

ARTS

and entertainment
July 24



"Bill and Ted 2" is Breath of Refreshing, Though Stupid, Air

By Dylan Callaghan
Staff Writer

Attention dudes: they're back, bogus and better than ever. When the empty-headed, surf-speaking personas of Bill and Ted first air-guitared their way onto the big screen in 1989, it seemed largely an exercise in sophomoric stupidity. It was the story of two brainless San Dimas dudes who escaped failing their high school history class by travelling back through time and recruiting the likes of Socrates, Napoleon and Lincoln to help them make the grade. The scenario provided the foundation for a non-stop play on the retarded mentality of the adolescent, pizza-consuming, wannabe rock stars Bill and Ted, and set up such classic situations as Genghis Khan getting in a fight at a sporting goods store and Napoleon spending a day at the local waterslide park.

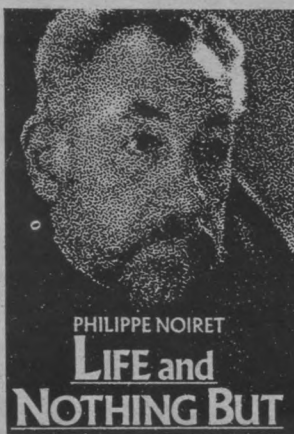
Funny stuff, if you could let your standards slide for a few hours. It was the kind of movie that even the makers thought would most likely bomb.

As it turned out, the unabashed juvenile dumbness of *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure* spoke to many

See BOGUS p.3A



TWO THUMBS UP!
Great Summer Films at UCSB



From the director of *Round Midnight*. "A passionate and funny movie - large scaled, panoramic..."
-David Denby, *New York Magazine*

Winner of 13 International awards. Directed by Bertrand Tavernier

Thu., July 25 / 8 PM
UCSB Campbell Hall

The **ICICLE THIEF**

"...Celestial, a comic and satiric and slapstick heaven for movie obsessed angels."
- Jay Scott, *Toronto Globe*

Directed by Maurizio Nichetti, "the Italian Woody Allen"



Sun., July 28 / 8 PM
UCSB Campbell Hall

CALL UCSB ARTS & LECTURES:
893-3535 FOR INFORMATION



"Sea Gull:" Angst-ski!

◆ Stage Review

By Charles Hornberger
Staff Writer

Oh, horrible! The terrible angst of it all! To be the world's greatest artist, the world's greatest lover, and yet stuck in the body of a provincial, bourgeois only child whose mother knows only how to stifle, to demean, to kill the creative urge — Oh, horrible!

Straight from Hermann Hesse's Narcissus and Goldmund, from Stendhal's The Red and the Black, from Goethe's The Sorrows of Young Werther, it's... The Angst-Ridden Young Man!

Oh, sad!
Between the acoustic-tiled walls of UCSB's Main Theater, the fate of *The Angst-Ridden Young Man* played itself out once again last weekend — without a new twist. Guess who dies in the end.

In an unstriking combination of better-than-average acting and less-than-average directing, the Theatre Artists Group put forth a rigorously academic production of Chekhov's *The Sea Gull* Friday night, recreating the lives of a mildly sociopathic group of 19th century Russian manic depressives as if nearly 100 years had *not* passed since the original play graced the stages of Moscow.

They did a good job at what they tried to do, but it was like Greg Louganis performing a perfect swan dive in a backyard pool — maybe it's good practice and maybe it's pretty, but it's boring.

Making perfect 10s on the 1-meter theatrical springboard were UCSB faculty members Ann Ames (Irina) and Richard Ames (Pyotr) as the matriarch and her aging brother, and also Simon Williams (Dorn) as the self-satisfied doctor who is content to mock Pyotr's oncoming senility and stroke his own ego. While the student actors showed less theatrical maturity than their more seasoned counterparts, they put on emotionally charged performances with palpable zeal, linking them closely with the audience.

The set designers also created an extremely workable set, managing to conjure up images of Russia as we suppose it would have been back in Chekhov's time. Which is good, if all you're interested in is realism.

