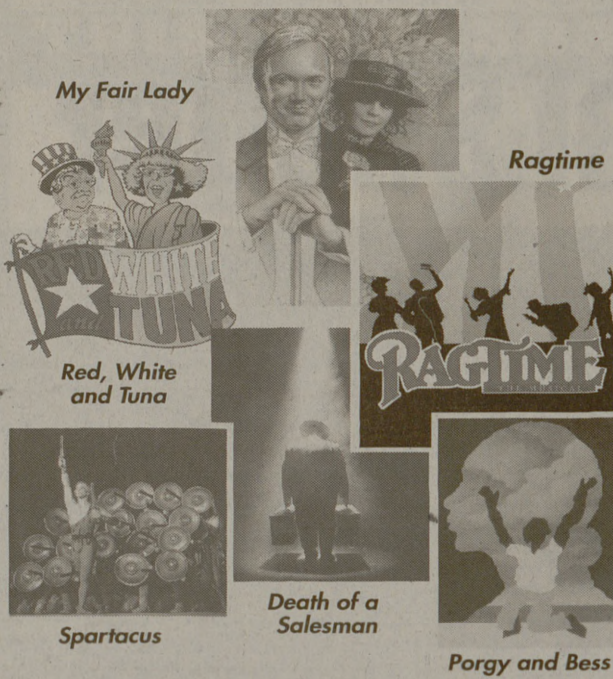


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REEL CRITIQUE

MOVIE REVIEWS

The Score

Starring Robert De Niro, Edward Norton & Marlon Brando
Directed by Frank Oz

The Score is not one of those ordinary, safe-cracking robbery movies. Although that is the basic story line, Frank Oz puts his own creative technique in the age-old occupation of stealing priceless artifacts.

Nick Wells (De Niro) is a veteran thief who almost gets caught on his last job. This prompts him to seriously think about leaving the business, but when he is about to retire, Max (Brando) offers him another job heisting a highly secured scepter that has been smuggled into the country. With the aid of Jack (Norton), Nick accepts the challenge to steal this priceless scepter.

The Score can drag on and at times has the audience struggling to keep their eyes open, but when the movie picks up, it is understandable why the beginning was so slow. Oz does an excellent job of keeping the viewers on the edge of their seat, especially toward the end. He also does a good job keeping the "bad guy" ambiguous until the end of the movie.

The all-star acting team of De Niro, Norton and Brando adds more reason for one to watch this movie. Oz's direction certainly is exceptional and a far reach from his Muppet movies. The long and drawn-out story may be annoying, but it pays off in the end. *The Score* also has the viewer constantly guessing what will happen next. One definitely should go to this movie if they like to be in a constant state of curiosity. If one does not want to think, watching *Muppets From Space* is always fun. (Grade: B-)

— Dino Ramos



A = instant classic
D = don't buy it

B = a cut above
F = burn in effigy

C = average

People in the News

Eminem filming movie in Detroit

DETROIT (AP) — Eminem helped put Detroit's rap scene on the map. Now, he's putting it on the silver screen.

A drama loosely based on Marshall Mathers III's experience as a suburban Detroit hip-hop singer who became a superstar, temporarily named *Untitled Detroit Project*, will begin shooting in and around the city in September. Imagine Films, producing the movie for distribution through Universal Studios, will open a Detroit production office in early August, the *Detroit Free Press* reported Wednesday.

The newspaper quoted unnamed sources close to the production, but said a Universal Studios spokesman confirmed it.

Eminem, a Grammy-winning rapper who has been widely criticized for his violent lyrics about gays and women, will star in the movie.

Michigan Film Office Director Janet Lockwood said she has no official confirmation that the movie will be filmed in Detroit, but said her talks with producer Greg Goodman and director Curtis Hanson have been very positive.

The film could be released by next summer, accompanied by a soundtrack album with at least four new songs written by Eminem and Dr. Dre, as well as rerecorded versions of Eminem hits.

The film and soundtrack also are expected to feature an appearance by rap group D12, of which Eminem is a member. Representatives of Eminem

did not return calls to discuss the film.

Untitled Detroit Project would be the first major-studio film to spend substantial time filming in Detroit since *Out of Sight*, a crime drama starring George Clooney and Jennifer Lopez, shot in the city in 1997.

Priestly completes alcohol program

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jason Priestley has completed an alcohol counseling program he was ordered to attend when he pleaded no contest last year to a drunken driving charge.

Priestley's lawyer Peter L. Knecht showed proof in Los Angeles County Superior Court on Tuesday that the former star of "Beverly Hills, 90210" completed the three-month program.

"That should take care of this matter," said Judge Marlene Kristovich.

The 31-year-old actor pleaded no contest on March 28 to a misdemeanor drunken driving charge stemming from a December 1999 car crash in the Hollywood Hills. The accident totaled Priestley's Porsche and broke one of his best friend's arms.

Knecht said Priestley crashed because he swerved to avoid a deer.

Posh Spice's home has virtual tours

LONDON (AP) — Fans of "Posh Spice" Victoria Beckham and her soccer-star husband David Beckham can take a virtual tour of "Beckingham Palace," the couple's rural home.

The Spice Girl's official Website, launched Tuesday, features a virtual Victoria who welcomes visitors to the mock-Georgian mansion north of London. Viewers can tour the Throne Room, the bedroom the Beckhams' toddler Brooklyn, the "Royal Bedroom" and a book-lined study.

In real life, the couple's keen on uninvited guests. Recently went to court to the publication of pictures of their house.

Shaquille O'Neal whipped his favorite sausage omelet.

Shaq talks about retirement, future

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal whipped his favorite sausage omelet.

"I will be giving up (basketball) when I am 32," the 29-year-old Los Angeles Lakers center said.

Last year, O'Neal signed a six-year contract extension for \$152 million. The big chunk of that, \$32.5 million would come in the 2006 season.

A call Tuesday to agent was not immediately returned.

O'Neal taped the appearance last week on "Baked," a *Burly Bear* work cable show that is to a national college-age audience. It will be shown September.

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A newly enacted law state-paid DNA victims kept copies of Richard Kutzner's death chamber.

In the first case, law, the Texas Court of Appeals on Tuesday considered Kutzner's appeal to stop his scheduled execution.

Kutzner, 58, was sentenced for several murders in 1977 and committed 17 other murders.

This is what we process to expedite justice

— Sen. ...

1996. Wednesday's execution was the first of a Monty Python woman at the time she was where she worked.

The DNA law by the Legislature year and signed by Perry in April to boost the Texas criminal justice system, which has come from death penalty particularly after W. Bush's campaign last year.

40 Texas death row inmates were executed.

The post-mortem testing law where biological and can be subjected to testing and will be an issue at trial.

What is unclear will provide a preview for other

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DALLAS (AP) — American Bar Association Texas Southwestern law school to raise standards, effective the door to many

panic students that not have been accepted at state law schools. The request came from a seven-year

view of the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. The law school was founded in 1946 to allow black and Hispanic students a majority of the law school's students.

Experts say that law students would likely not be accepted at other schools because their point averages

Man convicted

DALLAS (AP) — A man convicted of murdering a woman in 1993.

The punishment for Alvin Avon Douglas White was seeking to

According to a tally shot Douglas as he and his trail that circled

Con... kill... use

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — A newly enacted law state-paid DNA victims kept copies of Richard Kutzner's death chamber.

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