Culkin a surprising star as 'Igby'

Jen Kane
A & E Editor

Loads of wit, an assisted suicide, sarcasm, a schizophrenic, intelligence and a plethora of great actors – what more could a movie need? "Igby Goes Down" is the non-commercialized new film from Burr Steers, who makes his writing and directing debut. And what a way to start. As an avid moviegoer, I have to say this is the best movie I have seen in years. To put words to this film's greatness simply won't do it justice.

"Igby" stars Kieran Culkin (yes, Mac's brother, but don't hold his blood lines against him) as Igby Slocumb, a troubled adolescent born into a not-so-functional family residing in the rich parts of Connecticut. Raised on "old money" traditions, Igby finds himself getting kicked out of every school he gets into for bad behavior and having a smart-ass mouth.

His family consists of his hating, pill-addicted mother (Susan Sarandon), his schizophrenic father (Bill Pullman), who gets taken away during Igby's childhood, and his older, young Republican brother, Oliver, (Ryan Phillippe), who attends Columbia University and majors in "neo-facism." His relatives, along with the stuck-up schools he's been put into, eventually run him off to New York City.

In New York, he seeks shelter in a studio loft rented out by a young, hip, heroin junkie, artist Rachel (Amanda Peet), and maintained by his godfather D.H. Baines (Jeff Goldblum). Here Igby finds himself in a twisted love triangle. Soon enough he meets another girl, Sookie (Claire Danes), but then again that turns into a weird situation when Oliver, his brother, gets thrown into the mix.

With a terrifically tragic ending, this dark comedy is jam packed with greatness. Although the film is not extremely plot-driven, it is dialogue-heavy. It contains enough witty and intellectual humor to keep the brain at full attention for the entire two hours of the film. The only thing missing from this film was Brad Pitt... naked.

Released on Sept. 13, "Igby Goes Down" is rated 'R' for sex, drugs, and language. It is playing at Fox Tower Cinemas, located at Broadway and Taylor in downtown Portland.

INTERNET PHOTO

Kieran Culkin stars in "Igby Goes Down," as Igby, a troubled teen who finds his way on his own in New York City. 'Igby' also stars Susan Sarandon and Ryan Phillippe.

CD Pick of the Week

Isaiah Creel
Staff Writer

"Flint to the Stone Tool to the Wheel to the Lever to the Inline Plane. Click OK."

At the turn of the millennium, Doseone and Jel released "THEM," a psychedelic hip-hop odyssey through the mind of one Adam Druker. This revolutionary album has done little to change the popular culture view of hip-hop.

When the average person thinks of hip-hop, visions of pimps and hoes, bling-bling cash money, and bussin' a cap come to mind. It really doesn't help when the majority of mass media coverage is geared toward this ridiculous stereotype, perpetuating the tried and true clichés, which lead the educated person to dismiss this genre entirely. By dismissing this increasing influence on popular culture, one only denies reality. The only option therefore is to embrace it with open arms.

"But I'm not down with the potty profanity, constant degradation of females, and the overall lack of substance found within hip-hop!" Hold on there, Johnny! There's still hope for you within the hip-hop community!

"THEM," an album released in the year 2000, transcends the traditional, and brings hip-hop to a plateau of reason and thought which has been seldom duplicated in the past. "THEM" consists of the mellow, smooth and sometimes mechanically-syncopated beats created by Jel, and the eccentric, slightly nasal voice of Doseone, whose words flow in both machine-gun quick bursts and slow, elongated wax drips. The subject matter on the album is varied, but some topics include: brainwashing students through school, and the advancement of man/destruction of nature..

INTERNET PHOTO

The best way to find Doseone is by going to a record store such as Jack Pot Records (the only local retailer of Mush productions). Another way, which I strongly urge you to try, is referring your favorite music dealer to Revolver USA (distributor of both ANTICON, and Mush Records). Revolver's phone number is 415-241-2423. You may have noticed a different area code, maybe due to the fact that this is a California company.

Concert Corner

Thrice rocks the B-Complex on Halloween

Pete Ford
Staff Writer

This Halloween is going to be spectacular along with many other rockin' nights in October. This month is jam-packed with many different genres of music that won't put such a dent in your billfold. Cheaper shows are sometimes the best.

The featured artist is a personal favorite of mine, a band by the name of Thrice. If you have never heard the sweet melodies of Thrice, you are in for a treat. This four-piece group from Irvine, California to say the least, is simply unbelievable. They are a conglomeration of feel-good, blood-pumping music that is "combined with the lyrical phrasing of a literary wordsmith. Their powerful driving beats and buzz-saw riffs will literally leave you covered with goosebumps, and their melodic hooks and lyrics will cause you to look inward." –Hopeless Records.

INTERNET PHOTO

Thrice travels to Portland to perform their melodic beats along with two other great opening bands.

Thrice will be playing a matinee show Halloween night, October 31. So if you don't have anything better to do than sit around and pass out candy or get wasted and eat candy, you should invest a mere $10 in a ticket through all Fastixx outlets. Even your date will like it; it is some straight up, feel-good music. Thrice will be playing with two other very respectable bands. The first band, Hot Water Music, is a veteran punk band from Gainesville, Florida, with clean, catchy guitar riffs and close to a decade of work on twelve albums. The third and final band comes to us all the way from Kingston, New York. Coheed & Cambria are an innovative mix between heavy riffs, talented deep screams, and soft melodic breakdowns with a bit of high-pitched singing. Derived from everything punk rock, Coheed & Cambria is a new and outstanding band with a great sound that will make a perfect opener to a band like Thrice.

THRICE, HOT WATER MUSIC, COHEED & CAMBRIA
October 31st Happy Halloween!
B-Complex: SE 3rd in Portland (3 blocks from Meow Meow)
$10 advance, $13 at the door
5:30 p.m.

Great shows come to town in October

INTERNET PHOTO

Those in attendance at the Gwar show should be prepared for a musical drama, complete with crazy monsters and spraying blood.

Pete Ford
Staff Writer

DASHBOARD CONFESSIONAL, HOT ROD CIRCUIT, RHETT MILLER

Anyone who likes and appreciates the acoustic guitar will love this show. At one of Portland's most popular and exciting venues (bouncy floor and all), this will be a show to kick back and enjoy. These artists will rock the house without all kinds of crazy effects and ear-piercing thunder. You can even have a drink while you enjoy the show at the Crystal Ballroom's in-concert bar. They will play their hearts out for you and satisfaction will be guaranteed.

October 29th
Crystal Ballroom, 1332 W Burnside, Portland
$12-$15 at the Crystal Ballroom
Doors open 6 p.m.

HALLOWEEN HORROR SHOW GWAR

If you like drama and bizzare things than Gwar is definitely worth every penny to you. They are possibly the funniest show I have ever seen in my life...no joke. With their barbarian, half-man / half-machine costumes you will get two hours of non-stop mayhem. You will see anything from giant monsters giving birth to guts flying all over the crowd. I can not remember the last time I'd ever think to pop in a Gwar CD because it is too out of control for the ears...it is sheer noise. But going to see them live is a whole different story. I guarantee if you attend Gwar you will be a different person on your way out.

Gwar is at the
Roseland Theater
On the corner of 5th and Burnside in Portland
$25 advance through Fastixx
Show starts at 9 p.m.
21 and over only

MATT SHARP/GREG BROWN

Fans of Weezer and Cake will be thrilled to hear the ex-bassist and guitarist (respectively) are playing a minimalist set at a new club at OSU.

October 18th
Escape
Corvallis (OSU)
$10 students, $15 public
Doors open 6:30