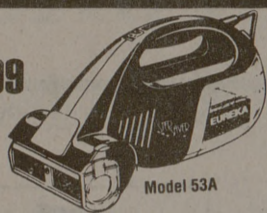


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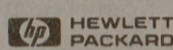
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A guide through the video racks

The best movies you never saw

By ANTHONY C. LOBAIDO

Reviewer of THE BATTALION

For those brave souls who would dare stray from the comfort zone of the "New Releases" rack at the video rental store, the ensuing list is a treasure chest of films that will make you laugh, make you cry, make you fall in love with this reviewer. If you want to enjoy films that are experiences, not just movies, then dare to be different.

Gallipoli

Mel Gibson and director Peter Weir, despite stellar careers, were never better than in this epic of the Australian Expeditionary Forces fighting a desperately heroic yet unwinnable battle against the Turks during World War I. If you are not crying at the end of this film you either fell asleep or you are a Cylon from "Battlestar Galactica."

The Lighthorsemen

This picks up the fifty survivors of Gallipoli for the triumphant and pivotal World War I battle at Beersheba. This movie is a thrilling and uplifting sequel to "Gallipoli" and a true story.

La Femme Nikita

In a film that won many International Film Awards, the French unleash a different kind of lethal weapon, a sexy reformed street punk whose penance for killing a police officer is to turn her cold-blooded skills over to the state as an assassin. This is a film which goes where James Bond and Rambo couldn't in a thousand sequels.

Raising Arizona

The Cohen brothers create a comedy which not only makes your sides hurt but delicately and innocently lays down the Old Testament laws of God's wrath and forgiveness. Nicholas Cage, Holly Hunter and John Goodman star before they became who they are.

Salvador

Oliver Stone's documentary on the tragic Central American conflagration of the 1980's is a bit to the left politically but a complete film of grit and guts. James Woods, James Belushi and Cynthia Gibb will make you feel like you were there.

Breaker Morant

Edward Woodward (TV's "The Equalizer") teams with Bryan Brown in a rare film (based on a true story) of how the British Empire turned its back on its own during the Boer War in South Africa. Based on a true story, this is a politically neutral film, as is "Gallipoli," which deals with the human spirit rather than military objectives.

Can't Buy Me Love

If you were ever a geek in high school, ever felt sorry for one, or are still a stuck-up Texas A&M

snob, you need to see this film.

Highlander

Christopher Lambert is the immortal swordsman who must fight through the centuries to keep mankind from falling back into the darkness Christ redeemed us from on the cross.

Dudes

Director Penelope Spheeris takes Jon Cryer from the head-banging, slam-dancing night clubs of New York to the Utah badlands, where a metaphysical journey of revenge and self-discovery unlocks a world where inner and outer space collide.

Pow Wow Highway

The "Rain Man" for aficionados of the Native American Indian genre. (What is the Native American Indian genre?) An outcast Indian, seeking a vision of the old ways, revitalizes a tribe which has lost its collective bearings.

Extreme Prejudice

Nick Nolte is the Texas border town sheriff who must deal with an elite team of Army Green Berets who have taken the drug war into their own hands. The cast is the All-Star game of character actors.

The Man Who Would Be King

Michael Caine and Sean Connery flee Her Majesty's forces in India to procure a throne in Afghanistan left by the Freemasons under Alexander the Great. Adventure on a grand scale.

The Coca-Cola Kid

Eric Roberts is the American soda pop trouble-shooter whose quest for corporate profits turns the Australian outback upside down and unleashes global nuclear war.

Everybody's All-American

Denis Quaid, Jessica Lange and John Goodman ride football fame across four decades, spanning the civil rights movement, college and pro football and the meaning of love and marriage in the process.

Talk Radio

America is dying because it has no soul. Eric Bogosian is the Jewish disc jockey in Dallas who rides negative airwaves to his own destruction. A true story.

Spike of Bensonhurst

Sasha Mitchell is the Mafia kid whose boxing skills are only superceded by his womanizing. A must for Italians or Italian wanna-bes.

Fat Man and Little Boy

In the beginning, there was one atomic bomb, located in Alamogordo, New Mexico, 1945. What began as a desire for a single great weapon to strike down our enemies in war evolves onscreen into the revolutionary and apocalyptic nuclear genie.

Jerry Jeff Walker exhilarates spirited crowd

By MACK HARRISON AND SUSAN OWEN

Reviewers of THE BATTALION

Amid a sea of raised cowboy hats and beer pitchers, singer/songwriter Jerry Jeff Walker brought a College Station crowd to life Sunday night with his own blend of country and rock music.

Walker and his band, the Gonzo Compadres, opened the show at College Station night club Hurricane Harry's with "Easy Come, Easy Go" and "Up Against the Wall." The group then treated the crowd to a musical history of Texas. Performing classics from "London Homesick Blues" to newer songs like "Nolan Ryan, the band touched all the bases.

Walker's musical style ranges from the total country sound of "Texas Lady" to the reggae flavor of "I Was So Damn Bad Last Night, I'll be Good for the Rest of My Life."

The audience responded enthusiastically to the new songs as well as to the old favorites. Like "Mr. Bojangles," "LA Free Way" and "Pickup Truck Song" had the crowd singing in unison with the band.

Near the end of the show, Walker brought out the crowd pleasers "Sangria Wine" and "Desperados (Waiting for the Train)."

As the crowd chanted, "JERRY JEFF," Walker and his group hit the stage for an encore. The band performed "Pissin' in the Wind" and ended the performance with "Pick Up the Telephone."

The opening act, local band Touch 'N Go, did an excellent job of warming up the crowd. The group played great covers across the rock-country boundary, with material ranging from the Eagles and the Black Crowes to Dwight Yoakam and Willie Nelson.

All in all, the locale and performers meshed perfectly, producing a sound and an atmosphere with which the crowd clearly identified.

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