And that, apparently, is all director Peter Lackner was interested in this time around. When it comes to the directing, it was Greg Louganis trying to splash his kid sister using the "cannonball" approach.



Here's the "Sea Gull."

Given the opportunity to delve into the possibilities afforded by *The Sea Gull* — which contains the malleable "play-within-a-play" structure — the production came up with flat realism, going no deeper than Chekhov already did when he began examining the psyches of this whole sick crew.

The use of symbolic props or any sort of physical representation of the subconscious is shunned here, the play is treated, it seems, as if redefinition of Chekhov's world would be somehow sacrilegious. The quality of several of the performances, of the set design, of the lighting — of all of the play's winning points — fails to cover up the stifling refusal to depart from the "original" or to move away from "historical accuracy."

We've all heard the story of *The Angst-Ridden Young Man*. Oh, sad!



BOWLING IT'S A BLAST

Open 24 Hours • Automatic Scoring
Minutes from UCSB • A Great Place to Party
Billiards • Video Games • Coffee Shop

THURSDAY NIGHTS
9:30 - MIDNIGHT
ROCK N' BOWL

- All you can Bowl for \$10/person
- KTYD DJ plays rock videos
- Prizes from THE COMPACT disc Santa Barbara Goleta Isla Vista & TAPE STORE
- 99¢ Beer
- Domino's Pizza Specials

ORCHID BOWL

5925 Calle Real • HWY 101 at Fairview in Goleta • 967-0128

UPCOMING!



... Find out the scoop tomorrow night at 8 p.m. in **Campbell Hall** with Arts and Lectures' screening of *Life and Nothing But*. This is a good film by the director of that famous *film noir* jazz-comedy-thriller, *Round Midnight*, Bertrand Tavernier. The film stars Philippe Noiret and a host of other similarly talented big screen names. Bon Appetit!

Frank Stancati, pictured left, is the sinister, glittering — and apparently ill — master of ceremonies in the Music Theatre of Ventura County's production of the song and dance classic, *Ca-baret*. The nine-day run will blow doors on July 27 in the **Oxnard Civic Auditorium** at 8 p.m. sharp. If you wish to purchase tickets for the show, please call 1-800-366-6064.

Start up the popcorn! The good people at Two Thumbs Up! Productions (Arts and Lectures) have yet another splendid offering to serve up. From Maurizio Nichetti — "The Italian Woody Allen" — comes the highly acclaimed neo-realistic comedy *The Icicle Thief*. This highbrow critique of television will be shown Sunday, July 28 at UCSB's own **Campbell Hall**. Don't be a dope and miss it!



THURSDAY JULY 25, 1991

Fun all day - 11am to close

SPECIALS! SPECIALS! SPECIALS!

Commemorative T-shirts & glassware

SPIKE'S PLACE 6030 Hollister Ave. Goleta 964-5211



Keanu Reeves and Alex Winter star in "Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey."

BOGUS: Good Movie

Continued from p.1
 moviegoers (not really that much of a shock). People found appeal in the Spicoliesque duo and their wide-eyed, unknowing view of the world, and as a result, the movie was a surprise hit at the box office.

Still the fact remains that it was not a great film. Not even a good one, really. For the most part, the movie suffered from the dead horse syndrome by basing virtually all of its humor on the predictable and at times unamusing use of the valley vocab and intellect interacting with the great minds of history.

So, as news of its sequel, *Bill and Ted's Bogus Journey*, hit the air waves, even the most excellent of dudes had their doubts.

But just as the first surprised us with its success, *Bogus Journey* surprises us with a genuinely funny and boldly creative extension of the first film. It is a totally unpretentious funhouse of silliness that takes our unchanged Bill and Ted to the extremes of Life, Death, Heaven, Hell and of course, the Circle K.

