their home. The only way they

could get rid of the cats was to put traps in the yard. MEOW.

The entire movie may have been 90 minutes long, but it seemed like it was 20 minutes long. Absolutely nothing made sense. Material was thrown at the audience, most of it for the sake of "scaring us." Let me tell you, I was quaking in my boots...NOT.

My theory still holds true, I said it once and I'll say it again...any time Stephen King has anything to do with a movie, it usually stinks. Look at all the great King movie adaptations (Carrie, Christine, Misery, The Shining), Steve-O had no hand in any of those projects.

Stephen King is a great story teller, but his words do not translate well on screen. So please, Steve, keep out of the movies and stick to the books. On my four star scale, this film rates a 1 1/2.

Alumnae club plans membership drive

Stacey Simmers
Capital Times Staff

It's been around for 57 years, but its existence is wavering.

The Women's Alumnae Club of Greater Harrisburg want graduates from any campus who live in the Harrisburg area. And they only want women.

"We try to promote and enhance the status of Penn State graduates in the greater Harrisburg area," said President Alice Duvall.

Every year the alumnae club holds a book review, open to the public, in a local library. The book is usually written by a woman, or written on a women's issue. Every year they invite a speaker, usually a woman or someone talking about an issue related to women.

"Much of what we do is a little older," said Paula Thompson, vice-president and one of the youngest members. "But most of our members are older. As younger members come in, we want to plan younger activities."

And the new members do initiate new activities, like a pool party being held this summer.

"We need new, young members to help keep our group afloat," Thompson said.

As an alumnae club, the group sponsors a scholarship. The Mildred Dunlap Scholarship Fund is awarded to two needy PSH students to cover book expenses.

"Since we don't have a lot of money, we can't do anything really big," Thompson said.

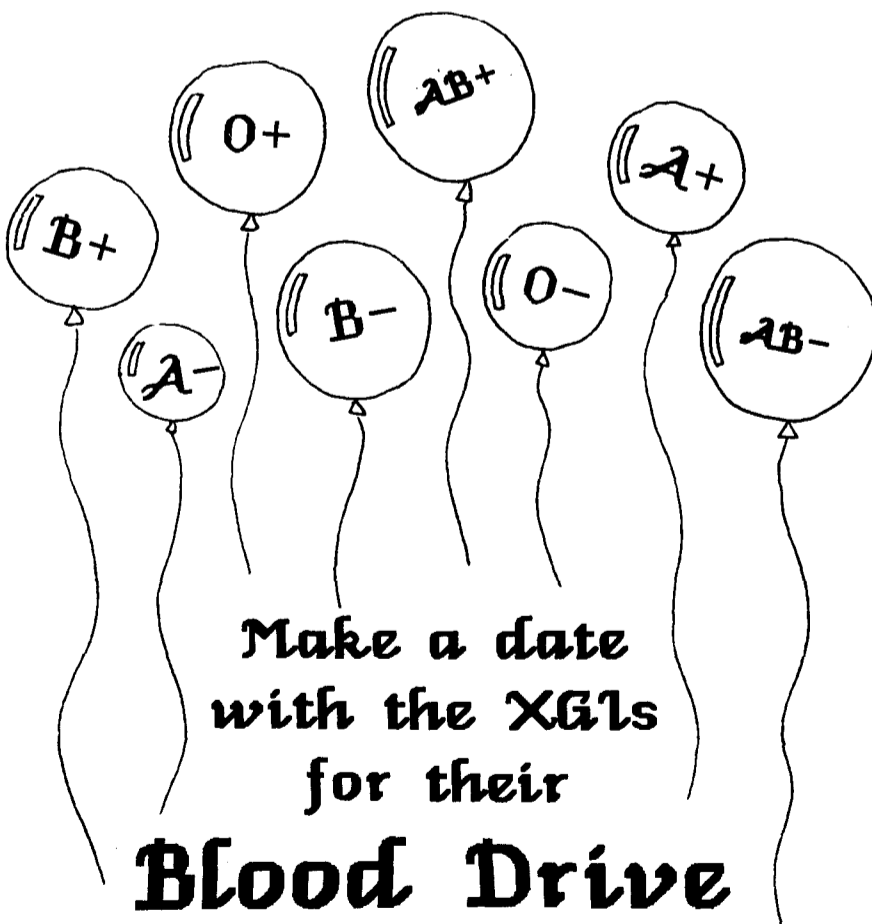
But in order to establish themselves as a philanthropic organization, they attach themselves to other larger groups.

"We try to do combined events with the Men's Club and the Nittany Lion Club of York," Thompson said.

Although money is tight, she added that membership is their biggest concern right now.

"Our membership drive is in September," Thompson said. "And we want new graduates to think about us."

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Rites of Spring festivities arrive on PSH campus

Matt Hunt
Capital Times Staff

On April 26, the students, faculty and staff of Penn State Harrisburg will have an opportunity to enjoy spring, as well as the annual Rites of Spring celebration.

Two bands and a volleyball tournament will highlight this year's celebration. The Rites of Spring are funded and organized by the Student Government Association, said Debbie Jackson, a student affairs assistant. Jackson said she helped students organize the event.

This year the Rites of Spring will only be one day, since it comes on such a busy weekend, Jackson said. The two bands playing will be 2 Smooth, a top 40s band, and Flow Band, a reggae band, Jackson said.

There will be many games available throughout the day, but the only contest will be a volleyball tournament. The events will be held at People's Park in Meade Heights.

"We're encouraging people to bring blankets and spend the day with good food and good music," Jackson said.

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