

**Markham Movie Scene**

**The Clairvoyant just tingles**

**By IAN BAILEY**  
**THE CLAIRVOYANT:** As played by Elizabeth Kemp, Verna Nightbourne, the heroine of this movie, is an artist and a psychic. The two are related because her art is a series of murders that her powers are tuning into.  
 In this low-key suspense tale, a killer in New York begins to murder a series of victims in various ways that all involve the use of handcuffs. Nightbourne begins to take an astral view on the murders and compulsively sketch them in charcoal.  
 Her sketches draw the attention of three characters: the Detective (Norman Parker) searching for the killer, a sleazy TV-reporter (Perry King of TV's "Riptide") who wants to exploit her and — of course — the killer.

The Clairvoyant is hardly an electrifying thriller — tingling is probably a more accurate description of its effects. Most of the performances are either wooden (i.e., Kemp) or superficial (i.e., King) with only Parker striking a middle ground. Kenneth McMillan (soon to be seen in Dune) and Joe Morton (star of The Brother From Another Planet) are wasted in supporting roles. The main point of interest is a clever plot line with a truly surprising resolution. However, as in the recent disposable thriller, The Surrogate, the narrative is brighter than the treatment given it by the Director. (R) \*\*½

**MARKVILLE CINEMAS**  
**JUST THE WAY YOU ARE:** Kristy McNichol stars in this overly sweet effort about a disabled flutist who struggles to develop romantic self-confidence. (PG) \*\*  
**NIGHT OF THE COMET:** The end of the world is played for laughs in this pleasantly entertaining tale of a comet that reduces most of the world's population to red dust leaving the survivors to fight off half-dissolved, cannibalistic zombies. For most

of the movie, writer/director Thom Eberhardt is adept at balancing a humor that springs from his ludicrous depiction of teenagers with good old B-movie chills. However, the movie loses focus as it progresses. (AA: Coarse Language, Frightening Scenes) \*\*  
**OH, GOD! YOU DEVIL:** Starring George Burns as God and the Devil in this engaging comedy. (PG: Swearing) \*\*\*  
**THORNHILL SQUARE**  
**MISSING IN ACTION:** Martial arts stunt-actor Chuck Norris is a one man army out to bring home all of the American

soldiers remaining in Vietnam in this oppressively bad rip-off of last year's movie, Uncommon Valor. (AA) \*  
**A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET:** A horror tale written and directed by cult-moviemaker, Wes Craven. (R)  
**A SOLDIER'S STORY:** One of the year's best movies. Starring Harold Rollins and Adolph Caesar. (AA) \*\*\*  
**RATINGS**  
 \*\*\*\*-Excellent  
 \*\*\*-Good  
 \*\*-Fair  
 \*-Poor

**What's On**

**Cullen Barns presents Christmas musical play**

Cullen Country Barns Christmas musical review, 'A Lot Like Christmas' runs every day except Monday until Dec. 23, with show times at 1 and 3 p.m. There is also a special Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.  
 Directed by David Scott, the review deals with the various aspects of Christmas. The show stars Valerie Sipes, Tim Murphy, Karen Brown and Craig MacDougall.  
 Cost is \$2 for adults, \$1.50 for seniors and students, and \$1 for children. For more information call 477-4475.  
 Elysian Theatrecraft, the new name of the Markham Young Peoples Theatre, is presenting the debut of Cinderella '84, an update of the classic fairy tale.  
 Written by L.S. Visconti, the founder and director, the show is set to open on Dec. 11 at Cullen Country Barns Playhouse Theatre.

the plight of a middle-age couple in an attempt to rekindle the flame in their marriage by using a sex-manual developed by a quack doctor. Needless to say, their attempt are hilarious when other characters become intertwined in the couple's bedroom antics.  
 It runs nightly Tuesday to Saturday until late December. For more information contact Deer Park at 640-6066.  
 Fernando's Village Restaurant continues to present 'Beyond the Fringe', a smash British dinner theatre comedy written in part by actor Dudley Moore.  
 The show is \$20 per person, and will finish its run in late December. For more information call Fernando's at 294-6523.  
 The York Symphony Orchestra will be presenting three concerts at the Marylake Shrine in King City.  
 Under the direction of Clifford Poole, the York Symphony will have a program that will include organist Michael Bloss and Tenor Albert Greer.  
 Jim Corbett joins the Orchestra as guest conductor for Handel's Water Music and Anderson's Christmas Festival.  
 The dates are Friday, Dec. 7 at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 8 at 3 and 8:30 p.m. The tickets are \$8 for adults and \$4 for seniors and students. They are on sale locally at Sam the Record Man in the Hillcrest and Markville shopping centres and the information booth at Thornhill Square.  
 The York Symphony will also be presenting a Young People's Christmas Concert on Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. at the Richvale Community Centre, 160 Avenue Rd. Richmond Hill. Admission is \$1 at the door.  
 The Cantabile Chorale of York Region will be presenting a choir concert on Dec. 3 at 8 p.m. at the Holy Trinity Church, Brook St. in Thornhill.  
 Although no tickets will be sold, there will be a silent offering to defray expenses. For more information call 889-8191 or 881-0817.

