

"Nightmare Before Christmas:" a refreshing change of pace

by Jen Dugan
Collegian Staff

Did you ever wonder where Halloween came from?

Let Tim Burton welcome you to "Halloween Town," home of the ghosts and goblins that haunt us every October 31, in his highly acclaimed movie, "Nightmare Before Christmas."

Jack Skellington, a.k.a. Pumpkin King, is the leader of this ghoulish community. After a very successful Halloween, Jack is walking through the forest pondering his boredom with the same old thing year after year.

He stumbles upon the home of yet another holiday, "Christmas Town." It is filled

with things he's never seen before: snow, Christmas trees, lights, Santa Claus, and most of all, no ghosts!

He quickly returns to "Halloween Town" and tells everyone of his findings. He is perplexed with this "Christmas" and is determined to find out what it all means.

He then decides to make Christmas the Jack Skellington way. A town meeting is held to assign everyone his/her duties.

Sally, a creation of a mad scientist, is assigned to make Jack his Santa Claus outfit. She is skeptical about making this "Christmas" and foresees disaster for her dear Jack. However, she continues with her duty.

Santa Claus is captured and is

put in the Boogie Man's possession. While he is being put to his fate, Jack is out "mocking and mangling" the Christmas holiday.

Of course, this turns disastrous, just as Sally had predicted, but Jack returns and releases Santa just in time to save Christmas.

The Pumpkin King realizes that he should have stuck with his specialty, Halloween.

Even if you don't like the storyline, "Nightmare Before Christmas" is worth seeing just for the claymation.

It is a children's story but I think young or old, most people will find the film enjoyable. If you're in a movie-going nit, this may be your refreshing change of pace.

Dirtbag and Stank Special

Psyclone: music with an attitude

DB: Stank, what did you think of Psyclone when we saw them at Sherlock's? They really ripped it up!

Stank: All of the covers that they did kicked ass, and their originals stick to the heavy melodic side which is a good change from all the new alternative bands.

DB: True: Their originals do kick especially when they cover Pearl Jam or Alice in Chains. They do it with an expertise and intensity that most local bands lack. Mike Jones (guitarist) plays some killer original solos, while Joe Hosey has a vocal range that compares with Geoff Tate (Queensryche). It's no wonder

why there is major label interest in them.

Quick Facts: Band members are Aaron Forsyth (bass), Chris Forsyth (drums), Joe Hosey (vocals/guitar), and Mike Jones (guitar).

Playing since May 1991.

Manager Patrick Burrier has managed Eric Singer (Kiss) and Michael Cartellone (Damn Yankees).

CD to be released towards end of year.

If you like Seattle Grunge and Melodic Hard Rock with an edge, these guys are a definite must-see.

Mike Jones is a student at Behrend.

Music with an attitude. See them while you can.



TOP TEN MOVIE RENTALS

10. Sommersby
 9. Fire in the Sky
 8. Chaplin
 7. Scent of a Woman
 6. Loaded Weapon
 5. Groundhog Day
 4. Falling Down
 3. Alive
 2. Point of No Return
 1. Aladdin
- What's new on video?**

"The Temp:" a twisted thriller about an overachieving temporary secretary who just wants to please her boss. After all, when he said he wished she could do away with the competition, how was she to know he was only kidding?

Timothy Hutton plays the young ad executive being serviced by the temp, Laura Flynn Boyle. Faye Dunaway adds to the cast by playing the savage boardroom shark.

"This Boy's Life:" based on the memoirs of Tabias Wolfe. It recounts the tattered childhood of a boy abused by his father. Robert Dinero and Ellen Arkin give superb performances.

"Judgement Night:" boyz in the wrong hood

by Colette Rethage
Collegian Staff

"Judgement Night" is a story about friendship, brotherhood, loyalty and trust.

When four best friends decide to have a "boys night out" at a boxing match, they aren't expecting a wrong turn to lead them to hell.

Frank Wyatt (Emilio Estevez), his little brother John (Stephen Dorff), and friends Ray Cochran and Mike Pet (Cuba Gooding, Jr.) are on their way to the fight see that traffic is backed up, and decide to take a shortcut.

This is when they witness a murder.

Fallon (Dennis Leary) doesn't like his "employees" to steal his

drug money. So when one does, he has to pay. Payment usually comes in the form of death. And Fallon doesn't like any witnesses. They also have to pay.

Four best friends begin running for their lives, but not all of them make it to the finish line. The race pursues through trains, on the ground, on rooftops, and in the sewers. So who wins?

This is an excellent action movie. It is really suspenseful and kept my fists clenched. Emilio Estevez ("Young Guns") and Cuba Gooding, Jr. ("Boyz in the Hood") are awesome actors and really kept me interested. You won't be disappointed.

"Scapino!:" Matchbox Players in a delightful comedy

by Jen Toubakaris
Collegian Staff

Did you ever sit through one of those plays the you keep catching yourself either daydreaming or practically falling asleep? "Scapino!", the new play at Behrend was definitely an eye-opener!

Audience participation plays an important role, as Scapino runs through the audience while Geronte chases him. There is even a musical quality to the play, as the characters sing a song about spaghetti and macaroni.

Scapino, played by John J. McCrane, Jr., does an excellent job. He is a "jack of many trades" posing one minute as a pirate, then as a kung fu master calling out, "Ahh...Mitsubishi, Kawasaki, Yamaguchi..."

Chris Reber, who plays Argante, portrays the character of a stooping, whiny, old man convincingly. His sour facial expressions reminded me of the Church Lady on "Saturday Night Live."

Dave Shields, playing Geronte, also does a commendable job. His sarcastic humor and booming Italian voice keeps the audience interested. The character's love for money almost makes him the villain of the play, but his kinder side shines through in the end.

He tells Scapino at the end of the play, "I forgive you on one condition...that you die."

Chad Mahood and Mark Garipey, playing the two sons, Ottavio and Leonardo, performed well.

Sylvester, played by Joe Curreri, also deserves two thumbs up on his portrayal as the meek guardian of Ottavio. His gangster scene keeps the audience laughing (of course with him and not at him).

"Scapino!" is definitely a play you don't want to miss especially if you need a few laughs or a lesson on how to play the trumpet.

Future show dates are November 4-6 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 7 at 2:30 p.m.