

Joe finds despair, promise, silliness in Volcano flick

AT THE MOVIES

By DIAHANN NADEAU
Herald Special

John Patrick Shanley, the man who wrote Moonstruck, comes back as the director and writer for this very unique and bizarre film. Like Moonstruck, Joe Versus the Volcano depends a great deal on tone, mood, enchantment. If you don't appreciate these aspects of a film, then you probably won't like "Joe." If you're willing to walk into a world full of despair and promise and complete silliness, then Joe Versus the Volcano offers an unusual and alluring experience.

The film opens with an updated version of "16 Tons" as Joe Banks (Tom Hanks) is sucked into the shift at his factory, a huge, grim building, the very incarnation of Blake's "dark Satanic mills." Right from the opening shots we realize this movie, like Batman, relies on its sets to create an unreal, neo-gothic feel; this is not going to be your average show.

Basically, Joe works in hell. His co-workers are Didi (brunette Meg Ryan), and Mr. Satauri (Dan Hedaya). Satauri is his boss and always on his case. The fluorescent lights bother Joe, the coffee is atrocious, dingy doesn't begin to describe the walls.

Joe is sick all the time ("I feel blotchy and puffy," he complains), and is off to the doctor yet again. The medical building picks up the grim setting and reinforces the feel of despair. Joe's doctor does nothing to relieve it. It seems that Joe has a "brain cloud" and has about six months left to live. His symptoms have nothing to do with the disease - apparently Joe is also a hypochondriac. (Of course, Jane Fonda would feel puffy in those surroundings).

Joe's life takes a bizarre swing from then on. He quits his job, dates Didi, (although the armorous mood is destroyed when he mentions dying), and Mr. Grainmore (Lloyd Bridges) enters his life. Grainmore needs someone to jump into a volcano on a South Sea Island and since Joe is dying anyway...; and yes, a gold American Express card is involved.

There is some of the Moonstruck feel in Joe's shopping binge down Fifth Avenue. (Cher's outfitting herself for a night at the opera). He flies to L.A. where he is greeted by one of Grainmore's daughters (a

