

# Woo, Van Damme team up for fun

By JOHN MONAGHAN  
SPECIAL WRITER

Call it a guilty pleasure, but "Hard Target," the new Jean YVES Van Damme action film, has more firepower than any movie this summer. It's an appropriate mindless burst of adolescent energy where bad guys run with clothes flames, heroes strike openly macho poses, and guns rarely require reloading.

Van Damme, in Durborn last week to promote the Friday release, aptly calls it "a ballet of action, of guns, kicks and punches."

Remember "The Most Dangerous Game," the short story you probably read in high school about a crazed hunter who stalks human prey on a private island? It's here, updated to modern-day New Orleans, where sportsmen pay \$500,000 to track homeless men.

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## MOVIES

nam veterans without families. "Hard Target" is the new Jean YVES Van Damme action film, has more firepower than any movie this summer. It's an appropriate mindless burst of adolescent energy where bad guys run with clothes flames, heroes strike openly macho poses, and guns rarely require reloading.

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Film Theatre. "Bullet in the Head" Woo's 1990 epic about three friends' journey through the hell of Vietnam, played in Ann Arbor earlier this year.

The trip to America was partly orchestrated by executive producers Sam Raimi and Rob Tapert, formerly of Ferradale and now Hollywood hot shots. "Army of Darkness," the third in their trilogy of " Evil Dead" movies, replaced The Three Stooges with John Woo as their most predominant influence.

Woo returns the compliment here in fact, you might think you're watching a Sam Raimi movie when the camera appears mounted to the spike of an arrow in flight. In the climax, Van Damme and the bad guys battle it out in a warehouse full of papier-mache Mardi Gras props.

While Woo often edits and directs his pictures, Raimi alumnus Bob Murewaki takes editing credit for "Hard Target." Rumors have also circulated that Van Damme, outfitted with his own private editing suite, had a heavy hand in the final product.

"I start from low, low, low budget movies, you know from 'Kickboxer' and 'Bloodsport,'" he says. "It becomes a habit to be involved in everything just to have a decent career."

The MPAA rating folks also had their say, insisting on seven different cutting sessions (mostly for violence) before they'd grant "Hard Target" the R rating needed for wide release.

"The poor guy," Van Damme said, "John was very depressed. They cut so much of his movie."

The experience obviously hasn't soured Woo on Hollywood, where he now resides. While Van Damme would like to work with Woo again, he said that the director has a project in the works with Quentin Tarantino ("Reservoir Dogs") and is also taking meetings with Sylvester Stallone.

If you have a comment for John Monaghan, call him at 863-2047, mailbox number 1866, on a Touch-Tone phone, or write him care of Street Scene, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

# Asking therapist to party could harm treatment



BARBARA SCHIFF

Voice mail message: Barbara, I have seen a therapist for two years and I like him very much. My 30th birthday party is in three months, and I want to invite him to it. My girlfriend says it's not right for me to do that. She says it will put him in an uncomfortable position for me to even ask him.

This whole thing is complicated by the fact that neither one of us is married, and he is around my age. But my girlfriend says that's not the problem. She says that even if we were both married, I should not ask him.

Can you tell me if there are rules regarding social interactions with one's therapist? Should I ask him to my birthday party? If both, or one of us were married, would your answer be different? How about presents, are those allowed?

Dear Callers,

Many therapists confront the dilemmas posed by your questions. Psychologists are guided by the American Psychological Association's Ethics Code when deciding what they should do. The code says that a psychologist must be harmful to the potential harmful effects on the client of another relationship besides the therapeutic one. In other words, if you ask your therapist, you put him on the spot.

So, the answer is no, do not invite your therapist to your party. If one or both of you were married, the answer is still no. Presents are not allowed.

Let's look at the dilemma the therapist is in if you ask him to your party. If he says yes, there may be no way to prevent your relationship from becoming confused. You might

expect him to become your social friend. If he does, he is further breaking the rules, and if he does not, then how will you feel? Will you be angry, and will this negatively affect your therapy?

Because you may experience his refusal as rejection, you have put him in an uncomfortable position, even if he says no. Although, he does not deserve it, you may react with hurt and anger.

About presents, the answer is the same. If he accepts the present, you may expect an unrealistic repayment, and if he doesn't accept it, we are back to you experiencing a narcissistic injury with an undesired reaction of hurt and anger toward him.

Although on the surface, what you are contemplating seems innocent, it is not. It is a resistance to your treatment. What you should be doing in treatment is working hard to change yourself, not finding ways to manipulate the therapeutic structure.

