

Striking Distance

by Scott Moore
Collegian Staff

The main reason I wanted to see *Striking Distance* was that it was filmed almost entirely on location in Pittsburgh, my hometown. Not a whole lot of movies are made there: the airport scenes in *Silence of the Lambs* were shot in the now closed Pittsburgh International Airport, and an obscure film called *The Fish That Saved Pittsburgh* was shot in my old high school's gym. So, I drove to my local theater to see Bruce Willis' latest flick.

Striking Distance is a good action film. It contains all the basics: car chases, murder, fist-fights, and, of course, FIRE! I must admit, I was glued to my seat during the most exciting portions of the movie.

The film's plot concerns Tom Hardy (Bruce Willis), a fifth generation Pittsburgh police officer. Through the course of a murder investigation, Hardy is demoted from homicide detective to river rescue patrol when he openly questions whether the

department has brought in the wrong man for a series of killings that included the death of his father.

A new murder spree convinces Hardy that he was indeed correct, and sets him once more against the system. The rest of the movie deals with Hardy's struggle to prove to the city that he knows the truth behind the murders.

Striking Distance features more than just action and adventure. Issues of family ties, loyalty and honor are addressed with conviction. An attempt at casting Willis in a romantic situation falls flat, but the movie is good enough for this to be overlooked. Sarah Jessica Parker delivers a decent performance as Jo Christman (Hardy's love interest), but the movie is obviously Willis' vehicle.

I hope that *Striking Distance* is the beginning of a well-deserved comeback for Bruce Willis. After *Hudson Hawk*, he's going to need all the help he can get.



Look who's in Pittsburgh: Bruce Willis and Sarah Jessica Parker are river rescue patrol partners in *Striking Distance*.

THE WORLD OF MUSIC ACCORDING TO STANK AND DIRTBAG

DEAD YOUTH: PESTILENCE: WRITHING SPHERES



DB: So Stank, what did you think of the new Dead Youth tape?

Stank: It sucked thoroughly!

DB: I agree. They are worse than the NKOTB. I couldn't even hear the vocals.

Stank: There were actually voices on that? I read the lyrics but I didn't hear any words on the tape.

DB: When I read the lyrics I laughed. But when I listened to it, I got pissed.

They have no talent and should never have been signed.

Stank: I could not believe that there was more than one song listed on the tape. It sounded like one continuous blur.

DB: Songs like "Castration," "Whorified," and "Rectum Wreckage" were funny reading, but sounded like pure distortion!

Stank: I'd discuss the lyrics, but they were too demented even for college students.

DB: Death metal at its worst. They really SUCK!!

DB: Pestilence, cool name.

Stank: These guys have excellent guitar riffs. They really keep you interested.

DB: Yeah, they are good. Reminds me of Possessed, but they didn't have the killer instinct that Possessed did.

Stank: Their sound is a new approach to the same ideas as other death metal bands. Their technical ability is really

captivating.

DB: Patrick Uterwijk and Patrick Mameli do add an unique twist with the guitar synthesizers, but I think they are off the mark. They can't make up their minds as to whether they want to play fast or slow. Their songs sound quite similar, but they get your head banging. "Mind Reflections" is definitely the best song on the tape.

Stank: I agree, but this was the first time I heard a guitar synthesizer in death metal and it was cool.

DB: Hopefully these guys will tighten up and make it. They're good musicians, the rhythm section is tight and

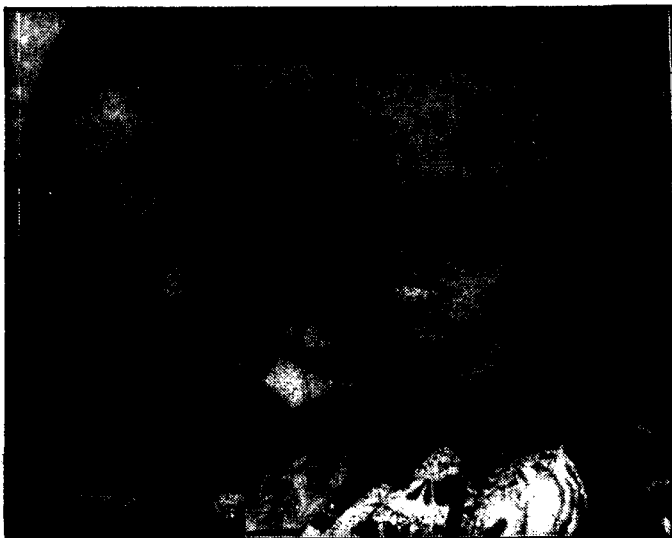
progressive.

Stank: They definitely have potential.

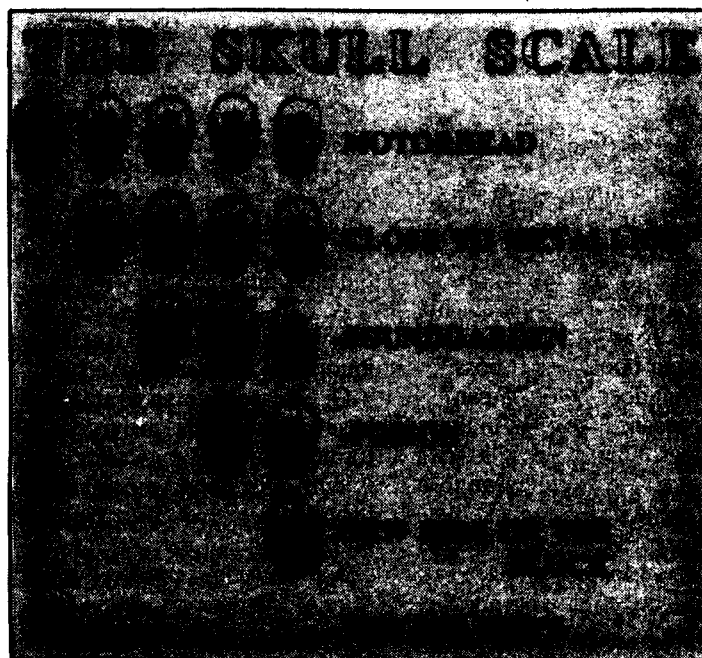
DB: But for now they are the average run-of-the-mill death metal band. Good luck and get better.

**Pestilence spheres 2 skulls. **

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APPEAR EVERY OTHER
WEEK IN THE
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STANK AND DIRTBAG



They get one skull for scamming a recording contract.