

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

# 'W' Oliver Stone's Take on Bush

Controversial movie opens Friday

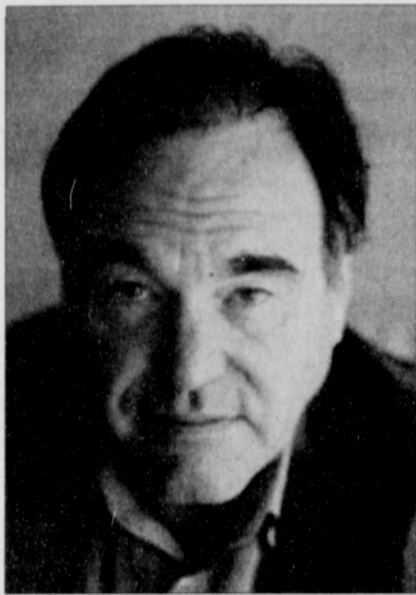
'W' Oliver Stone's film portrait of President George W. Bush was always going to be controversial given the director's liberal leanings.

So Stone decided to open "W." in U.S. theaters less than three weeks before Americans select their next president -- a calculated move aimed at prodding voters to think about the past eight years and the future.

The movie is part drama, part satire, yet the director of "JFK" and "Nixon" argues it is no hatchet job on Bush -- and so far, critics agree. The final verdict awaits the Friday, Oct. 17 debut for one of this fall's most widely anticipated films.

"Whoever wins this election, Bush's impact has changed the world," says Stone. "This man has left us with three wars -- in Iraq, Afghanistan and the war on terror -- and the legacy of the pre-emptive strike.

"These are legacies that will haunt his successor for years. It's good for people, before the election, to think about who they elected eight years



Oliver Stone

ago and about where we are as a country right now," the three-time Oscar winner said.

With Josh Brolin in the title role, "W." is a rare movie about a sitting U.S. president, made by a director whose past films have been criticized for mixing fact and fiction.

Yet Stone says audiences will not

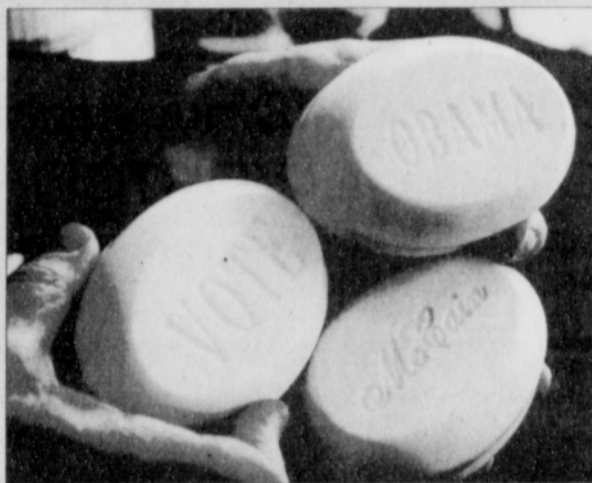
find the partisan portrait his critics might expect from the director of Vietnam war film "Platoon" and Cuban documentary "Looking for Fidel."

"It was not our intention to bring malice or judgment on George W. Bush and his administration. He and his administration clearly speak for themselves," Stone said.

Among early reviews, show business paper Daily Variety says the movie is a "clear and plausible take on (Bush's) psychological makeup, and, considering Stone's reputation and Bush's vast unpopularity, a relatively even-handed, restrained treatment of recent politics."

"W." traces Bush's transformation from a privileged, hard-drinking frat boy to religious convert; his rise from Texas governor to U.S. president; and to his decisions in the weeks ahead of the 2003 invasion of Iraq.

"The movie tries to understand Bush and make him a human being," Stone said. "I have tried to be fair and balanced. I have tried not to take sides."



Customers at a Cannon Beach boutique are favoring a soap engraved with Obama.

## Obama Wins by a Soap slide

No political poll is needed for Diane Speakman to predict that Barack Obama will win the presidency by a "soap slide."

Diane and her husband Jay own Sesame and Lilies, a home furnishings and décor shop in the Oregon coastal community of Cannon Beach. A hot seller this year has been "engraved" political soaps—one bearing Obama's name and the other one John McCain's.

