

Pulse

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Promo Photo of the Week
Robin Hood evades the Sheriff of
Nottingham's henchmen in this week's
prize photo. PAGE 8

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CHEAP THRILLS

Whether the time comes around to nurse a sunburn or simply be antisocial, the local video store is a prime option for whisking away the summertime blues. But not every movie seems as grand during the summer months. " Fargo " just doesn't have the same punch when you're sweating in your house downing lemonade to try to beat the heat. On the other hand, some movies just have more flavor during this time of the year, so the Emerald staff members have picked their favorite summer flicks.

'Goodfellas'

Jeremy Lang, associate editor

The American Movie Classics channel has been showing "The Godfather" trilogy all day to commemorate the Fourth of July, but a true summertime classic came 18 years later with Martin Scorsese's "Goodfellas."

Summer, especially in Eugene, can be pretty slow. Usually, the summer days and nights are slow in a nice, relaxed, good sort of way. But right from the opening scenes, "Goodfellas" takes people into the fast-paced, hot New York City borough neighborhood life in the 1950s. Maybe I'm just a sucker for some good nostalgia, but the games of baseball in the streets and the sound-

track with great summer tunes from the 1940s and 1950s add up to a great summer experience.

"Goodfellas" is also one of the best screenplays ever committed to film, so it's a great movie for any time of the year. But there's something about coming home after a long day outside that makes it just feel good to sit down with a drink and watch Ray Liotta, Robert De Niro and Joe Pesci truly at the top of their games.

'Army of Darkness'

Darren Freeman, reporter

Every summer I get dumb. I leave school, work for pennies and take a lot of naps.

When I wander into a video store, what I'm looking for is a movie with loads of gore, swearing and catchy one-liners — a movie that allows me to shout out the lines in a dumb frenzy I haven't experienced since those great kindergarten "The Wheels on the Bus" sing-a-longs.

Typically, that movie is "Army of Darkness."

The main character, named Ash, is a crass and arrogant man who is whisked, by some sort of time warp, from his humdrum life as a housewares salesman to a horrible medieval Europe.

Armed with only his shotgun, a chainsaw and a brutish temper,

Ash must fight belching skeletons, biting books, trash-taking witches and even Lilliputian Ashes. His only goals: to find a way home and to blow up a lot of stuff.

After watching this cult classic half a dozen times, you'll befriend and impress important and cultured people when you use some of Ash's most colorful phrases, such as: "Yo, she-bitch! Let's go!" or "You ain't leading but two things right now: Jack and Shit. And Jack just left town."

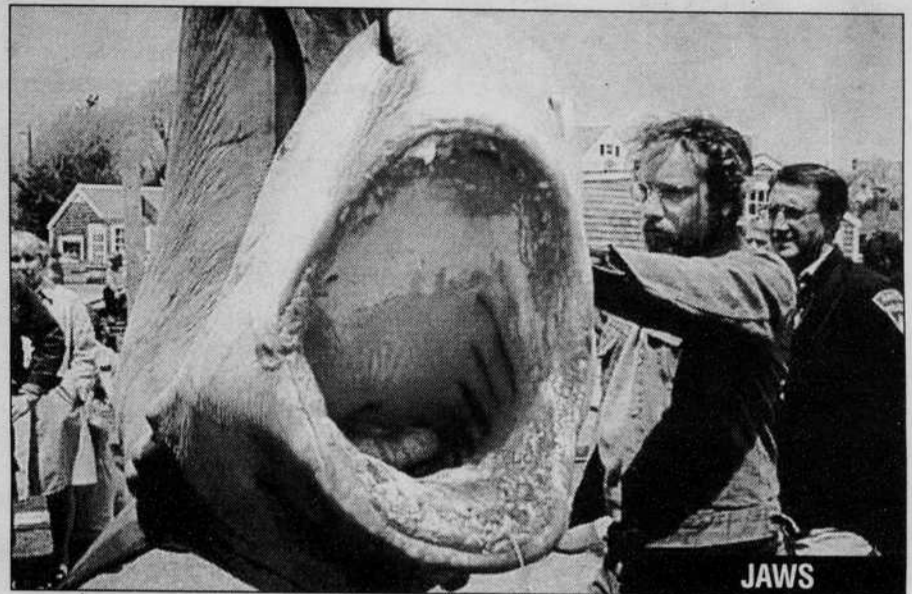
'Jaws'

Carol Rink, online editor

Nothing says summer like a few good shark attacks, a resort town uprooted in terror and an epic attempt by three men stop the great white monster.

I'm talking about the 1975 action-packed thriller "Jaws" — one of those movies that makes your heart beat with fear as you watch helpless victims fall prey to a giant shark and even freaks you out at the thought of swimming in the ocean again.

