



Bill Murray and Carol Kane: Scrooge was handing out the good lines in this one.

Murray gets Scrooged

Scrooged **
Famous Players Capitol Square

review by Dragos Ruiu

U h-oh, it's Christmas fluff time. And starting off another all-star season is a movie in the best tradition (read ripoff) of Dickens' celebrated novel *A Christmas Carol*. *Scrooged* is Bill Murray's first movie since *Razor's Edge*.

Murray has decided to go back to comedy after a less than successful bout with drama (can we say stinker?), playing an updated, eighties version of Scrooge. These days, Scrooge is a TV network president, Frank Cross, ripping Christmas off for every buck he can.

The beginning of the movie delves into just how nasty Murray's Cross character is, and it's great. Murray is at his best playing Attila the Hun crossed with Hitler. The gags run quick and hard hitting. There are some truly great moments: Lee Majors playing a Rambo type who is defending the north pole in "The Day the Reindeer Died." You have to love the truly eloquent

nastyness.

The big problem though, is that all the really good gags were included in the preview that is showing in front of other movies. Every single great line was shown before, and spoiled.

Then the ghosts arrive and the movie starts to lose it... The director and screenplay author, Richard Donner (remember *Goonies?*), strays away from comedy and tries to get touching. By the time we get to Scrooge, er, Cross recanting and becoming a really nice guy the movie has descended into a quagmire of corniness. Blech... all the sickly-sweet morality makes you want to reach for the air-sickness bag.

Even when Murray is trying to be nice, there is an edge of comedic nastiness about him. You want him to be mean because it is a heck of a lot more fun. He is better

FM 88 CJSR Weekly playlist

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 23, 1988

THIS LAST WEEKS
WEEK WEEK ON

CC = Canadian Content

1	-	1	Guerilla Warfare - Rhesus Pieces - He Dead/CC
2	12	2	Mendelson Joe - Born to Cuddle - Anthem/CC
3	4	2	Various Artists - Stay Awake - A&M
4	3	3	Various Artists - Folkways: A Vision Shared - Columbia/CBS
5	2	3	Steve Earle - Copperhead Road - Uni/MCA
6	-	1	Talk Talk - Spirit of Eden - EMI Manhattan/Capitol
7	19	2	My Dog Popper - 668 Neighbor of the Beast - Patois/CC
8	1	4	The Pursuit of Happiness - Love Junk - Chrysalis/MCA
9	6	2	Arlene Mantle - In Solidarity - On the Line/CC
10	18	3	Fishbone - Truth & Soul - Columbia/CBS
11	-	1	Danzig - Self titled - Def American/WEA
12	7	2	Miriodor - Self titled - Cuneiform/CC
13	9	3	Bill Molenhof - All Pass By - MTS/W Germany
14	11	2	Univiers Zero - UZED - Cuneiform/CC
15	20	2	Johnny Copeland - Ain't Nothin' But a Party - Rounder/Stony Plain
16	-	3	M.O.D. - Surfin' M.O.D. - Caroline/Megaforce/U.S.
17	8	3	Lloyd Cole & the Commotions - Mainstream - Capitol
18	-	1	Boyoyo Boys - TJ Today - Aural Tradition
19	5	6	That Petrol Emotion - End of the Millenium... - Virgin/A&M
20	-	1	Bootsy Collins - What's Bootsy Doin? - Columbia

EPs

1	-	1	Grant Hart - 254 - SST
2	10	2	Bicycle Thieves - Imperial Love - Solaris/CC
3	4	4	Wicker Man - Frightened - Ind/CC
4	4	5	Colour Nine - One Colour Grey - Ind/CC
5	1	7	Rin Tin Tin - Give Meech a Chance -
6	-	3	Sun Gods - Sometimes - Ind/CC
7	-	1	MC 88 & The Crush Crew - Tory Tory Tory - Ind/CC
8	5	2	Against the Grain - Eternal Holiday - Ind/CC
9	-	3	Antelope in Apache Land - Birdz Iye Vue -Ind/CC
10	8	2	Scramblers - Ain't that the Truth

when he is telling the prop man to staple the antlers on mice than when he is sad and touching (which never really works anyhow).

There is a brief interlude of fun when Karol Cane, playing the ghost of Christmas present, shows up. Her character is the best Cute and Masochistic angel I've ever seen (so what if it's the only one, it's still

the best). It's great to wonder how she is going to beat the beejezus out of Murray next.

So when it is all over, what do we have? A harmless comedy/star-vehicle for Murray with a few great lines, a predictable plot, and a list of stars longer than Heidi Abromowitz's date book. So it will make a lot of money at the box office. It isn't that bad, it won't make you think a lot, but it's kinda fun and a lot better than watching TV.

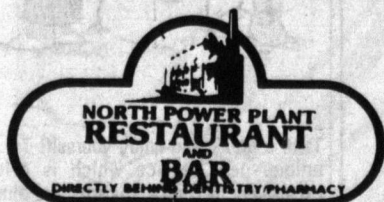
But the best deal for the money is to go see another movie and watch the preview for *Scrooged*. It has all the best bits condenses into three minutes, and you get to see another movie for the same price.

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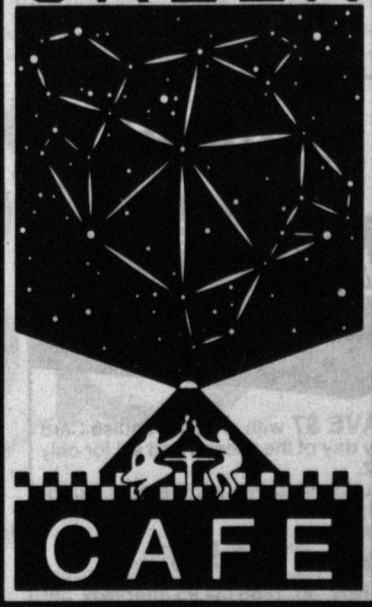


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