As of Oct. 1, Obama soap had outsold McCain soap 450 to 24. The triple-milled French soap is made and engraved in Ohio.

"The company has been pretty amazed at what a large quantity of their

product we've sold," she continued.

"We have ordered and re-ordered Obama soaps. Women just love him and they buy 20 or 30 bars at a time," Speakman said.

While she would not declare her personal political preference, Speakman said the store also sells a soap bar that's engraved with the word, "Vote." "This soap appeals to the Independents," she explained.

As soon as the election is over, Sesame and Lilies will begin selling holiday soaps engraved with "Wish," "Peace," and "Noel." The luxury soaps are all-white, freesia-scented, with richly engraved typefaces and sell for \$6 each.

## Halloween Guide

### Halloween at the Zoo

Saturday - Sunday, Oct. 25-26 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. Trick-or-treaters at the Oregon Zoo get to participate in a scavenger hunt. The hunt will send them to different Halloween activities within the zoo and they will be rewarded with prizes and candy.

### Bungalow Rose Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, Oct. 18 through Thursday, Oct. 30, Bungalow Rose, 7545 N.E. Sandy Blvd., invites everyone to join the family-friendly pumpkin patch featuring: music, games, refreshments and lots of fun.

### Storm Large 'Halloweener'

Storm Large will perform with keyboardist James Beaton, for a special "Halloweener" cruise, Thursday, Oct. 30 from 9 p.m. to midnight aboard the Portland Spirit. \$20 per person. Call 503-2224-3900.

### Portland Corn MAIZE

The Pumpkin Patch, 16525 N.W. Gillihan Rd. on Sauvie Island is open through Oct. 31, Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. until 10 p.m.

### Kruger's Farm

Hay rides, a corn maze and animal barn are featured through Halloween at Kruger's Farm Market, 17100 N.W. Sauvie Island Rd., from 9 a.m. to sunset.

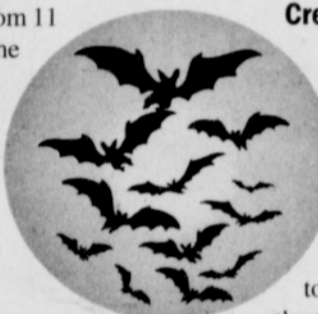
### Oregon Coast Aquarium Youth Halloween Sleepover

Children aged 7-11 are invited to a Halloween Sleepover at the Oregon Coast Aquarium in Newport on Oct. 24 and Oct. 25. To register, call 541-867-3474, extension 5301.

### Fright Town at the Rose Quarter

Fright Town with three haunted houses returns to the underground of the Rose Quarter with new haunts and horrors through Nov. 1. The 1031

Community Theater worked year-round on the planning and design so that fear awaits you at every turn. Tickets are \$20 at the door.



### Creatures of the Night

All ages and runs from 7pm to 9pm on Saturday, October 25th

### Shanghai Tunnel Ghost Tours

The Shanghai Tunnels, 120 N.W. Third Ave., are located beneath the streets of Portland. A tour guide will lead guests through the tunnels and will tell the history of them as well as telling about ghost stories of Old Town Portland. For more information, call 503-622-4798.

### Frite Lites

Located at the Washington County Fairgrounds in Hillsboro, Frite Lites runs from nightly through Halloween. Activities include two haunted houses, one of which is in 3-D, light displays, Monster land, and trick-or-treating on Halloween night.



### The Davis Graveyard

Halloween haunts will be sure to scare you at the David Graveyard, 8703 S.E. 43rd Ave, the corner of Johnson Creek and 43rd Avenue.

### Halloween Fantasy Trail


Open through Oct. 30 at 19754 South Ridge Road in Oregon City. For more information, call 503-631-2047

### Plumper Pumpkin Patch

11435 N.W. Old Cornelius Pass Rd. Open 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily through Oct. 31

### Untimely Departures

Tour of Untimely Departures at Lone Fir Cemetery -- Friday, Oct. 31, guests will experience the history of the cemetery and the unfortunate end of some residents. Guests will 'depart' at the Southeast 26th Avenue and Stark Street entrance: \$5 fee. For information, call 503-224-9200.



## Texas T's Barbershop

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 and deliciously sweet.  
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Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

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