The opening night of the show is already sold-out. Tickets are available at the Miracle Food Mart in Markville Mall or by calling 294-5425.  
 'My Husband's Wild Desires Almost Drove Me Mad,' is the name of the dinner theatre comedy at Stouffville's Deer Park Inn.  
 Written by John Tobias, the show depicts

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**Entertainment**  
**The Creature Creeps**  
 fun and entertaining  
**By IAN BAILEY**  
**The Creature Creeps** is a silly play. Fortunately the silliness is intentional, calculated and entertaining.  
 The Markham Little Theatre production is a pastiche of horror movie clichés from popular images of Frankenstein and Dracula. The timeworn elements given new life here are best demonstrated by a main character who dresses like Dracula and speaks with the thick East European accent of Bela Lugosi.  
 He is Baron Donald Von Blitzen (Brian Nairn), a dapper, vampiristic mad scientist. Von Blitzen lives in his castle with his wife, Mariza (Elizabeth Wyatt), his aide Mord (Eric Newton) and his housekeeper Gretchen (Gail Weir).  
 As the play opens, various citizens have vanished from the nearby village. The events seem to coincide with the Baron's own mysterious plans which are interrupted by a visit from his daughter Daisy (Kerry Harman) accompanied by her fiancé, Frank Sterling (Bill Jay) and her friend Babsy (Allison Burnside).  
 The play's familiar images include an impressive set depicting the inside of Castle Von Blitzen, the vampiristic Baron and his aide, who seems to be a hybrid of the Hunchback of Notre Dame and the Fritz character developed by Dwight Frye in the 1931 Frankenstein movie. Yet the play owes more to The Munsters or The Adams Family than either Dracula or Frankenstein.  
 Writer Jack Sharkey and Director Stephen Turl have wisely realized that any play laden with these features can't be taken seriously, and that its strength is the vigor of its satire.  
 They may have gone a bit too far.

Much of the humor is unsteady with the one-liners missing. Worse, the Creature doesn't seem to know when to say goodbye. The play has an ending that drags on and on in search of the big laugh.  
 Yet, although the play's particulars may be off, the tone of the humor is pleasing even in a silly way. There are several funny features that are effectively repeated. They include an awkward slapstick routine involving handshakes and bows, screams ringing from the Castle's dungeon that are used strategically in the narrative, plus the nervousness of the Daisy's friends at the Baron's eccentricity.  
 In addition, while the writing may stumble, many of the performances are nicely done by cast members who cram life into their characters. They include Brian Nairn as Von Blitzen, Kelly Harman as his squeaky-voiced "blitzed out" daughter and especially Eric Newton, who is often quite funny as Mord.  
 Another asset is the technical work which effectively creates a sense of space beyond the set. The sound effects created by Terry Browne are an effective catalogue of echoes and creaking doors that gives the set vast, unseen space. Further, the lighting effects designed by Paul Court of Theatre Ontario are excellent — particularly a lightning storm that rocks the castle and suggests churning skies outside.  
 Performances of The Creature Creeps will be held at Markham District High School on Nov. 29, 30, and Dec. 1 at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$6, except for Thursday performances when students and seniors will be admitted for \$3. They can be purchased at Markham and Crothers' pharmacies or by calling 294-2815.

**Cinderella '84 opens Dec. 11 in Markham**

Poor Cindy Jones. Her father is re-marrying, and Cindy's new step-mother is a pretentious socialite with two daughters: One is a punk rocker, while the other is an arrogant debutante.  
 Pam Willcocks plays Cindy Jones in this modern-day fairy tale, Cinderella '84, put on by Elysian Theatrecraft. L.S. Visconti, founder of the group, both wrote and directed the production.  
 The group (formerly the Markham Young People's Theatre) will present the comedy starting December 11 at Cullen Country Barns Country Playhouse. The first night's show is already sold out.  
 Cindy's father and step-mother are played by Mick Joyner and Julie Jones. Tracy Carmichael takes on the part of Clare Carlton, while the other step-sister, Elizabeth, is portrayed by Barb Panter.  
 Cinderella's saving grace was a handsome, wonderful prince. Our Cindy has Prince Alonzo, an alienated aristocrat trying to raise money for the crumbling family estate. The part is played by Tom Helsop.  
 Tickets for the production are available from Miracle Food Mart at Markville Mall or by calling 294-4525.

**MARKHAM HYDRO ELECTRIC COMMISSION**  
**1985 RATE SCHEDULE**

Ontario Hydro has announced the wholesale cost of power to Markham Hydro will increase by 8.3% on January 1, 1985. Approximately 1.4% of the increase is to subsidize the Ontario Hydro rural rate and an additional 1.6% has been included to cover a Provincial water resources levy.

Markham Hydro Commission through careful budgeting and close scrutiny of capital and operating costs has been successful in absorbing a portion of the increase even though utility operating costs are substantially higher.

After careful consideration the Commission has recommended an average rate increase of 7.7% for residential and 7.8% for general service customers. Averages will vary depending on consumption and the increases if approved by Ontario Hydro will take effect January 1, 1985.

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Balance	.....	@ 4.63¢ per KWH
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Minimum Bill under 50 KW	.....	\$5.00
Minimum Bill Over 50 KW	.....	
Based on Highest Billing	.....	
Demand in Previous Eleven Months	.....	45¢ PER KILOWATT OF DEMAND
<b>ENERGY CHARGES</b>		
First 250 KWH	.....	@ 8.00¢ per KWH
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Balance	.....	@ 1.95¢ per KWH

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