

Doo-Dah, Doo-Dah

Looking to run all summer

BY DONNA DANIELLI

Looking for something different to do on a hot summer's night? Why not head out to newly renovated Mohawk Raceway for some family-friendly fun. Mohawk Raceway has some new and unusual brands of entertainment to offer their patrons this summer. "We're looking at doing things that are fun and can be done in co-operation with live horse racing," explains Woodbine Entertainment's Director of Media and Community Relations Bruce Murray. "We're trying some non-traditional entertainment, along with the live racing.

This summer marks the first time that the racetrack has offered live racing throughout the warmer months. Monday and Tuesday evenings, 25 race patrons are given the opportunity to compete in a Hole In One Challenge on a 170 yard golf hole on the infield for a prize of \$50,000. Thursday evenings at nine sees a different Yuk Yuk's comedian each week bring a little levity to the newly constructed portable stage in the grandstand, as the comedian performs four or five 15 minute sets between the live races. "Our first three nights were tremendous, we're really pleased with the response," says Bruce of the Yuk Yuk's shows which will continue every Thursday night throughout August. As well, look for Country and Western star Aaron Pritchett to take to the stage for a special concert on August 19.

"We want to capitalize on the summer weather and make it a festival atmosphere," explains Bruce. Mohawk Raceway offers live standard bred racing every night but Wednesday and Sunday, and admission for the races and other entertainment options is free.

recreation & entertainment

YOUR GUIDE TO WHERE TO GO & WHAT TO DO IN HALTON

I think I saw a Pixel Move!

REVIEWED BY DAVID TIERNEY (00760@MICROPLAY.CA)

Title: *Delta Force: Black Hawk Down*

Platform: PS2 and Xbox (it's also been available on PC for two years)

Age Appropriateness: 14 and up-realistic violence, but no blood.

Delta Force: Black Hawk Down is a squad-based First Person Shooter set during the Somali conflict of '93. The missions are all over the place - the titular conflict made famous by film of the same name is only one of the multitude of assignments your Ranger unit undertakes. There's no story to link the missions together; you beat one, and then you can choose from a number of other disconnected battles. If nothing else, it adds some variety; and that's the beginning and end of my compliments for the single player section of the game.

BHD's graphics are pretty sad. There's a distinct lack of detail on everything from weapons to landscape textures to village layouts; everything is covered in the same bland, muddy textures, making even war-torn Somalia look a bit too empty and shabby. The gameplay is fairly annoying, as 90% of the combat takes place at distances of over 100 feet, turning most fire-fights into a matter of going prone and then watching for blocks of five or six moving brownish-black pixels, shooting them, and hoping the red spot on your map goes away. The enemy AI is adequate but inconsistent... sometimes I could run in guns

blazing and come out without a scratch, and sometimes I'd get picked off out of crowd of allies while prone and hidden in bushes. Overall, the single-player game is just too monotonous and twitchy for me, but your mileage may vary.

The online game is another story. It's actually... good. *Black Hawk Down* supports 32-player games on home servers, and 50-player games on NovaLogic's own servers. That's a lot of players. (PS2 player counts for home and official servers are 8 and 32, respectively) There are a good number of game modes, everything from deathmatch to capture the flag, and each game mode has a very large number of playable maps designed specifically for that mode; even better, NovaLogic has promised to make fan-created maps from the PC version available for download. The online play is very fast and quite unforgiving, as all players have the realistic ability to dish out a ton of damage, but very little ability to take it. So if you're an idiot and try to blitz your opponents, you'll die. Quickly. Overall, the multiplayer is quite fun if you're looking for something a bit more realistic than *Medal of Honour* or *Halo*.

Rating: 2/5 Offline, 4/5 Online

Top 10 Rentals

THE MAGIC OF THE MOVIES AT HOME

This week's Top Ten Movie Rentals brought to you by



- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Guess Who | 6. Constantine |
| 2. Alexander | 7. Million Dollar Baby |
| 3. XXX: State of the Union | 8. The Ice Princess |
| 4. Man of the House | 9. Hide and Seek |
| 5. The Upside of Anger | 10. Hostage |

New Releases

Guess Who

Bernie Mac, Ashton Kutcher, Zoe Sadana

When Theresa brings fiance Simon Green home for her parents' 25th wedding anniversary, she's neglected to mention one tiny detail he's white. Determined to break his daughter's engagement, Percy Jones does everything he can to make Simon feel "apart" of the family.

Alexander

Colin Farrell, Angelina Jolie, Val Kilmer

He was many things to many people - a dashing warrior king, filled with ambition, courage and arrogance of youth, leading his vastly outnumbered forces against the massive Persian armies...a son desperately longing for the approval of his stern, battle scarred father, torn and conflicted by his mother's legacy.

HELEN O' IS SEVEN-O

(THAT'S 55 IN U.S. DOLLARS)

Happy Birthday Nana!

August 3, 2005

"At Home"
 Sun. Aug. 14, 2005
 2:30-4:30 pm
Best Wishes Only

Love,
 Your Family, Friends &
 "The Bulldog"

microplay 393 Main Street, East, Milton

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

Based on Ronald Dahl's classic fantasy tale *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, this film of the same name brings together vivid imagination and dark reality. Brought to audiences by the acclaimed director Tim Burton, the film follows the life of Charlie Bucket and his poor family who live in the shadows of Willy Wonka's extraordinary candy factory.

Each night the Bucket family shares a meager dinner between son, mother and two sets of grandparents. Although their house is tiny, Charlie and his family are full of love for one another. Each night, Charlie falls asleep looking out of his window at the great factory of Willy Wonka and dreams about what lies inside. Nobody has seen anyone going in or coming out of the factory for nearly fifteen years, and yet it's chocolate is still shipped worldwide. What has happened to Willy Wonka?

One special day Willy Wonka makes a surprise appearance and announces that he will open his secret factory and all of its magic to five lucky children who find golden tickets inside Wonka chocolate bars. Of course Charlie would love to win this contest but the odds are against him.

When Augustus Gloop, Veruca Salt, Violet Beauregarde, and Mike Teavee are all announced as winners of the contest, there remains only one golden ticket to be found.

Suddenly, this dark and mysterious film becomes more idealistic when Charlie finds money and takes it to the nearest store to buy a Wonka Whipple-Scrumptious Fudgemallow Delight to ease his hunger. Suddenly, to his delight,

film review

BY LAURA SCHOFIELD

Charlie finds the last golden ticket!

The Wonka factory is full of brightly colored sets, and magical special effects that include an awesome frothy chocolate waterfall and a dragon-headed boat that floats down the chocolate river past crops of candy cane trees and edible mint grass. One scene in the film has the camera focus on one hundred live trained squirrels on a hundred tiny stools shelling nuts for chocolate bars. Of course no recreation of this story would be complete without Willy Wonka driving his glass elevator that rockets itself through the factory in every direction possible and impossible.

Although his inventions are spectacular, Willy Wonka himself (played by Johnny Depp) is a very odd host to his five winners at the factory. He thinks about candy all the time and hasn't stepped out of the factory in years. Who is this strange character and what has happened in his past?

Eventually the children disobey rules in the factory that force them off the tour before it is finished. Only Charlie remains and he is given the biggest surprise of all. Be sure and see this film to find out the rest of the story that lasts for one hundred and fifteen minutes long. *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* is a fast paced film that magnifies the magic of the 1971 version of the story with extra special visual appeal and fantastic acting. Rated PG, for a few quirky situations, action and mild language, this film is directed by the famous Tim Burton and sure to please adults and children alike!