

# A Horror-ween guide to home video

Ann Knorr  
Capital Times Staff

"Tis the season for some scaring...hehehe he he he. OK, I never said I was a comedian. It's that time of year gain, Halloween and what better time to talk about some excellent horror flicks.

Let's start off with those classics, such as "Frankenstein," "Dracula," (the old one is preferred but Coppala's rendition is an OK substitute), "The Wolfman," and "The Mummy." These movies are the classic definition of horror. There was no need for gallons of blood to be shed. All they needed

was the proper lighting and the ability to play on the human imagination.

If you are a slasher fan you can rent those butcher films like "Sleep Away Camp" 1, 2, or 3, "Chainsaw Massacre" I, II, III, "Slumber Party Massacre," I, II (I'm beginning to see a trend). If you are unaware of what traditional slasher films are, its simple; an hour and a half of blood curdling scenes with a very weak plot. Trust me, these movies are not for the squeamish.

Our next group of movies is the "new and improved" horror films. Under this category are "Friday the 13th" (a wonderful

collection of eight movies that are so similar in plot that I can promise you won't be able to distinguish one from the other. Except for maybe "Jason goes to hell" and Jason takes Manhattan [just what we need - more crime in New York]), "Nightmare on Elm Street" (six very similar sequels to this flick) and of course, the traditional favorite "Halloween" (good news, only four parts to this one.)

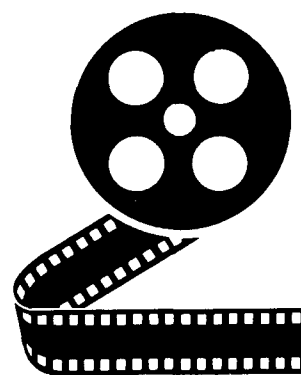
Now, if you are not crazy about horror films that have 50 million parts, may I suggest "Shocker", "Candyman", "People Under the Stairs," or "Dr. Giggles." These movies contain lots of blood but all four

actually carry a plot that is comprehensible.

This column would not be complete with out saying a few words about the "King of Horror," Steve, that is. His movies combine blood, suspense, action and adventure all in one. Some of the most note worthy include: "Christine," "The Shining," "Pet Semetary," "Misery," "The Dark Half," and "Cujo."

Well I think I've given you plenty of food for thought. Run to your local video store, grab a bag of popcorn, turn out all the lights, grab a pillow and enjoy the movie.

Don't forget...I'll see you next time, at the movies.



## Pearl Jam surges to hyperdrive

Ed Paukstis  
Capital Times Staff

### PEARL JAM

There are flashes of genius in the Seattle sub-pop movement that just escape categorization. The simple fact is that Pearl Jam has shifted from cruise control to hyperdrive with the release of their new album. The power chords, catchy hooks, and deeply anchored bass grooves are still a big part of the new Pearl Jam album but the new image has been slightly altered by the writing skills of vocalist Eddie Vetter.

Vetter is writing with a greater passion and intensity than he did on their previous release, *Ten*. Sure there are more than a few similarities that reflect his past writing style as exemplified on the albums second cut, "Animal". But a song like "Rats" with lyrics like, "(they) don't oppress an equal's given rights, starve the poor so they can be well fed, line their holes with dead ones bread," just seems to create an image that is deeper and more evasive than the vermin itself.

The rest of the album comes complete with self attached concepts and ideas that are as interesting as the music. Eddie Vetter may not be ready to take on the responsibilities of being a mega-superstar but after the release of the new Pearl Jam album, he may have no choice.

### IN UTERO

**NIRVANA**  
Q. What do you get when you combine a bass and drums with a fuzzbox and a guy who sounds like he gargles with battery acid?

A. The new Nirvana album. Don't be misled. The album is an excellent listen. Tracks like "Pennyroyal Tea", "Scentless Apprentice" and "Radio Friendly Unit Shifter" prove that they are deserving of the awards that hang upon the office walls (merited from Nevermind). Tracks like these keep the AOR people coming back for more! (even though they might not understand them).

