

**Film Clips**



**'Meteor' streaks across North America**

by Steve K. Walz

Science fiction is going to loom big on movie screens this fall with three major production companies releasing multi-million dollar projects. Walt Disney will offer 'The Black Hole,' while Paramount will release its 'Star Trek.'

Ten days ago American International Pictures began its assault on the North American public when it bombarded them with publicity regarding their 'Meteor' film. This was a wise decision on the part of AIP distributors to get their film out first, so they could reap instant profits. Yet they must also be aware that 'Meteor' is a somewhat weaker venture than 'The Black Hole' and 'Star Trek' and don't have to go head-to-head right away, lest their mega-dollars go out the door.

**The plot**

For most people, 'Meteor' will be an enjoyable adventure story laced with science fact. It seems that one of the many meteors that pass near our planet has taken a collision course with Earth. But this is no ordinary piece of space debris. It's five miles wide and it's traveling at 30,000 miles per hour, which could mean instant holocaust for any city or region in its destructive path.

Fragments from the 'Meteor' have already destroyed an Earth space probe, caused an avalanche in the Alps, killing hundreds, and touching off a gargantuan tidal wave that has junked Hong Kong.

NASA sends for help in form of ex-NASA astrophysicist Bradley (Sean Con-

nery). Bradley initially says no to Sherwood (Karl Malden), the NASA project coordinator, because of the space agency's involvement with making his orbiting space station, 'Hercules,' an armed nuclear satellite that is pointed at the USSR.

Sherwood assures him that they can get the Russians to help the USA out. How you ask? Well, Bradley's space station can be reprogrammed to point its missiles at the oncoming 'Meteor,' but that isn't enough to alter the rock's course, so the U.S. President (Henry Fonda) will reveal that the Russians have their own secret space station, 'Peter the Great,' pointed at us. This will make the USSR feel guilty and prompt them to help our cause.

Sure enough, the USSR sends its envoys, Dubov (Brian Keith) and Tatiana (Natalie Wood), to negotiate. They are convinced of the situation and, politics aside, proceed to tell their government to alter their missile trajectory all in the name of "mankind."

It sounds corny, and sometimes it's even funny to see Keith speaking and acting like a Russian. But Ms. Wood is super in her role. It's just too bad that more couldn't be made of her blooming relationship with Connery.

The climactic conclusion to this space sci-fi is exciting, and with the peppy score and fairly good special effects, 'Meteor' becomes a good picture to sit back and enjoy. But, mind you, 'Meteor' will not be the best sci-fi flick you'll see this fall.

'Meteor' is rated PG.



Tarzan he's not. Jack (John Ritter, pictured) has to defend himself against Lana (Ann Wedgeworth) when she finds him in the woods after Larry has stolen his clothes while Jack was skinny-dipping, in 'A Camping We Will Go,' on ABC-TV's **THREE'S COMPANY**, Tuesday, Nov. 6.



Sally Field (pictured) stars as a young woman who is uncertain about her marriage plans when she meets a troubled Vietnam veteran (Henry Winkler) struggling to re-adjust to civilian life, in **HEROES**, on NBC Monday Night at the Movies, Nov. 5.

**SOUL POLL**

**TOP TEN SINGLES**

1. Still, Commodores
2. Dim All The Lights, Donna Summer
3. Don't Stop, Michael Jackson
4. King Tim III, Fatback Band
5. Rise, Herb Albert
6. Sail, Commodores
7. So Wrong, So Right, Brenda Russell
8. Knee Deep, Funkadelic
9. Ladies Night, Kool & The Gang
10. I Do Love You, GQ

**TOP TEN ALBUMS**

1. Funkadelic
2. Michael Jackson
3. O'Jays
4. Commodores
5. Kool & The Gang
6. Isaac Hayes
7. Donna Summer
8. Minnie Ripperton
9. Switch
10. Earth, Wind, & Fire



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