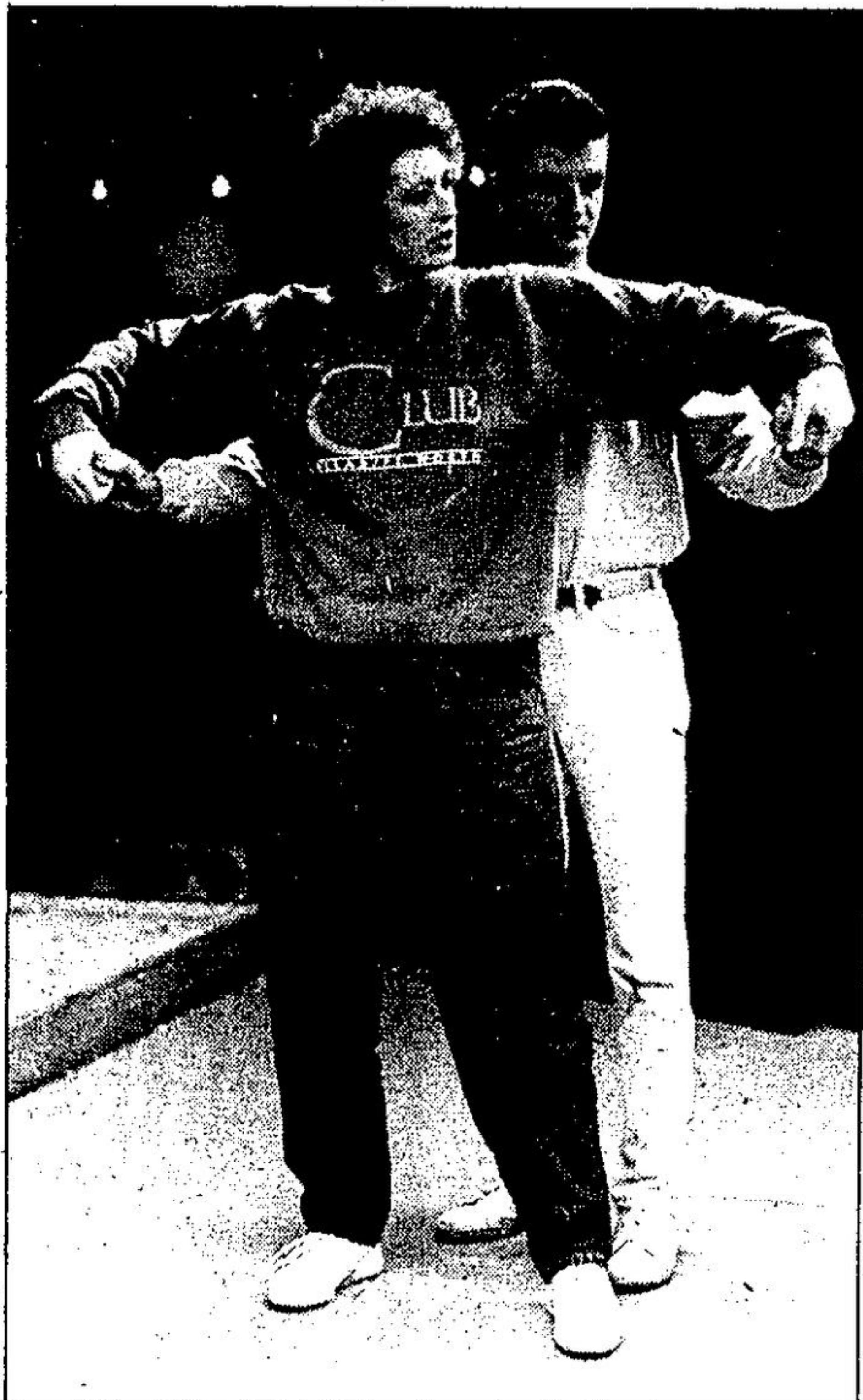
red-headed Meg Ryan). The next day he leaves on the yacht with Grainmore's other daughter (blonde Meg Ryan). The sail is interrupted by a typhoon, the ship is lost, Joe and Meg survive on some steamer trunks. They arrive at the island, jump into the volcano and - well, there should be some surprises.

It sounds zany, yes, but there are some very dramatic moments. The two daughters speak of suicide and being "soul sick." The nightmarish life Joe leads is both comical and depressing. The mood shifts rapidly from drama to comedy and back. It is not a script for the young - it takes an adult mind to understand all the things going on. Unfortunately the title implies a movie for all ages, but that is not the case.

Hanks is great here, fully convincing as the geekish hypochondriac, then just as believable as he becomes more heroic. Meg Ryan has a ball with her trio of roles and is simply adorable. Abe Vigoda plays the tribal chief, Ossie Davis does a nice turn as a chauffeur, and Carol Kane puts in a cameo as a hairdresser.

Joe Versus the Volcano is not for everyone. Its swing from pathos to humor is sometimes disturbing, discomfiting. Yet it is so visually splendid, from the factory to the sea to the volcano, that one is totally enchanted. The discriminating will appreciate this film, but don't take anyone much under 20.

Globe goes to the movies



By MAUREEN WALKER
Globe Productions
Movies and music go hand-in-hand. A few readers may remember the days of the silent movies, when a pianist played music to match the mood of the action on the silver screen. Throughout the years, movies have been accompanied by mood music and many, particularly in the thirties and forties, were lavish musical extravaganzas. Who can forget Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, Mickey Rooney and Judy Garland, singing and dancing their way into our hearts?

Globe Productions brand new musical revue, "Just Go To The Movies," specially written for them by Larry Westlake, will take you back to those golden days, when they showcase some of the more memorable songs and dances to come out of Hollywood. Add to this a series of comedy skits and you have an evening of great entertainment.

