



At the movies

# Terminator delivers action

By Sean Axmaker

Of the Emerald

Arnold Schwarzenegger has finally found his ideal part in "The Terminator," a movie in which he plays a totally emotionless assassin — a veritable unstoppable killing machine — who has come from the future to eliminate one Sarah Conner (Linda Hamilton), the future mother of a future hero.

Another scarred, confused human named Kyle Reese (Michael Biehn) also arrives to save Sarah and, in the process, save his race from extermination. It is a battle of human spirit and determination over superhuman power and skill.

The plot is simple, but clever, science fiction, and the pieces fit together well. Director James Cameron and producer Gale Anne Hurd (Roger Corman "School of Hard Knocks" graduates) co-wrote the screenplay. Their background is evident. Like the best of the Corman films, "Terminator" makes the most of inexpensive production and flies along at a pace that doesn't let one ponder

over specifics for too long.

The film isn't anything more than action-adventure with a liberal dose of violence, handled in good taste for the most part. Still, Cameron and Hurd are good at what they do. And although the film is ultimately pretty fatalistic (the war is inevitable), it does provide some humor along the way.

The clever visual touches (Schwarzenegger crushing a toy car as he drives up to a victim's house and the sign on the side of a police car he stole reading "To care and protect") suggest that a little thought went into making the film.

The film is at its best in the shootouts and car chases, however, which are swiftly paced and very tense. At one point, the Terminator destroys an entire police station looking for Sarah, who cowers helplessly under a desk as every policeman is murdered. The sequence is hard-hitting and concentrates not on the bloodshed, but the relentlessness of the Terminator and the powerlessness of Sarah.



Arnold Swarzenegger

Cameron and Hurd have made a surprisingly entertaining adventure in "Terminator," a violent but well-made "B" movie, highlighted by fine acting, decent make-up and special effects and superb stuntwork. The film delivers far more than it promises.

# Reprieve for cable thieves

By Cynthia Whitfield

Of the Emerald

Group W Cable is offering a "Fresh Start Program" for area residents now receiving cable service illegally.

The month-long program is designed to allow people who are illegally using the service to turn in altered or unauthorized converter boxes, unplug illegal connectors, or sign up at the Group W Cable office for authorized service without fear of prosecution.

"All a customer has to do is bring in their converter box or report they're illegally connected. We'll give them a written guarantee to assure them there'll be no penalties," says Paul Helford, Group W programming and marketing sales director.

"Many cable thieves don't realize it's a crime to steal cable. Until recently, all T.V. was free. That's not the case now. It's (cable theft) the same thing as leaving a hotel without paying the hotel bill," he says.

Group W Cable General Manager Brian Sullivan agrees, but asserts there are two kinds of illegal cable service - those obtained by active or passive means.

Persons moving to new homes and utilizing cable service left over by old residents are passively receiving the service. An active thief "goes out and does something to secure it,"

Sullivan says.

Sullivan says Group W Cable will be using new equipment to detect theft of service and will coordinate its efforts with local law enforcement agencies.

"We have good relations with the district attorney's office. If they review our case and find it valid, subsequent prosecution could include a fine and/or jail sentence," he adds.

Past penalties for the crime have ranged from a \$100 fine to one sentence that included four days in jail, a \$250 fine and a year's probation.

The cable industry estimates it lost \$400 million nationwide in 1982 to cable thieves. Locally, about 2 percent of the homes in the Eugene-Springfield area are receiving illegal service with a loss to the company of \$110,000 annually. An additional \$5,500 in franchise fee is lost to local government, Sullivan says.

In addition, "an honest customer who pays is impacted by others on the line. If a neighbor is illegally connected, it could affect your picture. You call to complain about the quality of your picture, we come out for repairs and spend more money on maintenance. This is eventually reflected in the cost of cable service. It snowballs," he says.

The "no questions asked" amnesty period ends Dec. 14.



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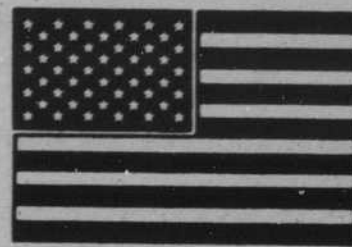
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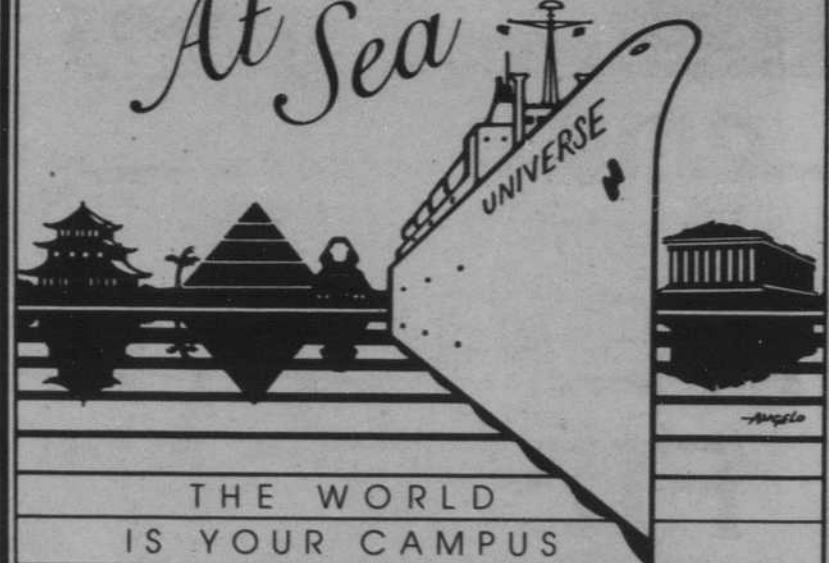
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