



Feiga Martinez, Sylvia Miles, Rachel Ticotin and Bob Dishy.

Predictable condition

Critical Condition
Capitol Square

review by Randal Smathers

This is not the funniest movie of the year. It is not the funniest movie Richard Pryor has ever made. On the other hand, it is not the worst movie Pryor has made, either.

What *Critical Condition* is, is a melodrama. Pryor stars as a totally inept real estate speculator, who is used by the police in a sting operation. If sent to jail, Eddie Lenahan, (Pryor) will be killed, so in desperation, he pretends to be insane in order to use insanity as a plea. This lands him in the psycho ward of a hospital on an island near New York. This is where the melodrama sets in . . .

It is a dark and stormy night, a murderer has escaped, the lunatics have (literally) taken over the asylum, the bridge is washed out, there is no power in the hospital, people are (almost) dying, the beautiful young hospital administrator-

trainee needs help on this, her first night on the job, when, out of the dark, comes . . . Doctor Slattery . . .

Dr. Slattery is also played by Richard Pryor, who is caught trying to escape from the asylum and pretends to be the unknown doctor in desperation. Sound a little far-fetched? Well it is, and it is pretty predictable, but there are quite a few funny places along the way, and somehow, by the end of the film, you actually give a damn how it turns out.

The whole movie revolves around one actor, but surprisingly, some of the funniest scenes belong to Randall (Tex) Cobb, the former prizefighter. Cobb plays the part of a psychiatric prisoner, with his faithful dog, Fido, another prisoner who only thinks he's a dog.

. . . And so kiddies, look for the continuing adventures of the good Doctor and all his friends next \$3 Tuesday, or any other \$3 Tuesday when you feel the urge for some nice, mindless escapism, but don't spend the whole six bucks . . .



The Album Playlist is based on Airplay — a combination of programmer preference and listeners' requests. Tune in every Sunday at 12:00 for the Alternative Countdown — the favorite albums, EP's singles and tapes.

Singles, EP's & Tapes

TOP 10 ALBUMS

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| 1. Three on a Hill — Biting On Tin Foil (Deep Ellum/ Pollution Control) | 1. Culturcide — Tacky Souvenirs Of... (Independent/Pollution Control) |
| 2. Condition — Red Hot and Blue (Amok/CC) | 2. The Garbagemen — Take It Away (Craps//CC) |
| 3. Blue Trapeze — Mask & Marquee (Independent/Pollution Control) | 3. Frightwig — Kill! Kill! (Caroline/Pollution Control) |
| 4. Young Fresh Fellows — Beer Money (Poplama-/US) | 4. Albert Collins — Cold Snap (Alligator/WEA) |
| 5. Hav! Human — Human Eighty-Six (Graven Image/Pollution Control) | 5. The Silos — About Her Steps (Record Collect/Pollution Control) |
| 6. Holland/Moore — A Short Cut (Rogue/Celtic) | 6. Courtney Pine — Journey to the Urge Within (Island/MCA) |
| 7. E.J. Brule — Alternative Scat Singer (Transmission/CC) | 7. Adrian Belew — Desire Caught By the Tail (Island/MCA) |
| 8. The Wombats — Mudpuddles (Homestead/-Dutch East India) | 8. Wild Seeds — Brave, Clean and Reverent (Jungle/Pollution Control) |
| 9. Santo — Music from the Street (The Source Unltd./US) | 9. Nick Cave & the Bad Seeds — Your Funeral... My Trial (Homestead/Dutch East India) |
| 10. Nudge Squidfish — Marriage Vows (New Age/-Pollution Control) | 10. SNFU — If You Swear, You'll Catch No Fish (Better Youth Canada/CC) |

Greetings and farewell Entertainment staffers:

Thanks to all of you who intrepidly interviewed, reviewed, and featured the entertainment scene. The section is not the work of an individual, but of many contributors. Thanks to Dragos for the reams of copy and opinions; to Melinda who braved Bim on 15 minutes notice; to Mac who reviewed the crowd; to Juanita who symphonied; to Glenn who loved to review the yukky movies; to Graham who would come through on a moment's notice; to Jerome who taught me the meaning of the word martyrdom; to Mike who wrote bribes into his copy; to Moreen who seemed overwhelmed; to Dean of the cue-ball flicks; to Matt who always got the *Globe and Mail*-type stories; to everyone who stopped in to chat.

The rewards of this job come mainly from the people you work with. I had a very rewarding year. Best wishes to you all and good luck to my successor. Be kind to the staffers... they deserve it.

Suzanne C. Lundrigan

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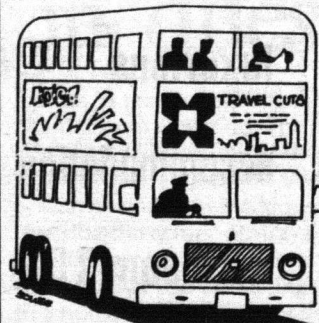
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