

# Women explore their power in two thought-provoking films

## Truth or Dare

Madonna, Warren Beatty, lots of dancers directed by Alek Keshishian

Varsity  
967-8665  
●●●●

## Thelma and Louise

Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis, Harvey Keitel directed by Ridley Scott

Varsity  
967-8665  
●●●●

Sexist bastards, beware Franklin Street for the next few weeks. The Varsity has two movies about women that are both powerful feminist anthems in one sense or another; if you're a guy on one of those important dates where you feel you need to make your dominance a priority, I'd keep walkin' on down to Show & Tell and rent "Firefox" or some-

## Ian Williams Movies

Madonna, strangely enough, isn't so much "woman" in my mind as she is "product," a star who, we have heard a million times, has always been one step ahead of her snivelling, reactionary public — an audience that likes to be visibly horrified for a few weeks every time her nipples get closer and closer to revelation, and then buy in droves whatever wares she has to sell. "Truth or Dare," her new pseudo-documentary by Alek Keshishian, probably will not do very well (movies about rock 'n' roll almost never do), but even Madonna's missteps only seem to solidify her place in the aortas of America. And in this one you do get to see her nipples.

If you don't like chick peas, you don't get humus; likewise, if you don't like Madonna, for God's sake stay away — you won't really get to know her any better — she's pretty much exactly as you imagined her — and the movie is inundated with her music. Yet if you

find her fascinating, as some sort of spokeswoman for our culture, then director Keshishian will display flashes of brilliance in his backstage portrayal.

The movie takes us with Madonna from Japan to the U.S. to Europe and is well-crafted as a story about her surrogate "family," the singers and dancers that back her up. Madonna, as a strong public woman, has always been somewhat of an icon to the gay community, and it is no surprise that almost all of her dancers are gay — all except one, and his character is as interesting as anything in the movie. Madonna's attempt to nurse his bruised ego and to keep her "children" happy on stage is a focal point of the movie.

There are other great scenes: A childhood friend makes an unnervingly comfortable visit to Madonna in her hotel room, her father tells her there are parts to the masturbatory stage gyrations he could "do without," and there is a wonderfully playful montage of Madonna and her dancers on a small sound stage delightfully immersed in each others' company. The backstage and hotel scenes are shot in a beautifully grainy black and white, while the musical scenes explode with vibrant color.

What Madonna has always lacked is subtlety, however, and Keshishian blithely seems to follow suit. After about two hours this motif of Madonna motherhood begins to get a little too obvious, and the film becomes a bit of a home movie for a family we don't know. Likewise, the cemetery scene of Madonna bending over to kiss her mother's grave with one of her more poignant hits playing softly in the background is a little angering — I don't particularly like being told to feel something.

Not only that, but any real emotion is doubly hampered by the fact that Madonna knows we're looking at her. As Warren Beatty (who seems to be the only person we glimpse who has a grip on himself) says, Madonna doesn't want to live off-camera, let alone not get her tonsils examined in front of the lights. Who acts like themselves when millions are watching? Is Madonna really sad at the grave? Would she have said that if the cameras weren't rolling? In some way, the cameras are always rolling for a woman like Madonna, so there may not be a real person there. Is this movie an interesting anthem about a woman who proffers a new and vibrant form of feminism, one that lets a woman be a woman and still be sexy and man-obsessed? Maybe, but let's keep in mind that it's all still about making money and being seen, no matter what she's singing.

A few feet away from the throbbing beat of the Material Girl is a much more majestic and ponderous tale of wom-



Madonna and her family of dancers vogue for the cameras in the pseudo-documentary "Truth or Dare"

anly spirit, "Thelma and Louise." This Ridley Scott film has Susan Sarandon playing a weathered waitress in Arkansas and Geena Davis as a klutzy and unconfident housewife. The two band together for a weekend road trip to get the hell out of their living situations for a while, and end up at a bar that changes the courses of their hideously unsatisfying lives.

Sarandon, playing a tough-as-nails Southern role similar to those that distinguished her in "White Palace" and "Bull Durham," has miles more depth of character this time — she carries a horrible secret that fills her with rage, yet is not so jaded she doesn't appreciate the silly ramblings of her best friend. Davis is maddeningly naive, so trusting and downright infantile that we can see her mistakes coming a mile away, yet her transformation of character is so satisfying that it's worth the journey.

This is a movie about female anger, a walking and driving metaphor of the shaky repression felt by so many women who are enslaved in their situation by a country that pretends to treat them fairly. In that regard, there is a lot of male-bashing; there is nary a man in this movie (save Sarandon's dopey boyfriend) who isn't either a thiefing, raping swine or someone just as bad but leagues more subtle. Even the police chief, played gently by Harvey Keitel, tries his coolest to get the girls to surrender to a life they know isn't worth living. When Sarandon fires a slug into the brain of a man brutally attempting to rape Geena Davis over the back of a car, I could feel the pained souls of a million women in this country cheer her on.

And that's just where this movie is magical: You decide for yourself what to think about Thelma and Louise's journey, you follow them as their plans change and unfold, you come to your own decision about the climactic ending, and whether you think they did the

right thing or not, this movie is a true road trip for the senses. Funny, intelligent, gripping — come to think of it, sexist boys, go ahead and take your date to this one. Even if you don't like it, the Varsity popcorn is legendary.