Employing the fresh vision of first-time director Peter Hewitt, the new B & T sojourn overlays the same sophomoric interaction of the first film, with a new engaging fantasy world. Bill (played by Alex Winter) and Ted (Keanu Reeves) still break into air guitar at every

given opportunity, but you couldn't do it any other way. And the same joke still works because the situations in which they resort to it are simply funnier in *Bogus Journey*. Now they rock their air axes after being told by a 50-foot-tall, grotesque Satan that they can leave Hell, for example.

It's as if the makers of Bill and Ted have more thoroughly actualized their creation in the time since the release of the first film. *Bogus Journey* is a sequel which does what its predecessor was meant to do but couldn't. It looks better, is more imaginative and packs more laughs.

There is, however, a single jewel in the crown of this sequel that truly makes it sparkle. His name is Death, The Grim Reaper played by the hilariously deadpan William Sadler. From the moment he is unsuspectingly melvined (underwear jerked up at the waist) by Bill and Ted, to the scene where he announces in an effeminate German accent, "Don't overlook my butt. I work out all the time, and reaping burns quite a bit of calories," — this guy is ridiculously funny.

In another bit, spoofing a famous Woody Allen play, "Death Knocks," in which a Yiddish man challenges death to a game of Gin Rummy, Bill and Ted beat Death on their own terms — dominating him in a series of mortal contests including

Battleship and Twister. While it may sound corny, and it is, it is funny business.

But as much as one is inclined to love Bill and Ted unconditionally, there are still entirely heinous flaws to *Bogus Journey* which prevent it from being totally bodacious. Although the middle portion of the film — the fantasy Heaven and Hell sequences are bright, vivid and well-paced — the first 15 minutes are slow and comparatively unentertaining. While the body of the film is bold and energized, the setup of the plot is forced and awkward, as if the directors were attempting to get the necessary plot development out of the way so that they could get to the fun stuff. The result is a very disappointing start which may just as well have been left in the editing bin.

Similarly, the end of the film seems poorly thought out, rushed and disjointed from the body. It's not terrible but it is certainly an anticlimax, where the director attempts to tie together all the loose ends of the plot in one fell swoop.

For those of you who have seen the first, you will be pleased by this sequel. For those of you who are as yet unfamiliar with the Bill and Ted experience, go out get some pizza, drink some cheap beer, listen to some bad heavy metal and let yourself get stupid with this movie. It will leave you smiling and pleasantly numb.

CHRISTOPHER WALKEN
 NATASHA RICHARDSON

BUY 1 - GET 1 FREE! WITH THIS AD

The appearance of innocence.
 The heat of desire...

THE COMFORT OF STRANGERS

FRI. JULY 26-AUGUST 1
 7 & 9:15 + (2:30, 4:45) SUN.

VICTORIA ST. THEATER
 33 W. Victoria • 965-1886

CLIP AND SAVE THIS SCHEDULE!
 THESE ARE FEATURES AND SHOWTIMES STARTING
 FRIDAY, JULY 26

STUDENTS \$3.50 ANYTIME
 CINEMA FAIRVIEW RIVIERA

MTCC MOVIE HOTLINE 963-9503
 \$3.50 ADMISSION FOR SHOWTIMES DENOTED BY (BRACKETS)
 NO PASSES ACCEPTED ON * SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS
 PROGRAMMING SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE

