

REEL REVIEWS

CLUE - a board game goes to the screen

By TIMOTHY LETHBRIDGE
Brunswickan Staff

Clue

The idea of turning a board-game into a movie was unique, and it resulted in a unique and enjoyable film.

To most enjoy "Clue" one needs to know how to play the game of the same name as one will not otherwise appreciate some of the subtleties. The game Clue® (or Cluedo® as it is known outside North America) involves a board with a map of a large house. Game pieces include coloured 'people' (Colonel Mustard, Mrs. Peacock, Ms. White, etc) and weapons (a gun, a piece of pipe etc.) The movie involves all these details in an interesting although slightly hard-to-follow murder mystery.

In the film, all the characters are brought together to terminate a blackmail ring that they have all been involved in. Everyone becomes fearful of everyone else, especially when a string of murders occurs. The audience tries to determine 'whodunnit'. This is a film one might have the urge to see again; once one

has seen it for the first time one knows the killer and can more readily pick up the clues the second time around.

The ending of "Clue" is well written—when the audience is led to believe the movie has ended, it really hasn't!

The actors in "Clue" all take reasonably equal roles; nobody really stands out. The film was directed and largely written by Jonathan Lynn

Rambo First Blood Part II

Sylvester Stallone is back as John J. Rambo, the skillful special-forces Vietnam war veteran. In "First Blood Part II" he is sent back to Vietnam to photograph a P.O.W camp that supposedly still contains Americans, in exchange for release from prison.

Not only is Rambo up against the Vietnamese, he also has to combat American government agencies who want to clear the public's minds while making no effort to find any P.O.W's, let alone rescue any.

"Rambo" is an action movie with killing, torture, fire and explosions. The action is particularly well orchestrated, especially the helicopter scenes. As in most 'hero' movies the hero, although shot at hundreds of times is never hit; nevertheless, "Rambo" is more credible than many movies of its type.

"Rambo" is directed by George Cosmatos.

GIANT

directed by George Stevens,
starring Rock Hudson,
Elizabeth Taylor
James Dean

Giant was a movie destined to be talked about regardless of

how it eventually turned out. Based on Edna Ferber's block

buster novel of 1952, the movie was overbudget and overdue by the time it was finally released in October 1956.

More intriguing however was its sensational young star, James Dean, who was tragically killed before the movie was released.

His involvement with this movie and the hysteria it spawned formed part of the background for Robert Altman's film "Come Back to the Five and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean".

The critics of the time were unanimous in their acclaim of Dean's performance. "James

Dean, who was killed in a sports car crash two weeks after his last scene was shot in this film, clearly shows for the first (and fatefully the last) time what his admirers always said he had: a streak of genius." (Robert Hatch, *The Nation* Oct 20/56).

Rock Hudson plays the lord of the ranch, Bick Benedict, and Elizabeth Taylor is the daughter of a Maryland horse breeder. Dean plays Jett Rink, an ex-cowhand on the Benedict ranch.

Despite the obvious popularity of the actors the true star of *Giant* is its director, George Stevens, who was awarded an Oscar for his efforts.

At the Chestnut

By KAREN MAIR
Brunswickan Staff

Release, a five-man, one-woman band from Halifax, was on stage at *The Chestnut* last weekend, and the show was excellent, high-energy entertainment. In spite of the fact that I only arrived at the beginning of the second set, I was still inspired enough by their performance to dig out my pen and paper and start scribbling after only a few songs.

The first song I heard was *Shout* (Tears for Fears) and it was evident right away that both lead vocalists had strong, quality voices and that the band worked well together as a whole. The band then reeled

off hits by Pat Benatar, Elton John, Paul Young, Aretha Franklin and a second one by Tears for Fears. Not only did their repertoire appeal to me, but it also appealed to the small but appreciative audience that was at *The Chestnut* last Thursday night.

When the band closed their second set, though they had played quality songs, I was left wondering what was coming next. Most bands rise to the third or final set with something a little more attention grabbing than simply well-played tunes.

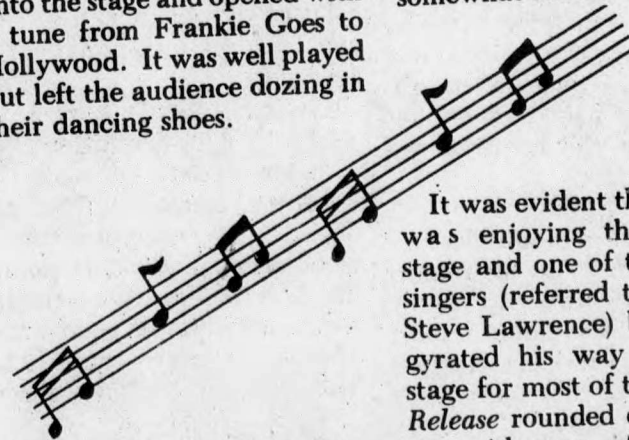
After some twenty minutes the band came quietly back onto the stage and opened with a tune from Frankie Goes to Hollywood. It was well played but left the audience dozing in their dancing shoes.

bourine for accompaniment, he gave his own version of Jeff Beck's *Head For Back Stage Pass*. It was excellent - and to be able to go from Prince to Jeff Beck is quite an accomplishment. People on the floor stopped dancing, the bar was silent and the bassist played on, oblivious to everything but his music.

Finally the band members casually strolled back onto the stage and the audience wound up the song with terrific applause. Riding on the crest of the audience's enthusiasm, the band went into another Prince tune, *Purple Rain*. The bassist still performed, but in a somewhat subdued manner.

It was evident that the band was enjoying themselves on stage and one of the two lead singers (referred to as 'emcee' Steve Lawrence) bumped and gyrated his way around the stage for most of the third set. *Release* rounded out the third set with one of their own original tunes, a song of Carlos Santana's, Kenny Loggins and Eurythmics.

Release was a tight band that put on a good show. They worked well together but I would have to say that the particular vocal talent of the lead singers, and the bass solo, made the show. My only complaint was the concentration of their energies in the third set. I would have rather heard more of the bassist's skills in the other sets. Oh well, I can't win them all. I'd go see them again in a minute, and would urge you to do the same.



Their next tune picked up the pace a little with the vocal and instrumental talents of the keyboardist in a Howard Jones number. With this song, a few people strayed out onto the dance floor and decided to stay when the band upped their beat further with Prince and *I Would Die For You*.

Suddenly, when the dance floor was full, the bassist, vocalist and guitarist left their instruments and walked off the stage. Just when the audience was beginning to wonder what was going on, the bassist started to perform. With only the drums and tam-

RATINGS OF RECENT FILMS

By Timothy C. Lethbridge

Film	Cinema	L	Y	G	S	E	S	N	T	Y	C	P
Enemy Mine	Na'sis	A-	A-	A	A	B+	B+	B+	B+	B	R	H
Rocky IV	Plaza	A-	B	A	B+	B+	A+	A+	B-	B	E	O
Rambo-F. Blood Pt. II	Plaza	A-	B	B+	B+	B+	A	A+	B	B	D	T
Clue	Na'sis	B+	B+	B	B+	C	B	A-	A	B+	I	O
Jewel of the Nile	Plaza	B	C+	B+	B-	C	A-	A	B	B-	B	G
Spies Like Us	Plaza	B	C	A-	B-	C	B+	A-	B-	B-	A	R

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