Cobain, Novoselic, and Groht unite on this outing to form a wall of distortion that is so thick and jagged, that one listen will encourage you to make the trip yourself. And that is the whole problem. There are one too many bands that try on the so-called "grunge distortion jacket" without truly being able to deliver the goods like Nirvana or Mudhoney. Even Nirvana, as a band, has

departed from the "Smells Like Teen Spirit" formula spare a few new tunes like "Heart Shaped Box" and "Dumb". But songs like "Rape Me" are what Nirvana truly represents. These songs will not receive mainstream attention but Cobain and the boys did not attempt to make another *Nevermind* and we should be glad that they didn't because there is nothing worse than stale ideas.

### COME ON FEEL

**LEMONHEADS**  
The LemonHeads might have the perfect pop formula. They have the ability, at times, to sound like a combination of REM, The Smithereens, Replacements, Miracle Legion, and the worst jazz pianist in the world! Just close your eyes, and lead vocalist Evan Dando will almost make you believe that he is Pat Dinizino in the flesh or Joey Ramone circa 1979! Nonetheless, *Come on Feel* is not a rip-off album. The album might be considered to be a continuation of a creative process that compliments the bands influences rather than copies them. Evan Dando might not be a Paul Westerberg but he can write good lyrics that are sometimes amusing or just plain stupid. One line from the song "Being Around" states, "If I was your body would you still wear clothes? If I was a booger would you blow your nose, would you keep it? Would you eat it? On a more serious note, the song "Rick James Style" showcases the physical need to get high and the psychological problems that accompany the situation.

Dando is able to deal with darker feelings of separation, loneliness, and alienation in a somewhat unique manner while the rest of the band spews out happy guitar riffs and chord progressions that alleviate the tension and almost divert the listeners attention.

Julianna Hatfield can be heard crooning and speaking on six tracks during the course of the album. Belinda Carlisle and Rick James also make guest appearances but it is Hatfield who adds the "Midas" touch to the three chord song melodies and harmonies and will no doubt bring this album to a larger audience.

### ANDDYNE

**UNCLE TUPELO**  
On previous releases, the band Uncle Tupelo has been known to mix overblown thrashing guitars with smooth airbrushed acoustic tones. This unique combination

could happen at any given time during the course of a song and the effects are about as subtle as a train wreck.

On the new album, *Anodyne*, Tupelo restrains the heavy guitar crunch and combines acoustic driven instruments like the fiddle, banjo, mandolin, and guitar to provide almost a soothing effect. The album might be considered to be somewhat a proto-type of what country music would sound like if D-Boony was alive today.

This does not mean that *Anodyne* does not rock! As the name suggests, it is a drug that relieves pain. The layered acoustic instruments on songs like "Slate" and "Give back the key to my heart" offer a comforting feeling that could help just about anyone relax- even someone who just suffered a nervous breakdown.

Accompanying the quieter cuts are country stomps like "Acuff Rose" and straight driven guitar songs like "The Long Cut" that is reminiscent of vintage Neil Young and Crazy Horse. The album has a mixed variety of different types of music that mesh to mcreate a somewhat poetic flow.

Uncle Tupelo has produced a brilliant album that is well worth buying even if you have never heard of them before.

### WAITING FOR HERB

**THE POGUES**  
Somewhere in the vast pool of American music there is a breed of Irishmen who don't give a damn if "The devil is living in Kilarney". The Pogues are plenty old enough and well versed to be a traditionalist band playing "Danny Boy" but they are also young enough in heart to opt for a much more progressive format. Mandolins, banjos, accordians, and fiddles are used in songs like "Sitting on top of the world", "Smell of petroleum", and "Haunting" but The Pogues are able to bypass predictability by combining the sweet with the powerful, the intense with the intoxicating, and without missing a single note.

Lead vocalist, Spider Stacey's voice is raspy and intense. It is almost as harsh and as eye opening as a shot of Irish whiskey (preferably Jameson) as he howls "There's holes in my shoes where the rain comes in, "I'm sitting on top of the world". The band can also belt out the tunes and a first listening might remind one of early Clash material. The song, "My baby's gone" could almost make any Irishmen stand up and take heed that the Pogues mean business.

The album *Waiting for Herb* not only showcases the musical abilities of the band but also sets a standard for a new wave of contemporary Irish musicians who are not afraid to be true rebels.