ARLINGTON 1317 STATE STREET SANTA BARBARA KEVIN COSTNER ROBIN HOOD (PG-13) (1:00) 4:00 7:15 10:15	FIESTA 5 916 STATE STREET SANTA BARBARA SNEAK PREVIEW SAT. 8:00 * DOC HOLLYWOOD (PG-13) ANOTHER YOU (R) (12:45 3:00) 5:15 7:30 9:45 BILL & TED'S BOGUS JOURNEY (PG) (11:30 1:30) 3:40 5:45 8:00 10:15 101 DALMATIANS (G) (11:00 1:00) 3:00 5:00 7:00 DUTCH (PG-13) 9:00 ONLY POINT BREAK (R) (12:00 2:30) 5:00 7:45 10:15 NAKED GUN 2 1/2 (PG-13) (5:15) 7:30 9:45 SAT. (11:15 1:15) 3:15 5:15 10:00 SUN. (11:15 1:15) 3:15 5:15 7:30 9:45 ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW FRIDAY AT MIDNIGHT	METRO 4 618 STATE STREET SANTA BARBARA KATHLEEN TURNER V. I. WARSHAWSKI (R) (12:45 2:50) 5:00 7:15 9:35 CHRISTIAN SLATER MOBSTERS (R) (12:10 2:35) 5:00 7:30 10:00 HARRISON FORD REGARDING HENRY (PG-13) (12:15 2:45) 5:15 7:40 10:10 BILLY CRYSTAL CITY SLICKERS (PG-13) (12:00 2:30) 5:15 8:00 10:20
GRANADA 3 1216 STATE STREET SANTA BARBARA ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER TERMINATOR 2 (R) (1:00) 4:00 7:00 10:00 DOWNSTAIRS LIFE STINKS (PG-13) (12:30 2:40) 5:00 7:20 9:30 UPSTAIRS BOYZ 'N THE HOOD (R) (12:30) 3:00 5:30 8:00 UPSTAIRS	FAIRVIEW TWIN 251 N. FAIRVIEW GOLETA ALL SHOWS \$3.50 W/STUDENT I.D. 101 DALMATIANS (G) (12:30 2:30) 4:30 6:30 CITY SLICKERS (PG-13) (2:00) 4:20 6:50 9:30 NAKED GUN 2 1/2 (PG-13) 8:15 10:05 SWAP MEET 907 S. KELLOG AV., GOLETA INFO 964-9050 EVERY SUNDAY SANTA BARBARA DRIVE IN 7AM - 3 PM	RIVIERA 2044 ALAMEDA PADRE SERRA SANTA BARBARA MUST END AUGUST 21 TATIE DANIELLE (UNRATED) FRI. & MON - THURS. 7:00 9:15 SAT/SUN (12:15 2:30) 4:45 7:00 9:15 SPECIAL MAT. WED. AT (2:00) CINEMA TWIN 6050 HOLLISTER AVE. GOLETA ALL SHOWS \$3.50 W/STUDENT I.D. BILL & TED'S BOGUS JOURNEY (PG) (1:15) 3:25 5:30 7:45 9:55 TERMINATOR 2 (R) (1:20) 4:05 7:00 9:50

ARLINGTON TICKET AGENCY INFO 963-4408

A TICKETMASTER OUTLET

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
 ALL COUNTY BOWL SHOWS

CHRISTIAN SLATER · PATRICK DEMPSEY · RICHARD GRIECO · COSTAS MANDYLOR

MOBSTERS

They didn't take orders... They took over.

STARTS FRIDAY
 FIESTA 5
 SANTA BARBARA

METROPOLITAN THEATRES

THE Anaconda
 935 Embarcadero Del Norte 665-3112
 THUR. 7/25
COMMON SENSE
 FRI. 7/26
 PMS
 Threatened hope
 Agent 94
 Porcelain Oyster
 SAT. 7/27
CHRIS & COSEY
 with A Politique
 & Scar Tissue
 MON. 7/29
 Einstein's Mystic Plumber
 Sleepwalkers
 puppet show
 TUES. 7/30
ALTERNATIVE DANCE
 Upcoming Shows
 8/2 PATO BANTON
 w/ the Itch
 8/3 SHADOW PROJECT
 w/ This Assension
 8/5 Selector
 8/7 the DICTATORS
 w/ Lunachicks
 8/8 KING MISSILE
 8/13 THRILL KILL CULT
 TICKETS & INFO c/o The Rockhouse
 665-5901 • charge by phone

THE E-BAR
LATE NIGHT

Drink-Study-Drink-Study???