Your girlfriend appears to be a sensible person. It sounds as if you asked her for advice, and then planned to ignore it. How will that make her feel?

Barbara,

My mother has been depressed for many years. She is deathly afraid of medication, so that my father and I cannot make her see a doctor or any kind of a therapist. I am hoping that the letters of Aug. 9 and July 5 will convince her to seek help. I want to thank those callers for educating me and giving me a new approach to helping my mother.

If you have a question or a comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and expert, send it to Street Scene, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. You can also leave a message by calling 853-2047, mail box 1877, on a touch-tone phone.

# In concert

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- Thursday, Aug. 19**
- TRANSPARENT RED**  
With Painted Glass and East/West Records' For Love Not Lisa at 3-0, 1815 E. Main St., Royal Oak, (alternative rock) 589-3344
- FOREIGNER**  
With Motor City Rockers at Pine Knob Music Theatre, 175 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, (rock) 377-0100
- CHARMING GROSS**  
Giff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, 334-9292
- HUDESWHRL**  
With Spooning and Yardbass at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (rock) 961-MELT
- SUNSET**  
With Flat Duo Jets at Industry, 15 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (alternative rock) 334-1999
- THE DIDDIES**  
With The Muffs at Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, (alternative rock) 996-8555
- MORRID ANGEL**  
With Kretator and Paradise Lost at Marquee, 6139 E. Seven Mile, Detroit, (death metal) 366-6633
- LIVINA JAZZ ENSEMBLE FEATURING QUINCY SHAW**  
Q Club, 29 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (blues) 334-7411
- JOHN MAYALL & THE BLUESBREAKERS**  
Performs with Terence Simien & The Mule, Playboys, The Holmes Brothers, Michael Ray & The Cosmic Rippers, "Tribute To Sun Ray," George DeGard & The Kings, and The V.I. Orchestra at Gallop Park in Ann Arbor as part of the Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival in Ann Arbor, 626-6377
- THE COYOTES**  
Perform at 5:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. during the historic New Park Festival at New Park (Second Avenue and West Grand Boulevard), Detroit, (cliques) 872-0188
- Friday, Aug. 20**
- REO SPEEDWAGON**  
With Cheap Tricks at Pine Knob Music Theatre, 175 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, (rock) 377-0100
- PETER, PAUL AND MARY**  
Meadow Brook Music Festival on the campus of Oakland University, Watton

- and Squirrel roads, Rochester, (folk) 396-7600
- STATE THEATRE SUMMER SPLASH**  
Three reggae bands at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, (reggae) 961-5451
- NITCHI RYDER**  
With the Clinton River, Cass/ Crocker and Broadway, in downtown Mount Clemens as part of the Glad Light Riverside and Sound Concerts, (classic rock) 468-1402
- OREO TROOPER**  
La Casa Music Series at Birmingham Unitarian Church, 651 N. Woodward (at Lone Pine), Birmingham, (acoustic) 646-9529
- DISCIPLINE**  
With Pop Star Riddle at Giff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, (synthesizer rock) 334-9292
- ROBERT NOLL**  
Sisko's, 5855 Monroe at Van Born, Taylor, (blues) 278-2100
- BEAD BAND**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit, ("Dead-head" music) 832-2355
- THE FACTORY**  
Techno dance night at Industry, 15 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (techno) 334-1999
- SPOON**  
With Cuttin' Heads at Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, (groovy alternative rock) 996-8555
- BLACK PLANET**  
With M.C. Rip at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit, (junky rock) 831-8070
- THE CHISEL BROS. WITH THORNETTA DAVIS**  
Q Club, 29 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (rhythm and blues) 334-7411
- WALK ON WATER**  
With Crossed Wires at The Impound (front Page Saloon), 17320 Woodward, Detroit, (alternative rock) 884-9441
- Saturday, Aug. 21**
- THE LOVE CLUB**  
hip-hop, disco, alternative music dance night at The Shelter below St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, 961-MELT
- HAL**  
The Impound, (former Front Page Saloon), 17320 Harper, between Coelex and Michigan, Detroit, (rock) 884-9441
- THE HOPE ORCHESTRA**  
Holds a video release party for the song "Bumblers" and performance at the Magic Bag Theater Cafe, Woodward, Ferndale, (alternative pop) 646-9529
- THE WHISPERERS**  
With The Dells and Angela Boffi at Chene Park, Chene and East Jefferson, Detroit, (Cass and blues) 993-0066
- THE REV. HORTON HEAT**  
With Sloppy Second and Psydone Rangers at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (alternative rock) 961-MELT
- BALL**  
With Digable Planets at Pine Knob Music Theatre, 175 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, (adult oriented pop/hip-hop) 377-0100
- RED C**  
With J.C. Whitelaw at Giff's Grill, 49 N. Saginaw, Pontiac, (roots rock) 334-9292
- ROBERT NOLL**  
Sisko's, 5855 Monroe at Van Born, Taylor, (blues) 278-2100
- ONLY A MOTHER**  
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, Detroit, 832-2355
- DARK CARNIVAL**  
With Hand Over Head at Blind Pig, 206-208 S. First St., Ann Arbor, 996-8555
- PETRA**  
Bobo Island, (Christian rock) 245-7600
- MARY MAURER AND JULIE KOVICH**  
O'Harwood Grill, Birmingham, 642-9400
- TEENNAME**  
With Nothing Painted Blue and Asha Vida at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit, (alternative rock) 831-8070
- THE CHISEL BROS. WITH THORNETTA DAVIS**  
Q Club, 29 S. Saginaw, Pontiac, (rhythm and blues) 334-7411
- JOHNNY WINTER**  
The Majestic, 4140 Woodward, Detroit, (blues) 645-6666
- GOOBER & THE PEAS**  
With Foster Children and Meist at the State Theatre, 2115 Woodward, Detroit, (blues/rock/alternative rock) 961-5451
- Sunday, Aug. 22**
- THE BEACH BOYS**  
Pine Knob Music Theatre, 175 and Sashabaw Road, Clarkston, 377-0100
- CATHERINE WHEEL**  
With Showgirls at St. Andrew's Hall, 431 E. Congress, Detroit, (ethereal alternative rock) 961-MELT
- THE PLATTERS**  
Marshbanks Park, Hiller Road north of Commerce Road, West Bloomfield, (oldies) 334-5660