Georgetown's award-winning musical theatre group will bring this show to Ballinfad Community Centre in a dinner theatre setting. Show dates are May 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12. Tickets are \$18 each and go on sale on Saturday, March 24, at Royal LePage Real Estate, 170 Guelph Street, Georgetown. The show was a sell-out last year, so hurry along to LePages to ensure a gala evening for you and your friends.

Globe Productions will recall some famous flicks when it presents "Just Go To The Movies," a production written for the group by Larry Westlake. The show is scheduled for the Ballinfad Community Centre May 3-5 and May 9-12. Here, artistic director and choreographer Rose Caraduff gives some pointers to cast member Doug Ladueer during a rehearsal. (Photo submitted)

CLUB

The Chippendales
2nd Show Added
Thurs. April 26th
Book Today for Tickets

180 Mill St. Georgetown
840-3251
873-0437

HALTON HILLS TAXI

110 MILL ST., GEORGETOWN ONTARIO
E7G 2C9
DIVISION OF HALTON HILLS HOLDING LTD

877-1234
877-7400 AIRPORT SERVICE
877-9311 PARCEL DELIVERY

New Duke of York

MAKE ANY OCCASION SPECIAL!
Reserve now for Birthdays/Anniversaries or any occasion

118 Guelph St. NORMANDY PLAZA
873-1409

QUICK-PIK
BRINGS YOU

Nintendo MACHINE
\$3.99 plus tax
(if you rent 2 Cartridges)
CARTRIDGE
99¢ Week Days \$1.99
WE BUY USED CARTRIDGES

THIS WEEK'S SPECIALS OVER 2500 MOVIES
Including New Releases
Mon.-Thurs. 99¢

Milk	4 L.	\$2.99
Cigarettes	13.60 Tax	
Cigarettes	21.00 Tax	
Car Tobacco	\$18.95 Tax	
Drum Tobacco	\$12.85 Tax	
Ice Cream	2 L.	\$2.25 Tax
PEPSI		
1.5 L.	\$1.99 Tax	
2 L.	\$1.99 Tax	
COKE		
7.6 oz.	\$1.99 Tax	
1.5 L.	\$1.99 Tax	
2 L.	\$1.99 Tax	

160A Guelph St. 877-6463

The GEORGE & DRAGON

Join Us For Our Daily & Weekly Lunch Specials

ALL THIS WEEK
ROAST BEEF
With Yorkshire Pudding, Potato and Salad
\$10.95

7 Main St. N. GEORGETOWN
873-4459

M & R Book & Record Exchange

OVER 30,000 BOOKS IN STOCK
ALL COMPUTER CATALOGUED

We Buy & Sell New & Used Records, Tapes, CDs and Books

1828 Guelph St. Georgetown, Ont. **877-4473**

VIDEO FLICKS WEEKDAY SPECIAL

NEW Releases
\$2.99 for the FIRST ONE
Get The Second 1/2 PRICE!
Total \$4.99 Mon.-Thurs. Only
ALL OTHERS 99¢

RELEASED THIS WEEK

- Casualties Of War
- Step-Father II
- Shocker
- Innocent Man

VIDEOFLICKS
334 Guelph Street
Georgetown

HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 10 a.m.-10 p.m.
Fri.-Sat. 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Sunday 11 a.m.-9 p.m.

873-1500

BURGER KING 235 Guelph St. Georgetown 877-3642

STARTING MARCH 5th
WHALER COMBO
Watch for our money-saving coupons in your mail!

*TM. OF/M.C. DE BURGER KING CORPORATION - 1989

AFTER FIVE

THINGS TO DO PLACES TO GO

The McGibbon Hotel
FOR YOUR LISTENING AND DANCING PLEASURE!
78 MAIN ST. S.
877-3388