9-11 pm Late Night
 Happy Hour
 soothe your thought process

MON 2 for 1 Well Drinks
 TUE Margarita Pitchers \$2.00
 WED \$1.50 Long Island Iced Teas
 THUR Heineken Pitchers \$3.00
 FRI Domestic Beer Pitchers \$2.50

Elephant Bar
 RESTAURANT
 521 Firestone Blvd.
 Santa Barbara • 964-0779

\$8⁰⁰ Off Style Cuts
OR
25% Off
Perms,
Highlights & Cellophanes
for 1st time clients only
Good till Aug 16, 1991

**Isla Vista Hairstylists
& Retail Center**



955C Embarcadero del Mar, I.V. 968-4415



50¢ OFF
OMELETTES

WEEKDAYS ONLY w/coupon
Expires July 31, 1991 • Limit one per customer

We're located
in Isla Vista
2nd Story
Corner on
Emb. del Mar
& Pardall

968-1993 Open Weekdays 7:00 am-1:00 pm
Weekends 7:30 am-2:00 pm



Bring Us Any Competitors' Ad
& We Will

BEAT THEIR PRICE!

**Billboard Top 100
&
ALL New Releases
Always On Sale!**

REG. CD's
\$12⁹⁹

REG. TAPES
\$7⁹⁹

Cash Paid For
Your Used CDs
& Tapes

THE COMPACT
disc
& TAPE STORE

Isla Vista
6540 Pardall (Next to Freebird's)
685-9695

Mesa
1835 Cliff (Next to Captain Video)
963-1133

Goleta
189 N. Fairview (Next to Captain Video)
683-2272



State of New Music ... Ripe!

By A.J. Goddard
Staff Writer

NEW YORK CITY, N.Y.
— The New Music Seminar may be a lot more hype than core, and it also may well be the biggest schmooze-fest yet to materialize within the boundaries of the U.S. of A. But it is also — without a doubt — the only place where the music-loving populous can converge in 25 different clubs in a single city and have performances by about 500 artists at their fingertips within a single six-day period. Color us dizzy.

Needless to say, it is impossible to experience even a small fraction of these artists at the seminar, but the nifty little badge they give you is your ticket to freely hop around from club to club to New York club as much as is humanly possible and enjoyable, peering in on musicians, DJs, MCs and noisemakers from all over the world every night of the seminar.

So industry schmucks from everywhere consolidate into one big hotel in New York every July and give a feeble attempt at dissecting the "new music" of today and mapping out where it stands. They mumble and grumble and

try to come to conclusions while stating some far-off substantialities, searching for solutions to the disgusting state of mainstream and top-40 "music" due to the pitiful emptiness of the American listener.

A good idea, but the reality of all of these record/radio/press/artist peoples agreeing on any issues enough to really make a difference is quite vacant. Nonetheless, it's a good exercise.

Most important and vital to the seminar is the music that all attendees are exposed to. You'll see shows you probably wouldn't normally pay to see and you may be pleasantly surprised.

So the dope on the most bitchin' new or semi-new stuff from one seminar-goer's experience follows:

• **Smashing Pumpkins**, Monday, July 15 at CBGB'S — Caroline Records presents a night of their best new stuff and the Smashing Pumpkins brought an extremely packed, stuffy, smoky nightclub of peoples to its sweaty knees, leaving scars that will now be proudly exposed with stories told for eons after. The crowd was mellow for the melodic Springhouse, immediately before, as well as for the self-deprecating, somewhat humorous Hole

that followed. But as soon as the Smashing Pumpkins took the stage, a complete rage of healthy slamming commenced. Even during the "slower songs" the hefty dose of testosterone oozing through the club continued to smash bodies against bodies against walls against stage. This is a band who holds its own reins and are on a ride to a definite destination stronghold in the music spotlight. Vocalist/guitarist/songwriter, Billy Gorgan claims what is his and croons with a soft intensity that blew all the circuits and mesmerized all the minds. Stay tuned.

• **Pearl Jam**, Wednesday, July 17 at Wetlands — An absolutely astonishing display of musicianship with some of the most soulful, honest, beautifully wrought music your ears will ever be blessed with. Two of the Mother Love Bone guys joined forces with another Seattle guitarist and drummer, swiping a new singer from San Diego, and here we have Pearl Jam — much of the same outfit that made up the Temple of the Dog project earlier this year. It just keeps getting better. Support for their new efforts swarmed the club in Mother Love Bone and Green River T-shirts, anxious to hear the new band.

