

Eastwood, Hackman shoot up western

"Unforgiven"



By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

"Unforgiven," (Edgewood 3, Douglas 3) produced and directed by Clint Eastwood, brings together some of the best veteran performers that Hollywood has to offer, including Gene Hackman, Morgan Freeman and Richard Harris.

Unfortunately, Eastwood couldn't quite figure out what to do with them and the film wanders constantly (for more than two hours) in search of some sort of direction to follow.

Eastwood, Freeman, Harris and newcomer Jaimz Woolvett all play various types of gunslingers lured to Big Whiskey, Wyo., where a \$1000 reward has been offered for the deaths of the two men responsible for cutting up the face of a local prostitute.

movie

The local sheriff Bill Daggett (Hackman) attempts to keep the peace in the town through some good ol' brute force and intimidation — public beatings, and so the reward money is put up by the young woman's co-workers.

Eastwood plays William Munny, an aging gunslinger who has killed more people than he

can remember, whether he was drunk or not. Now a Kansas pig farmer with two children, he hasn't touched a drop or a gun in 11 years, but is haunted by his past.

The word of the reward brings him out of retirement to join his old partner Ned Logan (Freeman) and the young, brash Schofield Kid (Woolvett).

Together they all ride towards Big Whiskey and together they deal with each other's personal ticks and quirks in their chosen profession.

All the performers in "Unforgiven" do exceptional work, especially Eastwood. He's a creaky gunslinger who can't hold his pistol or horse steady. He also continually battles his past, attempting to keep from becoming what

he once was.

Freeman is good playing the role of Logan, but we don't get to see very much of him.

Hackman's portrayal of Daggett is wonderful. His character is one of absolute power and corruption, but keeps a sense of humor about him to make people think he is an OK type of guy.

Richard Harris' performance in the movie as the glory-seeking "English Bob" is good, but his appearance in the movie was surprising because his character had no real impact or purpose in the movie at all.

"Unforgiven" is full of violence, adult situations and oodles of profanity. It displays the darker side of the time period and is not a movie to take the young ones to.

'Raising Cain' Abel to star at box office

"Raising Cain"



By Gerry Beltz
Staff Reporter

After his extremely mediocre version of "Bonfire Of The Vanities" and the not-so-successful "Casualties Of War," Brian De Palma snaps back to his pseudo-Hitchcock directorial style with "Raising Cain" (Cinema Twin, 12th and P streets).

movie

REVIEW

De Palma's style, which brought him success in movies such as "Carrie" and "Dressed to Kill," features erratic camera angles, fine lines separating what is dream and what is reality and a truly eerie topic, have all returned with a vengeance.

At the helm of this story is John Lithgow as Carter. He's a child psychologist and a very nice, attentive father, who is also nuttier than a Christmas fruitcake.

Carter's problem is that he suffers from a multiple-personality disorder that causes him to see and talk to his "twin brother" Cain.

Cain is Carter's bad side. If something bad or questionable needs to be done, Cain either goads Carter into doing it or borrows Carter's clothes and commits the act himself.

"I guess I'll be you for awhile," Cain says with a devilish grin.

Usually Cain is dressed in black, complete with sunglasses and cigarette. He has a sinister voice, a diabolical laugh and is the personification of true wickedness.

Cain and Carter are "working together" to recruit children for their

father's (also played by Lithgow) research on child psychological development.

This scenario includes Cain and Carter kidnapping children from a local playground and disposing of the parents bodies.

Another of Carter's problems is that his Dad committed suicide many years ago.

Unfortunately, Carter's wife Jenny (Lolita Davidovich) has rekindled an affair with Jack (Steven Bauer) and Carter/Cain finds out about it.

Lithgow is terrific in this movie. He evokes sympathy for Carter, who doesn't have the backbone to stand up to Cain, while at the same time hypnotizes the audience with his portrayal of Cain.

Also turning in a credible performance is Frances Sternhagen as Doctor Waldheim, a former colleague of Carter's father.

She clears up a lot of the confusion in the movie and also adds a bit of comic relief. Sadly, her character is underused and introduced late in the movie.

De Palma is the real master of this movie. He makes use of some slow-motion photography, freaky lighting and gets inside the thoughts of his characters to move the story along. He also shocks the audience from time to time.

One welcome change from the typical "dual-personality" movie in "Raising Cain" is that the personality switch doesn't always happen off-screen.

At one point, Cain takes over for Carter as he walks down the hallway towards the bedroom. Not a word is spoken, yet the audience knows what has transpired almost instantaneously.

Also, as might be expected with a De Palma flick, there is some blood, a few adult situations and a lot of downright spookiness.

**Join us for Falls
Best Clothing,
Sportswear
& Footwear ...
with a Distinctive
style...**

the Post and Nickel

Corner of 14th & P

Thoroughbred racing season begins today

Lincoln's live thoroughbred racing season starts at 6 p.m. today, with the \$22,500 Inaugural Breeders' Cup stakes at six furlongs.

The 14-day meet will run today through Aug. 30, racing Wednesday through Sunday. Post time will be at 6 p.m. weekdays and at 2 p.m. during the weekend.