

A Not-So-Perfect Evening at the Cinema Grill

By Tina Sickler
Capital Times Staff Writer

It's Saturday night, the winter season is just beginning, you and your significant other search for the perfect place to go and snuggle up.

Before reaching the door you can already see the line inside is getting long. Strangers push their way to the front of the line for the first come first serve seating arrangements. The door finally opens.

The Cinema Grill, located on Union Deposit Road in Harrisburg, runs weekly matinee and evening shows of movies that the local theatres have stopped playing.

The Cinema Grill is not just your regular movie theater with over priced popcorn and stale bars of candy. The Grill lets you enjoy a movie and dinner all at

the same time. Seems perfect, right? Guess again.

I decided I would finally venture out to the notorious Cinema Grill last Saturday evening. After hearing advertisements on various radio stations and reading about the Grill in a newsletter from work, I grabbed some cash and headed out the door.

The air was chilly so I prepared by wearing a wool sweatshirt. I had the perfect date and the perfect plan. The movie I was about to see was a typical romance involving lovers torn apart with the inevitable reunion at the end.

I arrived at the Grill just in time. The line was long and people pushed and shoved to enter through the doors. As I entered the theatre I realized this was not what I expected.

We found a round table, just

enough for two, and settled down in the partially padded chairs. The waitress moved quickly trying to gather orders before the feature began. She placed menus on our table as she shuffled her way to other moviegoers.

I ordered a sandwich and fries, as did my date. We shared a plate of mozzarella sticks, he drank two Pepsis and I needed a stiff drink to get over the total of our bill: \$28 for two processed meat patties, cold fries, and watered down drinks. I thought I brought enough cash, but credit ended up being my method of payment.

So the food was bad and definitely over-priced, but I was sure the movie would make up for it.

For the *Love of the Game*, starring Kevin Costner and Kelly Preston, was the movie choice of the night. I leaned in close to my date until I couldn't take the heat

anymore. I wore my sweatshirt thinking, it's winter, dress warm, but apparently the Grill feels that Miami temperatures this time of year should suit the viewing audience.

The movie began and goose bumps trickled down my arm; I love a good romance. The speakers on the screen made minute-by-minute crackling noises just to alert the audience of the wonderful Grill surround sound.

I tuned out the irritating noises and sat back to enjoy the film. An hour passed and the Grill experience got better as the movie dug deeper into its plot.

I spoke too soon. Just as the explosive part in the movie, where the two star cross lovers find their way back into each other's arms, something happened.

A loud noise was heard behind

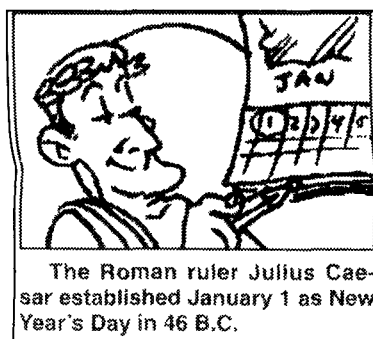
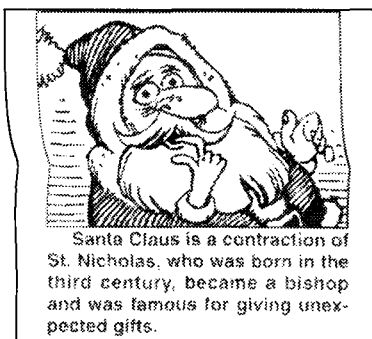
the screen and the lights turned up as the Cinema Grill manager strutted down the walkway. "The noise you heard folks is the sound of the film breaking."

I began to laugh uncontrollably as the rest of the audience booed their way out the door. Complimentary passes for the next quality showing were handed to the disappointed viewers.

I got in my car looked at my date, and laughed. This was supposed to be the perfect evening.

As for the Cinema Grill, they got their \$28, their \$3.50 per person movie ticket, and their name trashed in the parking lot.

So if you're looking for the perfect place for a Saturday night at the movies, start with the overpriced popcorn and the stale candy bars and skip the Cinema Grill.



Horoscope

By Amanda Weaver
Capital Times Staff Writer

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21) Pick a favorite spot where you like to sit. Relax and stay there. Catch up on sleep, read a magazine or book, or do a crossword puzzle. Whatever you like, just make sure it is a relaxing and peaceful activity. You need some downtime. Take full advantage of it.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19) Been out to dinner lately? If not, round up some friends or your significant other and go out to eat. Don't worry about the atmosphere. Go where there's good food and plenty of opportunity for conversation. It is good to combine food and fellowship.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18) It has been awhile since you kicked back and had a good time. Find out where the parties are happening and join in on the fun. All work and no play time can make for a dull existence. Go out and have a good time.

Pisces (February 19-March 20) You better be a little more concerned about your health. Make sure you start getting more sleep, take some vitamins and get some exercise. You need to take care of yourself. The Holidays are around the corner and nobody

wants to be sick during the Holidays.

Aries (March 21-April 19) Don't be a scrooge! Christmas is around the corner. Join in the festivities. Have fun. Go shopping. Hang Christmas decorations. Spread a little holiday cheer.

Taurus (April 20-May 20) With the Holidays approaching, everyone is in good spirits. Why not gather the clan together and throw a little pre-Christmas bash? Everyone loves parties, especially around Christmas time. Don't forget the eggnog!

Gemini (May 21-June 20) Something you have planned for quite a while may unexpectedly change. Go with it. It might be more fun than what you expected. Besides, always going with the norm is so predictable. Check out what is new and exciting!

Cancer (June 21-July 22) Life is just so crazy sometimes. Especially when others have been leaning on you for support. It is great to be a good friend, but you need to consider yourself, too. Take care of yourself. Treat yourself to a new CD or a new shirt. You need to pat yourself on the back sometimes.

Leo (July 23-August 22) Whatever your pleasure, go for it. Have a party, go out for a movie, visit a family member. Do whatever you feel like. Just have fun and laugh a lot.

Virgo (August 23-September 22): Been a little busy lately? Why not spend a little quiet time with yourself. Go for a walk in the brisk autumn air and enjoy the scenery. Give yourself a little time to think about things like where you are going in life and what your goals are. A little time alone really helps get your priorities straight.

Libra (September 23-October 22) You've been spending a lot of time with school, work and other things that demand your time. Why not go out with your friends? It's been awhile since you spent time with them. Go out or get together and play catch up.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21) Why not go out and do a little Christmas shopping ahead of time instead of waiting until the last minute? That way, you can have more time to enjoy Christmas instead of being too busy getting ready for it. Get your camera ready, get film, and take some pictures this year.



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