And if that music didn't caress the souls of all who were present, nothing ever would. The first song sparked a fiery pit of slammers, but singer Eddie Vedder climbed tenderly into the crowd and made them all ease down, saying something about everybody being nice and just having a good time. And like magic, everybody relaxed and had a damn good time. Finally, these guys may get to experience the success and exposure that their intense and perfected artistry deserves. The high in that room was more potent than any crackhouse or hemp field could ever reap and it's still flowing in these veins. When Pearl Jam comes to town, go see. When their forthcoming album comes out in August, go get it. It's a sure bet to blow your mind.

Other apparently pretty amazing shows included Boogie Down Productions, Urge Overkill, Superchunk, Swervedriver, D-Extreme, Skynyrd, The Jesus Lizard and Ned's Atomic Dustbin.

So here's the "new music." Get out of the safe mainstream and check some of it out. Because no seminar is going to transform the mainstream into something worthy. Only the listening public's demand of it can do that. So hop on.

Van Hagar Does it Old and Bold

◆ Album Review

By Dan Hilldale
Staff Writer

Gripping guitar work and good, loud music about sex is what Van Halen was built on. Their last few albums seemed to have focused the band on "serious" love songs with mushy hooks, leading people to believe that maybe one too many of the guys got married. But most would agree that they lost their edge before even that — after balding crooner David Lee Roth left — and maybe even as early as the 1984 album. Fortunately for rock fans worldwide, they have at least partially returned to the good old Van Halen stuff on their new album, *For Unlawful Carnal Knowledge*, which spells F.U.C.K., doesn't it? Maybe they're all single again.

This Sammy Hagar guy can scream, and he likes to say "Hey!" but, needless to say, he's neither as

loud nor as expressive as Lee Roth. Still, the new Van Hagar rocks a little harder and does a little more damage than their last couple of tries. And, thankfully, the style that produced such schmaltzy hits as "When It's Love" is less evident in the guitar-laden tracks. "Hey!" This is good news.

"Hey!" Eddie seems to have given up on the whooshing, saccharine-laced keyboards and returned to raunchy, creative guitar, and he's even come up with a few new tricks. For instance, on the first single, "Poundcake," he plays the guitar with a power drill. "Hey!" In the video he even has the drill gussied up to look like his favorite red and white guitar. Pretty neat. "Hey!"

This album is steel and nails and Hagar manages to keep up throughout. It really sounds like Van Hagar is trying to revive the old Van Halen, and it almost works. However, it's just a bit over-produced and carries less bite than the Lee Roth ver-



"Eddie" Van Halen.

sion. "Hey!" For proof of this, do what I did. Listen to "Poundcake" and then refer immediately to "Mean Street" on *Fair Warning*. Do it and you will agree.

All the same, F.U.C.K. is worth a listen if you like either incarnation.

RENTAL NETWORK

serving your rental needs!

**WE ARE NOT
JUST FOR MOVIE RENTALS!**

(although we do have the best selection)

- Phone Machines \$18/month
- Televisions..... \$35/month
- Microwaves..... \$18/month
- Camcorder..... \$44/day
- VCRs \$35/month

coupon
2 for 1
MOVIE
RENTALS
with this coupon
RENTAL NETWORK
685-7879

*Ask about our low quarterly rates!!

6530-B Pardall Rd.

685-7879

Reggae & World Beat

Compact Discs
and Cassettes

Get some exotic music for modern times! From Aswad to Zahounia, you'll find the largest selection of Reggae & World Beat music available.

We'll recycle your CD longbox!

**morninglory
music**

ISLA VISTA • 968-4665
910 Embarcadero del Norte
Open 10-10 Daily, 12-8 Sundays

SANTA BARBARA • 966-0266
1218 State Street
Open 10-10 Daily, 10-6 Sundays

