

Entertainment

An Excellent Adventure

by Darrell J. White
Collegian Staff Writer

BILL AND TED'S EXCELLENT ADVENTURE Starring Alex Winter, Keanau Reeves, George Carlin Rated PG

Rating ★★★★★

Most semi-serious filmgoers like myself would have a hard time seeing a movie like this with any friends I want to keep. It was with mixed emotions that I darkened the doorstep of the theater that showed this film. To my ultimate delight, I found that this was not the case. If the promoters play their cards right, "Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure" could become a classic, right between "Citizen Kane" and "Monty Python and the Holy Grail"

The movie starts out with two male valley girls, Bill (Alex Winter) and Ted (Keanau Reeves) playing two garage-sale bought guitars in a garage, dreaming of someday turning their rock group, the "Wyld Stallyons", into a money maker, but als, as the promos say, these two boys can't even spell. Their language is pockmarked by the California-style words: "dude", "excellent", "bogus", and the like. Their major problem is as follows: they have been flunking their history class together for the whole year. They have a final project that will serve as a final exam. It is an oral report based upon what they believe a figure from past history would think of modern society: life in 1988. To complicate matters even further, Ted's father is a strict disciplinarian. If he doesn't pass this course, Ted will be sent to a military school in Alaska.

Most of the people I was with immediately saw this as a bad thing. These two guys were lovable, in a stupid sort of way, after all, but the film immediately whacks us back into fantasy, and gives us a reason why these potential burdens-on-society must be saved.

A future society looked back on Bill and Ted's plight. At this

time, Bill and Ted's music was the foundation of their peaceful existence. Yes, the Wyld Stallyons had created a utopia,...but that's in the future. wisely, the film stays away from any specifics as to how this occurred, thus avoiding insulting our intelligence. We just know that this happens. Rufus (George Caplin), a futuristic "go-fer" then steps into a telephone booth of the time and transports himself to California, 1988.

The encounter with Rufus began the film's decline into ultimate hysteria. If a time-traveler approached two California simpletons, and told them he was going to help them with their history report, chances are that they'd believe it. (Pardon my insulting of California - I acknowledge the fact that many intelligent people live in California. I just wish to avoid any Dave Friend-like reactions.) A further nice touch was added when Bill and Ted visited Bill and Ted, right there at that first meeting with Rufus outside Ted's home. They were on their way back from the trip through time and accidentally stopped there prematurely- but enough of that. It can get too confusing, who's doing what or going where...erk.

Bill and Ted proceed to travel through time and extract historical figures from their natural surroundings and bring them back to California, 1988, to take them around, ask them what they think, and then bring them to their school and ad-lib a presentation. Sound stupid? You know it. Nevertheless, it works with astounding hilarity.

The climax happened when the gang, consisting of such figures as Billy the Kid, Socrates (pronounced soh-crates by the actors), Abraham Lincoln, Genghis Khan, Beethoven, Joan of Arc, and Sigmund Freud, who was socializing and eating chocolate covered bananas (yes, an additional phallic symbol-and funny as anything I've ever seen). Genghis Khan destroyed a sporting goods store with a softball bat and skateboard, Beethoven wowed the crowds

playing the synthesizers in an organ shop, and Joan of Arc took over an aerobic class. Napoleon, the first to get picked up, was accidentally left behind in a water park. By the time he's done, he's howling with delight. This is astoundingly stupid stuff, but it appeals to your sense of humor that laughs even at bad jokes. It works, and it works well.

When I left the theater, I knew that two catch-phrases used in the film would soon institute themselves into everyday speech: "Be excellent to each other" and "PARTY ON, DUDE!"

May Dr. Reinig, who teaches a course in film study, have mercy on my soul. This film, made by nobodies, and starring virtual nobodies, should be one of the top grossing films of 1989, because it is an excellent flick.

Party on, dudes.



Harvey Griffin appeared Thursday, March 16th in the Reed Building's Lecture Hall. Griffin has played at the White House and around the world, and his repertoire includes everything from Bach to rock.
photo by Ken Anderson

Soap Opera Update

by Julie Tibolla
Collegian Staff Writer

GUIDING LIGHT

Phillip rushed to the estate to find that Harley and Alan Michael had already gone but had left everything behind.

On Fifth Street, Harley and Alan Michael were trying to make their new place homey. Harley broke down after reading a note from Frank which said, "Welcome home Harley." Alan Michael was confused by her sadness and she explained that when she left Fifth Street, she vowed that she'd never return. Alan Michael held her in his arms and assured her it was only temporary.

Back at the estate, Nadine was covering all her bases by telling Phillip that he could count on her for help when it came to Harley and Alan Michael (although she told Alan Michael once before that she'd be keeping an eye on Phillip).

SANTA BARBARA

At the realization that she and Scott would never reunite, Celeste went back to prostitution as she and a man left a club. When they got back to her apartment, she broke down into tears, and said she couldn't go through with it and asked the man to leave.

Meanwhile, Heather and Scott were in a huge fight over Celeste. Scott argued that Celeste brought out the real person he is and should be. Heather was offended and told him he was rationalizing, that Celeste was his one and only love and now that Celeste was back in town, things would never be the same between them.

At the police station, Cruz and Victor got a warrant and went to look for Ramone. Cruz saw Ramone heading for the church, and Ramone grabbed Laura and held her at gun point. He yelled to Cruz that if he didn't call off the S.W.A.T. team, she was dead. When the back-up arrived, Cruz informed them there

were three hostages; Heather, Laura, and Father Michael. Father Michael convinced Ramone to let the women go and take him instead. When Heather and Laura were out safely, Father Michael saw Cruz standing by an air vent. He led Ramone to the air vent where Cruz tackled him.

ANOTHER WORLD

At Brava, Mac confronted Iris about releasing Felicia's novel early. He told Iris to play by his rules or leave the company. Later, Iris packed her bags and planned a trip for Europe.

At the hospital, everyone panicked when baby Stephen stopped breathing. The doctors placed him in I.C.U. and monitored his every move.

Hoping to find more evidence in Felicia's case, Cass and Zach visited the Top. They said they were antique collectors and wanted to browse.

Disarmament from page 1

advance. The Soviets have met steel and are retreating," Taylor concluded.

Taylor is the chief operating officer and director of political/military studies at Georgetown. Until his recent retirement, he served as a professional soldier for 27 years. Among his latest books are "The Future of Conflict in the 80s," "American National Security: Policy and Process" and "Strategic Responses to Conflict in the 1980s."

Musil brought his added experience as the education director of the SANE Educational

Fund and as a lecturer in American studies at Temple University, where he also teaches an honors course on nuclear disarmament. He is co-producer and host of SANE's nationally-syndicated public affairs radio program, "Consider the Alternatives," which is broadcast by 150 stations coast-to-coast each week. Musil, a former Army captain and instructor at the Defense Information School (Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana), is a former associate of the Center for National Security Studies in Washington, D.C.

CONCERT CONNECTION

March 24 -	WWF/Hulk Hogan	Erie Civic Center
March 25 -	Bon Jovi	Cleveland Colosseum
March 26 -	B.B. King	Metropol
March 29 -	The Fixx	Metropol
March 29 -	Lou Reed	Palace Theater
March 31 -	Bobby Brown, LaVert, and Karyn White	Buff. Memorial Audi
April 2&3 -	Grateful Dead	Pgh. Civic Arena
April 5 -	Elvis Costello	A.J. Palumbo
April 6 -	REM	Cleveland Colosseum
April 20 -	Jay Leno	Warner Theater
April 30 -	Morton Downey, Jr.	Pgh. Syria Mosque