



"Go ahead, make my day."

'Sudden Impact' a surprise hit

By IVY HILLIARD
Staff Writer

Once again proving his power to draw at the box office despite critical disapproval, Clint Eastwood's fourth Dirty Harry movie, *Sudden Impact*, has turned out to be the surprise hit of the season, drawing in lots of viewers and profit.

Review

Sudden Impact is the first of a series that Eastwood has directed. He made his debut in that role in the original *Dirty Harry* in 1971. Although these films have been attacked for their excessive violence and vigilante-style sense of justice, they have all proven immensely popular and have spawned many imitators.

As the new film begins, Inspector Harry Callahan is again in trouble with his superior officers on the San Francisco Police Department for an unorthodox and highly effective style of law enforcement after foiling an attempted armed robbery. After causing the death of a gangland boss, Callahan finds himself the target of underworld assassins. Added to this is an attempt on Callahan's life by some young thugs he arrested who have been released on a legal technicality. The attempt ends with the thugs taking a one-way trip into the bay.

Eventually, Harry is sent out of town to investigate a seemingly unimportant, random murder, because, as one friend

on the force explains, "People have a tendency to get dead around you, Harry."

With his trusty super .44 magnum in hand, Harry begins to track a murderer who is giving out ".38 vasectomies" in a small coastal resort. He is also still trying to elude the hit men.

Sondra Locke, Eastwood's favorite leading lady on-screen and off, is revealed early in the film as the murderer. Her character, Jennifer Spencer, is a successful artist haunted by the gang rape of her sister and herself. Finally finding someone with a similar outlook on life and justice, Callahan is half in love with her before he unravels the case.

Easily the best of the series so far, *Sudden Impact* is an ambitious film that maintains a taut, suspenseful pace and a dark humor within an effective plot — until the last 15 minutes, which lapse into a typical Dirty Harry bloodbath.

Eastwood shows improvement as a director in this film, his tenth as a director. Along with his highly praised directing debut in *Play Misty For Me* and subsequent efforts in films like *High Plains Drifter*, *The Outlaw Josey Wales* and the critically acclaimed *Bronco Billy*, *Sudden Impact* shows his ability to appeal to the average moviegoer on a level that is visually and dramatically effective.

With a particularly good sense of casting, Eastwood rounds out his cast with some of the sleaziest villains to hit

the screen in a long time. Two relative newcomers to the movies, Paul Drake as the psychopathic Mick and Audrie J. Neenan as his sadistic girlfriend, create such totally unsympathetic characters that the audience can hardly wait for them to get what they deserve.

Pat Hingle, who co-stars as the troubled police chief who resents Callahan's intrusion into his town for personal reasons, gives a good performance. Bradford Dillman appears as the hysterical Captain Briggs, who is still trying to get Harry to follow the rules.

As an actor, Eastwood has been accused of a non-acting style, and his performance in *Sudden Impact* is not the most expressive of his career, but it is better than in the series' previous films. Although he has diversified his role in recent years, he is now approaching icon status not unlike John Wayne — who was known not for great acting but for consistent entertaining.

While Locke's acting seems to be limited lately to Eastwood pictures, she is a good actress and a good match for Eastwood on-screen, regardless of their incongruous visual pairing.

Sudden Impact is not a bad movie; it is merely disappointing in its conclusion and in a sometimes one-sided representation of a criminal system that never works. It is hoped that this film is a stepping stone to better things to come from Eastwood as a director.

Music dept. to present programs of Brazil, France

The UNC department of music will present two free public programs this week.

Today at noon in 107 Hill Hall, Isaac and Linda Epps will give a demonstration of Brazilian musical instruments and rhythms. The performers are studio/free-lance musicians from the Santa Barbara and Los Angeles area.

John Hsu will present a master class titled "French Baroque Musical Rhetoric as Seen Through French Baroque Viol Playing" Thursday at 4 p.m. in 103 Hill Hall. Hsu, an authority on Baroque viol playing, is from Cornell University.

For more information on either program, call the music department at 962-1039.

Jackson wins with 'Billie Jean'

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Singer Michael Jackson's hit *Billie Jean* was named favorite pop single and Lionel Richie's *Toe-Tapping All Night Long* scored a surprise victory as favorite soul single Monday night at the 11th annual American Music Awards.

Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton won the favorite country single award for their duet, *Islands in the Stream*, Rogers' 13th American Music Award and Parton's second.

Alabama was named favorite country group and Gladys Knight & The Pips won the soul group award.

Jackson's nomination in the pop single category was one of his 10 nominations in eight categories in the

American Music Awards, the industry's annual public opinion poll. *Billie Jean* had also been nominated for favorite soul single and Richie, host of the two-hour ABC telecast, was clearly surprised to win in that category.

"Unbelievable," Richie said. "You caught me off guard tonight."

Jackson, who last week received an unprecedented 12 Grammy nominations, was up for male vocalist, single and album honors in both pop and soul categories.

His *Billie Jean* and *Beat It* videos were both nominated in both the pop-rock and soul categories.

He wore a glittery red Sgt. Pepper-style outfit and arrived at the Shrine Auditorium telecast on the arm of Brooke Shields.

Accepting the pop single award, Jackson said, "I've very thankful and very honored for this award, and I don't want to make a long speech. Thank you very much."

Jackson was honored with a special Award of Merit on the show, which featured such entertainment industry colleagues as Rogers, Emmanuel Lewis, Yul Brynner, Quincy Jones, Liza Minelli, Paul McCartney, Jane Fonda, Barry Manilow and Diana Ross.

American Music Award nominees are drawn from the year-end charts of major music industry trade publications and winners are determined by a poll of 20,000 people representing a cross-section of the record-buying public.



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Seelye From page 1

Jackson was an exception to the rule that private citizens and even some special emissaries lack the background, qualifications and experience to negotiate as effectively as an ambassador, he said.

Seelye became a career Foreign Service officer in March 1951. He held posts in embassies in Jordan, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, assisted in the Yemen mediation effort in 1961, and served as ambassador to Tunisia from 1972 to 1976 and as presidential envoy to Lebanon in 1976.

Volunteers welcome

Anyone interested in volunteering to help in any capacity at the C.A. Dillion School (a North Carolina school for juvenile offenders) can meet with Sarah Britt, the Director of Volunteer Services, at 6:30 today and Thursday at the Campus Y.

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