

Chapman

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As popular as Chapman is, many members of the crowd came not to see him but his opening act, the Australian alternative band Newsboys.

The Newsboys put on a great eight-song set. The stage was plastered with the title of their newest album, "Going Public." But they played only two songs from that album. The other six came from their second album, "Not Ashamed."

The Newsboys got the younger crowd to the concert, but it might have been the heartfelt lyrics of a 31-year-old man that changed their lives.



There are no small victories in the fight against heart disease.



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'Silent Fall' starts OK but crashes down

By Chad Johnson
Staff Reporter

An autistic child is the only witness to his parents' grisly murder, and it is up to retired child psychiatrist Jake Rainer to get the kid to identify the killer.

Rainer (Richard Dreyfuss) is pulled out of retirement as a favor to the local sheriff, Mitch Rivers (J.T. Walsh), who may or may not have some secrets of his own. At the murder scene, Tim Warden, the autistic child, has to be coaxed out of the idea of turning the authorities to shreds with a 12-inch kitchen knife.

Rainer comes through with his knowledge of the child's condition and the special techniques it takes to get in touch with him. Also at the scene is Sylvie Warden (Liv Tyler), who claims to have fought off the assailant but did not get a look at his face.

Dreyfuss' character is commissioned to discover the killer's identity using his techniques. Otherwise Tim will be given to the tender mercies of Dr. Harlinger (John Lithgow), who likes to use drugs and potions to treat autistic people.

As the case develops, Sylvie starts getting "closer" to Jake, and a certain tension ensues as Jake gets closer to discovering the truth.

Performances are good across the board, and Dreyfuss elevates the movie in spite of the script.

Quik Facts

Movie: "Silent Fall"

Rating: R

Stars: Richard Dreyfuss, Linda Hamilton, John Lithgow, J.T. Walsh, Liv Tyler

Director: Bruce Beresford

Grade: C+

Five Words: Autistic child only murder witness



Courtesy of Morgan Creek Productions
Richard Dreyfuss, right, stars as a psychiatrist, and Ben Faulkner stars as an autistic murder witness in "Silent Fall."

Linda Hamilton is positively domesticated in a role that is far removed from her gun-toting, terminator-trashing days.

Ben Faulkner plays Tim Warden, the silent witness. He does a remarkable job, and don't be surprised if last year's trend of kids for Oscars continues, with at least a nomination for him. Liv Tyler (daughter of Aerosmith singer Steven Tyler) is decent as ingenue-turned-nymphet, and John Lithgow continues his run of characters you'd rather not have your daughter bring home, portraying rival psychiatrist Rene Harlinger.

The direction is capable, as Bruce Beresford ("Driving Miss Daisy") handles the cast and the scenes reasonably well.

However, the director fails to challenge the viewer with any un-

usual angles or lighting. Both are cut and dried, because for some reason Berelson felt the need to telegraph everything to the audience well in advance.

The film does well as a mystery until the final reel, when it takes a sharp left and becomes a poor version of "The Hand That Rocks the Cradle," when Sylvie becomes Little Miss Psycho.

The abandonment of the rapport that develops between Jake and Tim is the biggest failing of the film.

Along the same line, Dreyfuss

and Faulkner save the film from being a waste of celluloid. Their acting lends weight to an otherwise light and airy film.

The writing starts off well, but it appears as if the producers held the original script hostage for an arms deal as the rewrite was completed.

Stagnant direction and unimaginative photography also hurt the film, giving it an even more disjointed feeling.

In essence, the whole of the film is not as good as the sum of its parts.

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Cho succeeds in spite of agent's words

NEW YORK (AP) — There's an agent somewhere who's eating his words.

"You're very funny and very talented," he told Korean-American comedian Margaret Cho during her first week in Los Angeles several years ago. "But ... no matter how great you are, I have to tell you that Asians will never go anywhere in this business."

Despite the agent's predictions, Cho became a successful stand-up comic. She performed 200 gigs last year in addition to countless specials on cable.

The 25-year-old also stars in ABC's "All-American Girl," the first sitcom to feature an Asian family. The show centers on the conflicts between Cho's Americanized character and her traditional Korean family.

In an interview with The New York Times Magazine on Sunday, she said the unnamed agent's advice shattered her at first, but now "maybe I should thank him, because he's another person who drove me to try harder."

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