# Blind Melon

from page 8A

"If people like a band right away, then they're a pop artist and it's probably 12-year-olds who are freaking out over them. I think Soundgarden is a highly sophisticated band."

Smith is also "freaking out" over the chance to open for Neil Young for close to a month. Following that, the band will tour with Lenny Kravitz, beginning Sept. 14.

"Neil Young, Lenny Kravitz. What more can you ask for? I listened to that cat (Young) years ago and then when I moved to Los Angeles," he said.

Prior to these tours, Blind Melon opened for Guns 'N' Roses and Ozzy Osbourne and headlined its own club tour. Smith said he found that the club audiences could better relate to their folk-rock sound.

"I love clubs much better. We left a lot of people at Guns 'N' Roses and Ozzy going, 'Huh?'" Smith said. "The people we meet,

they're people we have a pre-natal pact with. They hear our music and click with us. I could hang out all night with these people, spend the night with them and have a barbecue with them the next day."

But since his record has been certified gold and the video for the song "No Rain" was added to the MTV "Buzz Bin," Smith's having a hard time remembering who he meets.

"I used to remember everyone I meet. (Now) I can't possibly remember everyone. This is so embarrassing. It's definitely an interesting thing that's been ripping through my head."

He also finds it interesting that fans are just now catching on to Blind Melon.

"I think we were there but the public wasn't with us," Smith said. "I think if people will buy the record for 'No Rain' they're going to be pleasantly surprised. If they're not, then they aren't Melon fans. The big thing about our band is diversity."

Smith's musical diversity begins with his post-Blind Melon career aspiration - writing songs about letters for Sesame Street.

"I keep writing songs that sound like 'Sesame Street' (theme)," said Smith as he humorously hummed "Sesame Street" and "No Rain."

"Like 'Little Rebel L.' They had this Billy Idol puppet. With the Rebel L.' Smith sang in this bad English accent.

"By the time I'm 30, I hope I can have some kind of career so I can write songs about letters."

# Kelly

from page 8A

Johnson and Baler promptly hooked up with rival WCKX-FM, immediately taking a significant portion of their audience with them, according to the spring quarter rating books.

However, in the unpredictable world of Detroit radio, anything can happen as audiences continue to re-shuffle.

"I love a challenge," said Kelly. "I think there's enough room for everybody in this market, and whoever works the hardest should win. This is the longest commitment I've ever made in radio — a two-year contract. I'm looking for a house."

"This is a huge step for me. For the kid who grew up in Windsor, Detroit might as well be Hollywood."

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## LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Street Scene next week:

- Christina Fucco's interview with the Junk Monkeys.
- Lisa Rudy's adventures in cheap eating.
- John Monaghan's look at the alternative movie scene.
- Street Sense by Barbara Schiff.

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