

Between the Lines

by ELI HENDRIKS-WITMER

The Warner Brothers team of director Herbert Ross, producer Craig Zadan and lyricist screenwriter Dean Pitchford, who produced the box-office hit Footloose, are teaming up again. The new feature entitled Parallels, is described as a "unique musical love story set against the world of gymnastics". The ten song musical score will be released as a sound-track album by Geffen Records. The cast has not yet been announced. Raquel Welch's daughter Tahnee will make her movie debut in Ron Howard's new film for 20th Century Fox, Cocoon. The film is "a science-fantasy adventure" and will also star Steven Cuttenberg, Hume Cronyn, Jessica Tandy and Tyrone Power, Jr.. Scheduled release date is Christmas, 1985.

Jimmy Holt, formerly of Wet Willie, and Dickey Betts and Chuck Leavell, formerly of the Allman Brothers Band, have teamed up to tour and produce an album. They are presently trying to come up with a name for the group.

Connie Francis, one of the most popular singers in the world during the 50s and 60s, has written a book about her tragic life over the past ten years entitled Who's Sorry Now? Connie, now 45, has finally gotten her life in order after being raped in 1974, having two miscarriages and a marriage break-up, and will make a career comeback in 1985. She will probably start with a stint in Atlantic City and hopefully a tour will follow. A lot of fans wish her well and look forward to seeing her on stage again.

Rock-a-billy legend Ronnie Hawkins should be out of the hospital by the time you read this. The singer was admitted the day after his opening at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto suffering from a rapid heart beat. His guest stars, Bo Diddley and Patti Jannetta, finished out the week in his place.

Night of the Comet

by TERRY DUPUIS

Teenagers are the primary moviegoers who will enjoy a recent science-fiction thriller called Night of the Comet. It's a little too intense and frightening for children, and most adult viewers will probably find it much too outlandish. But it's a good-natured movie, and anyone who is prepared to go along with its plot may find it to be a diverting and agreeable time-waster.

Night of the Comet belongs to the last-survivors-on-earth school of science-fiction. Many movies have used this theme over the years, from Arch Oboler's Five in the 1950's to the Charlton Heston film The Omega Man in the 1970's. These stories always deal with most of the human race

being wiped out in some global disaster, with a few survivors left struggling for survival.

In Night of the Comet, a mysterious comet is the culprit, as you might well suspect from the title. The world's inhabitants are very excited about this approaching phenomenon, because scientists are predicting that it is going to produce a spectacular light show of colours in the sky like man has never seen before.

Unfortunately, it turns out that this bright light has a nasty side effect. It disintegrates people to powder, and all that's left afterwards among their crumpled clothing is a pile of fine red powder. But there are some survivors of this disaster. It seems that the rays produced from this comet cannot

penetrate steel, so anyone who happened to be inside a steel-encased enclosure remains unscathed.

This includes two teenaged sisters and a young man named Hector. As they survey their city of Los Angeles the next morning they find an eerie sight. Buildings, cars, and all other structures and objects have been left standing, but the people have vanished from the face of the city, having been reduced to red powder. The three young people search for other survivors, and they find some. But unfortunately these others were slightly exposed to the strange light's chemicals. The result is that their blood is drying up and they have become vampire-like zombies. They are out for blood, and so our three heroes have to steer clear of them. They take refuge in a well-fortified radio station.

But the plot thickens when it turns out that a group of scientists has also survived the devastation of the comet. They were enclosed in an underground laboratory made out of

steel, and they want to capture the survivors that are on the ground so that they can experiment on them.

Night of the Comet is one of the silliest movies to come out this year, but as a piece of film-making it has a certain style, thanks to Thom Eberhardt. He was an Emmy winner who used to write and direct documentaries. His first big-screen project is certainly light-years away from anything he had done before. But he proves that he knows how to pace a fictional film and he also can write hilarious dialogue. Hopefully, this was intentional. I think that it was, because the whole tone of Night of the Comet is light and coy. I don't believe Eberhardt intends for us to take any of it seriously.

The performances of course are also lightweight, but heroine Catherine Mary Stewart makes some impression at least. She was in The Last Starfighter earlier this year, and she handled that light material well, too. Only time will tell if she can handle more dramatic roles.

Marauders win twice, lose once

All three Midland Secondary School Boys Marauder Basketball teams went to Orillia's ODCVI last Thursday.

Midgets managed to win 51-38, as did juniors 49-33, but seniors dropped their match 59-33.

Pacing midgets were Mike Dobson and John

Dollaire with 14 points each and Brent Price with 10 points.

ODCVI's Tim Jackson hit for 17 points.

In the junior game, both teams were even until the third quarter when Junior Marauders turned on the jets scoring 41 points in the

final two quarters.

Top shooters for juniors were Steve Kay with 17 points and Andrew MacMenemey and Brad Price with nine points each.

Seniors never seemed to get on track after the first jumpball. Midland trailed 2-16 after the first quarter, 9-28 after the second and just didn't have the steam to play catch-up basketball.

Top shooters for seniors were Sloan Campbell with nine points and Jeff Bales with eight.

Marauders' three teams will challenge Orillia's Twin Lakes today. Results will be published in Friday's Weekender.

Sports notes

Malibus spike Aquafine

Commodore Malibus Ladies Volleyball Team won both matches against Georgian College from Orillia and Barrie Aquafine at St. Theresa's High School on Wednesday.

In the first match, Malibus trailed in the first game 10-2 before the team caught fire and pulled off a 15-10 victory.

The second game was a fairly easy victory with the Malibus winning the game and match 15-8.

The next game on the schedule brought Georgian up against Aquafine. Aquafine won the first game 15-11, but Georgian didn't let up winning the final two games 15-11 and 18-16.

Malibus finally got their chance to play Aquafine which they totally demolished 15-4 and 15-2.

Malibus attributed their wins on hard hitting and fast moving on the court.

Next games for

Malibus will be in Stayner against Collingwood and Orangeville on Dec. 19.

MOVIE GUIDE

ROXY TWIN THEATRES 526-5791

ROXY 1 Starts Friday 9:00.

7:15 Footloose plus **INDIANA JONES and the TEMPLE OF DOOM**

ROXY 2 Starts Friday for 4 weeks 7 and 9:15

STARMAN Jeff Bridges and Karen Allen

No passes coupons, etc. please.

Sat. Matinee 1:30 - Three Stooges in Orbit - Free admission

(sponsored by CKMP and Midland Times)

Santa will give out treats.

PEN TWIN PENETANG 549-2953

PEN 1 Now showing for 3 weeks 7 and 9:05

No passes, coupons, **BEVERLY HILLS Cop** etc. please

Sat. Matinee 1:30 - Batman - Sally Ann Tin Can Show

Bring a can of food for admission.

PEN 2 Fri.-Sat. Dec. 14-15.

7:15 Bruce Lee in Chinese Connection plus **Bruce Lee Return of The Dragon**

Sun Dec. 16 to Thurs. Dec. 20

7:15 **in Love** plus **The SURROGATE**

9 p.m. **RESTRICTED**

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