

JUST MOVIES

Check theaters for specific times. Movies are subject to change without notice. All listings are current (effective Friday) through press time.

MSC Grove
845-1515

Star Wars:

Tonight. A wonderful refresher course for those who haven't seen "Return of the Jedi"—or even for those who already have seen it. Rated PG.

Raiders of the Lost Ark:

Friday and Saturday. Steven Spielberg's Saturday matinee classic about Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) and his search for the lost Ark of the Covenant is back. Rated PG.

Casablanca:

Sunday. See Bogie at his best. See the beautiful Ingrid Bergman. Hear the immortal lines. This is the Hollywood romance film at its finest. A wonderful, timeless tale of lovers torn between passion and principle in World War II. Rated G.

Love At First Bite:

Monday. George Hamilton and Susan St. James star in this mediocre comedy variation of the Dracula story. A cute movie, but not that cute. Rated PG.

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid:

Tuesday. George Roy Hill directed this superb story of two warm-hearted outlaws. It is a

nostalgic, well-made tribute to the romance of the West. Redford and Newman star in their finest pairing to date. Rated PG.

Airplane:

Wednesday. "Airplane? What is it?" It's a hilarious spoof of the old Airport movies and much better than "Airplane II." Rated PG.

Plitt Cinema III
846-6714

Breathless:

Richard Gere and French newcomer Valerie Kaprisky star in this well-done remake of the Jean-Luc Godard 1959 minor classic. Avoids most of the pitfalls of the average remake movie. Gere plays Jesse, a punk who steals cars and impresses Monica (Kaprisky), a French student studying in Los Angeles. Gere's acting gives the movie a face-paced intensity that is unstoppable when combined with the creative, unpretentious direction of Jim McBride. The movie wonderfully evokes the live-fast-die-young-stay-pretty persona of the great American outlaw movie. Rated R.

Raiders of the Lost Ark

Steven Spielberg's Saturday matinee classic about Indiana Jones (Harrison Ford) and his search for the lost Ark of the Covenant is back. Rated PG.

Chained Heat:

Linda Blair stars in this sleazy exploitation film about the inmates in an all-women prison. Rated R.

Rocky Horror Picture Show:

Midnight. The original cult film is back. The music is great; the plot is campy at its finest; and the audience is usually rowdy. Hasn't everyone seen it by now? Aren't we ready for a new midnight movie? Only Frankfurter knows for sure. Rated R.

Manor East
823-8300

Return of the Jedi:

Grab your tub of popcorn and your raisinettes. This is one of the best Saturday matinee movies ever made. This is the kind of stuff that Walt Disney used to make: warm, light-hearted, fun. Although the lines will be long for the next few weeks, this movie is worth the wait. See review this page.

Man From Snowy River:

See this one before it leaves. Even if you don't like Westerns or the usual "boy grows to manhood" stories, this is still an entertaining movie. You've seen the plot before: young man from the wrong side of the tracks falls in love with a rich man's daughter and must prove he is worthy of her. It may not be a new idea, but this movie does it as well as it can be done. Director George Miller did an excellent job of capturing the beauty and ruggedness of the Australian countryside. Kirk Douglas is at his best in dual roles as twin brothers and Tom Burlinson, the star, makes the story believable and inspiring. Rated PG.

Spacehunter: Adventures in the Forbidden Zone:

Peter Strauss stars as a starship captain who responds to

the distress signal of a shipwrecked spacecraft and goes in search of its survivors, three lovely space maidens. Not the best of the "Star Wars" clones, but not the worst either. In 3-D. Rated PG.

Post Oak
764-0616

Blue Thunder:

Roy Scheider stars as a police helicopter pilot assigned to test an ultra-sophisticated surveillance and attack helicopter in this fast-paced adventure. The question is: will the good guys get the copter or will the bad guys get it? Also stars Candy Clark, Malcom McDowell and Warren Oates. Rated R.

Sword and the Stone:

Walt Disney's animated tale about the early days of King Arthur and his beloved mentor, Merlin. Rated G.

Flashdance:

Being hailed as the next "Saturday Night Fever," this movie has lots of flash, lots of dancing, but not much plot. Sort of like MTV on the silver screen. Jennifer Beals stars as the welder-by-day, dancer-by-night. Rated R.

Schulman Six
775-2468

War Games:

Stars Matthew Broderick as a teenage computer whiz who stumbles into the Pentagon's defense computer and almost starts World War III. Directed by John Badham ("Blue Thunder"). Rated PG.

Tootsie:

Dustin Hoffman stars and Sydney Pollack directs in this hilarious comedy about a down-and-out actor who dresses up as a woman to get a job

'Jedi' redefines thrillers

by Gary Barker

Battalion Staff

A long time ago in a movie theater far, far away (somewhere in Southern California) sat a young George Lucas watching a Saturday matinee.

Lucas must have been entranced because over the past few years he has produced a movie trilogy that captures the essence of the Saturday matinee genre and makes it accessible for children from six to 60.

Lucas has filled a void left by Walt Disney. Although the Walt Disney Studios have been producing a couple of movies a year during the past few years, their movies don't seem to have the same spark that they once did.

Lucas — as well as his friend and occasional partner, Steven Spielberg ("E.T." and "Raiders of the Lost Ark") — has found that spark and updated it for an audience that was weaned on television and video games.