Sure, it has its "campy" moments, but the most impressive element of the movie is the way director Steven Spielberg develops all the characters into human beings we get to know and care about. You feel for police chief Martin Brody (Roy Scheider), who comes to the resort town of Amity to escape the dangers of being a New York City cop, but gets more than he bargained for. You cheer on Quint (Robert Shaw), the weathered mariner, as he sets out to sea in his old, leaky boat to kill the shark. And you pray for Hooper (Richard Dreyfuss), the shark expert and oceanographer who knows the immediate danger of the great



JAWS

white, but offers his help and jumps in the water anyway.

If you want to enjoy an instant artifact of commercial folklore, "Jaws" is the movie for you this summer. Plus, who can say no to that menacing music every time the terrorizing shark is near?

'Armageddon'

Kara Cogswell, reporter

Nothing says summer like the end of the world.

Or at least that's what Hollywood movie producers seem to think, judging from the release of summer doomsday flicks such as "Deep Impact"

or this summer's "AI: Artificial Intelligence."

Ordinarily, I'm not a big fan of these types of movies, but there is one exception — "Armageddon."

Bruce Willis and hunky Ben Affleck star as members of a roughneck oil drill crew charged with saving the world from the in-

evitable destruction of an approaching meteor.

Along the way to saving the world, Affleck's character also falls in love with the crew leader's daughter, played by Liv Tyler.

While it may not be the most realistic — or original — story line, between the eye candy provided by Ben Affleck in an orange jumpsuit and the tear-jerker ending when Willis gives up his life for the good of the human race, it does manage to be entertaining.

And after all, mindless entertainment is what summer movie viewing is all about.



GOODFELLAS



ARMY OF DARKNESS

Doughty, DiFranco prepare for consecutive concerts this week

■ Mike Doughty rolls into town Sunday, while Ani DiFranco swings through Monday

By Chris Ryan
for the Emerald

Two top-name independent solo artists will arrive in Eugene for shows this weekend.

Ex-Soul Coughing leader Mike Doughty will appear at Taylor's Bar and Grille Sunday, and singer/songwriter Ani DiFranco will come to the Cuthbert Amphitheater Monday.

Since she first began performing as a solo artist 10 years ago, DiFranco has built a rabid fan base through extensive touring.

Her show in Eugene on Sunday is part of a two-week tour of the western United States. She will also appear at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert

Hall in Portland on July 14.

DiFranco, 30, is touring to promote her new double album, "Reverling/Reckoning." Released in April and more than two hours long, the album's two discs feature both upbeat songs and acoustic guitar ballads.

At recent shows, DiFranco has performed many songs from "Reverling/Reckoning," as well as a selection of her older material. She has been playing the piano for some songs at her concerts, but her main instrument is still the guitar, on which she has a unique percussive style.

"She puts on a good show," said Sarah Fleming, a senior majoring in sociology and women's studies. "She's a great performer."

In 1989, DiFranco started her own record label, Righteous Babe. She has released 16 of her own albums on

Righteous Babe, including two with spoken-word artist Utah Phillips. Her solo albums include 1995's "Not a Pretty Girl" and 1997's live double album "Living in Clip."

DiFranco's Eugene appearance is one in a series of concerts at the Cuthbert this summer. The series started earlier in the week with a sold-out performance by Phil Lesh and Friends. Darrel Kau, the programming manager for the Hult Center, said there should be about 2,200 people at DiFranco's concert, which seats about 4,500.

"She comes in with what she wants to do, and her fans love it," said Kau.

Doughty is still relatively new to the title of solo artist. He began performing solo acoustic material after his popular band, Soul Coughing, broke up in March 2000 because of creative differences.

Soul Coughing released three albums on Warner Bros. Records in the mid-1990s. While 1994's "Ruby Vroom" earned the band critical acclaim, 1996's "Irresistible Bliss," featuring the single "Super Bon Bon," brought the band its first commercial success.

Doughty began putting together his solo album, "Skittish," while Soul Coughing was still together. After the band broke up, Doughty finished the album, which is available at his Web site, superspecialquestions.com.

The 31-year-old performer has already achieved some success away from Soul Coughing by lending his vocals to electronic artist BT's hit single "Never Gonna Come Back Down." He is appearing at clubs, bars and colleges around the country, playing songs from both Soul Coughing and his solo album. Doughty is

Mike Doughty appears at 10 p.m. Sunday at Taylor's.

Ani DiFranco appears at 8 p.m. Monday at the Cuthbert Amphitheater.

Tickets for both shows are available at the EMU.

partial to improvisation in a live setting, often adding lines from other artists' songs to his own songs.

Bjorn Estlund, the talent bar promoter at Taylor's, said he is excited to bring a big-name artist to the bar, which has a 200-person capacity.

"For a Sunday night in the summertime, it's already selling really well," said Estlund, who estimated the show would sell out.

Tickets for both shows are available at the EMU Ticket Office.