### PISS FACTORY

**PISS FACTORY**  
Save yourself the time and money, and buy a Sonic Youth album. These wannabees should piss off before they get pissed on!

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

Matt Hunt  
Capital Times Staff

### The History of ... The Provost

We didn't always have a provost at Penn State Harrisburg. Information gleaned from the *Capital Times* archives have revealed that the position was created by President Oswald (Oswald was Joab Thomas's predecessor) in Spring of 1971.

The provost was to be "a position of top leadership for all academic and administrative matters." That information was revealed in an 1972 interview with Campus Director Coleman Herpel. From the beginning of PSH(1966) until the provost was installed, Herpel was the head.

PSH's first provost was Dr. Robert E. McDermott. He was installed On Oct. 29, 1972. He resigned in Fall 1978 to go back to teaching.

Dr. Duane Smith, who was Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, served acting provost until a new person was chosen.

Starting Feb. 1, 1979 Dr. Theodore L. Gross was the provost of PSH. Gross remained in that post until 1983.

The best that I can piece together, based on the archives, is that Gross resigned and Dr. Stanley Miller, head of Behavioral Sciences and Education, became the acting provost. He held that position until Dr. Ruth Leventhal was installed on July 1, 1984.

Almost ten years later, she seems to be the one who has lasted the longest in this position.

### Deja Vu All Over Again

Ricardo Duarte reports in this issue about the clean up of toxic waste on campus. The presence of waste in Meade Heights was reported in *Capital Times* on Jan. 31, 1985. Neil Myers wrote an article which revealed that testing of drums discovered in Meade Heights did not contain legally hazardous materials. The article also mentioned that Meade Heights is one of six Middletown areas that were dump sites used by the Air Force.

### What Happened?

**1970**  
Oct. 31--Peace rally held by Capitol Campus Awareness Committee.

**1972**  
Oct. 29--Robert E. McDermott is installed as the First Provost of PSH.

Nov. 2--Ted Sorenson, an advisor and speechwriter for Sen. George McGovern, spoke to students on behalf of Sen. McGovern.

**1977**  
Nov. 15--Students from Temple, Pittsburgh, Lincoln, and Penn State Universities protested the failure of the state legislature to pass the budget which contained funding for the state colleges.

**1983**  
Oct. 31--Department of Environment Resources Secretary Nicolas DeBenedictis announced that recent analysis of PSH's drinking water showed the water was safe for human consumption.

**1989**  
Nov. 5--Half a dozen houses in Meade Heights lost power for two hours. The power failure was the result of a squirrel.

## Mindful Malice

Bob Regular  
Capital Times Staff

Considering that I am the king of procrastination, midterms have not obstructed my duty as a movie critic. Just for our loyal following of movie viewers, I have painfully dragged myself away from my backlog of studying to bring you this latest review of "Malice."

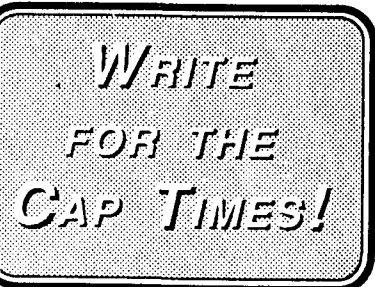
As you may have noticed, Alec Baldwin has been on your TV set announcing that he is not merely a surgeon, but God as well. This is a brash statement for this politically correct society and a direct reflection on "Malice's" steamy melodrama. Maybe that is why millions are going to see it.

From the time this movie starts, its deceptive and shocking plot creates feelings of your parents pulling up in the driveway while you and you lovely companion struggle to find each others' belongings.

"Malice" revolves around the vicious ego of Alec Baldwin, a new trauma surgeon, who unnerves a sleepy college town. With a pretty landlady wife (Nicole Kidman), and a stalking rapist-murderer, "Malice" pitches plenty of twists and turns to keep thinking, and sometimes snickering.

If you believe in making judgements by talent, then you won't be disappointed with co-scriptwriter Alan Sorkin ("A Few Good Men") and director Harold Becker ("Sea of Love"). This movie has a clever and spiteful ending that doesn't quite measure up to your expectations.

"Malice" won't cause you to leave the theatre in awe, but it will be a good evening of fun with that companion your parents missed in the closet.



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