Did Lucas capture that childlike spark this time? Is, as everyone seems to be asking, "Return of the Jedi" as good as "Star Wars"?

That's hard to answer. At the Bryan-College Station premiere of "Return of the Jedi" last Wednesday, the cheers were just as loud, the smiles were equally wide and lines were much longer.

But "Jedi" suffers from a lack of novelty. "Star Wars"

was new when it came out in 1977. The characters were new; the excitement was new. "Empire Strikes Back" wore out some more of the novelty and left us tired of the story because of its untidy ending.

But Lucas knows all this and in "Jedi" he comes out swinging his light saber with both hands. The special effects are more dazzling than ever, the aliens are more bizarre and the original characters are both warmer and funnier.



Movie Review

Lucas and director Richard Marquand also seem to have increased the speed of the action in "Jedi"; it's two hours that seems like a four-minute roller-coaster ride.

However, even as good as it is, "Jedi" is having a hard time fighting all the publicity surrounding its release. "Star Wars" was wonderful because it was a sleeper; the publicity came out after the movie. Viewers got a chance to see it first, then read about it. "Empire" had lots of pre-release publicity, but not as much as "Jedi," which has been troubled with leaked

plot details and a case of media overkill.

All in all, even with everything it has going against it, "Jedi" succeeds as one of the best of the Saturday matinee genre. The Ewoks (although I couldn't help feeling they were created because of how cute they would look on a toy store shelf) are as cute and clever as any Walt Disney character ever tried to be. And Jabba the Hutt, the obese toad-creature who captures Han Solo, rivals Darth Vader as the most hateable villain.

What about the original characters, Luke, Yoda, Han, Leia, etc.? They're all back again and played with their usual competence. None of the performances are brilliant, but they are adequate considering that most of their lines are delivered to plastic models.

But the ending. Ouch. Holy cornball, Batman! How could George Lucas do that to us after three years of waiting patiently for the last sequel? (I won't give it away, but it has to do with three dead friends who make a hokey ghost-like appearance.)

Finally, is it worth waiting an hour in line for? (Manor East has sold out every show since the movie started last Wednesday.) Hey, you're asking the wrong guy. I have a scale model X-wing fighter buried in my closet behind a stack of old Time magazines.

Chuck Norris and David Carradine star as two men who must have some good reason for beating up on each other. Rated PG.

Psycho II:

Anthony Perkins returns as Hitchcock's classic schizo, Norman Bates. Twenty-two years later he returns to Bates Motel. Norman is not happy when he finds that the old Bates Motel has been turned

into an "adult motel." Also stars Vera Miles. Rated R.

The Man With Two Brains:

A Steve Martin/Carl Reiner collaboration about a surgeon who falls in love with Kathleen Turner's ("Body Heat") body, but has another brain in mind. We can only hope that this collaboration is funnier than their last bomb, "Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid." Rated R.

Strake raps White's 'lack of leadership'

United Press International
AUSTIN — Republican Party Chairman George Strake Wednesday criticized Gov. Mark White, saying the governor's "ineptness in pushing for a tax increase was exceeded only by his inability to control spending."

Strake, an unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant governor in the last election and a former Secretary of State under former Gov. Bill Clements, said White failed to provide "tough leadership" on nearly every legislative issue.

"His ineptness in pushing for a teacher pay raise was exceeded only by his inability to control spending to make it possible without an enormous tax increase," Strake said.

However, when pressed by reporters Strake would offer no specifics as to where he would trim the state's proposed \$30.8 billion budget.

Strake said he had analyzed the proposed budget and had arrived at a list of cuts that would free up approximately \$700 million.

Of that figure, he said, \$300

to \$400 million could have been dedicated to teacher pay raises, even though the proposed budget contains no money for salary hikes.

White is expected to call a special legislative session to consider a tax increase as a means of funding the higher salaries.

Strake said it would take the "largest tax increase in the history of Texas" to fund the 24 percent pay raise.

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ROY SCHEIDER
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1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15
ALSO WINNIE THE POOH
WALT DISNEY'S
THE SWORD AND THE STONE
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1:45 3:45 5:45 7:45 9:50 8th WEEK
It's as far as you can go.
Flashdance
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

Skaggs center 315 College North 846-6714

1:15 3:30 5:45 8:00 10:00
2nd WEEK
2000 chained women
stripped of everything they had,
except the courage to survive.
CHAINED HEAT

1:00 3:15 5:30 7:45 10:00
4th WEEK
RICHARD GERE
BREATHLESS

12:45 3:00 5:55 7:30 9:45
RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE

PLITT CINEMA & K92-FM MIDNIGHT SHOW
FRI & SAT 12:00 "ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW" (R)
POST OAK CINEMA KIDDIE SHOW THURSDAY 10:00 A.M.
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2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40
SPACE HUNTER
IN 3D

2:45 5:05 7:15 9:30
SPACE RAIDERS

2:40 5:00 7:20 9:40
SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES

2:45 5:05 7:15 9:30
LONE WOLF McQUADE

2:30 4:50 7:25 9:45
MY TUTOR

2:30 4:50 7:25 9:45
TOOTSIE

MANOR EAST III
822-8300
MANOR EAST MALL
2200 47th 7:20 9:55

RETURN OF THE JEDI Dolby

2:35 4:35 7:25 9:45
THE MAN FROM SNOWY RIVER

2:45 5:05 7:30 9:50
STILL SMOKIN

SKYWAY TWIN
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