## Hudson Hawk

Bruce Willis, Danny Aiello, Andie MacDowell, Sandra Bernhard directed by Michael Lehmann

Plaza Theater  
967-0102  
●● 1/2

The first half of "Hudson Hawk" will have you believe you are watching a modern classic in the making; the pacing is so amazing and the effortlessness with which Bruce Willis and Danny Aiello seem to glide through their parts

is so breathtakingly fresh that you can't imagine anything could go wrong. I'm a sucker for schmaltz, especially in a scene where cat burglars Willis and Aiello steal one of DaVinci's horses while singing Bing Crosby's "Swinging on a Star" to make sure their timing is correct — it was reminiscent of some of the great musicals of the '40s. Shortly after the fantastic car chase on the Brooklyn Bridge, however, things get deliriously heavy-handed, and that monster budget (which seems to be what all the other reviewers seem to be reviewing) gets ploddingly in the way.

One must remember, however, that they never intended us to see God here; this is simply a goofy, sort-of-exciting summer flick with a little bit of hip humor and a lot of comic-book sensibility. Approach this one with an open mind, and it's a hell of a lot better than staying home, especially if you don't have air conditioning.

## Congress

from page 1

"If the plaintiffs had not filed the case, I would not have issued the order," he said. "They could have waited (until after the Finance Committee meeting)."

However, the case had to be filed within 96 hours after the May 21 meeting, Bibbs said.

According to Bibbs' order, a pretrial conference will be held before the case goes to the Student Supreme Court.

Bibbs said the pretrial conference would be held at the convenience of the plaintiffs, the defendant and himself.

However, there is no time limit on when the conference has to be held, Bibbs said. "It's not an emergency-type issue," he said. Bibbs cannot convene the conference until after June 10 because of personal commitments, he added.

Bibbs said he issued the restraining order to preserve the status quo and to

protect the rights of both parties. "There's a legitimate, constitutional issue in the case," he said.

"In order to be fair to both (sides), it was imperative that I put congress on hold so they won't do anything else that would result in a Supreme Court case," he said. "I only want to hear one case, but if it continues to function as it is currently, any act could result in future cases."

Cohen said he thought the case had to be heard in 7-10 days.

Moore said he hoped the case would be resolved quickly because a delay would hurt pending legislation.

Heyd said the order was the first time the Supreme Court had issued a restraint on a summer congress.

Pratt said the restraining order was a regrettable move. "It seems it could have been avoided," he said. "I don't know if there are political games involved, but it's detrimental to the school and a lot of programs that needed funding over the summer. It's causing a lot of havoc for student government."

Pratt said he hoped congress members would learn from the incident. "I hope we learn from this that we need to think about the students in general and not inter-ideology bickering and worrying more about egos than Student Congress," he said.

## THE RATINGS

- — wait for the video
- — go to the dollar theater
- — only pay matinee price
- — pay full price
- — take your sister, too



Bruce "Hudson Hawk" Willis and Danny "Five-Tone" Messina hide behind a tree

**North Carolina ORIGINAL SPORTS BAR**  
*Summer Specials*

SUNDAY ..... 12 oz. draft 75¢  
MONDAY ..... Imports \$1.75  
TUESDAY ..... "Sports Quar" (33 oz. draft) \$1.75  
WEDNESDAY ..... Longnecks \$1.25

Watch For The Sports Bar Back At The Bulls Game  
504 W. FRANKLIN ST. "COLDEST BEER IN TOWN" 929-6978

**FLASH PHOTO LAB**  
**GET A FREE 2 LITER BOTTLE OF PEPSI-COLA**  
with your purchase of  
•One KODAK Disposable Camera  
or  
•One Kodacolor Multi-Pack 100, 200  
Limited Time Offer  
**933-8313**  
**133 W. FRANKLIN • UNIVERSITY SQUARE**

**CAROLINA Union SUMMER PROGRAMS**

**PIT MOVIE**  
Friday, May 31 • 9:30 pm  
**BODY HEAT**  
As the temperature rises, the suspense begins.  
"BODY HEAT" WILLIAM HURT, KATHLEEN TURNER and RICHARD CRONNA  
**FREE RAIN SITE IS UNION AUDITORIUM**

**Ice Cream Study Break & Bowl-A-Rama**  
  
5:30 pm - 9:30 pm  
25¢ a game bowling and shoes FREE!  
8:00 pm — Make your own sundae!  
**Union Underground Wed, June 5**

**MUSIC A LA CARTE**

**Foreign Correspondent**  
Accordian & Fiddle  
Thurs. May 30  
11:30 am in Lenoir Dining Hall  
  
and more fiddling with **BARNEY PILGRIM**  
Wednesday, June 5  
12:30 pm in the Pit

**SIGOURNEY WEAVER**  
**GORILLAS IN THE MIST**  
The Adventure of Dian Fossey  
PG-13  
Tuesday, June 4  
7:00 & 9:30 PM  
**FREE Union Auditorium**

**Admission to Union Films is FREE with UNC-ID or Union Privilege Card.**

**CROOK'S CORNER**  
  
**DINNER EVERY NIGHT & SUNDAY BRUNCH**  
  
610 W. FRANKLIN ST. CHAPEL HILL, NC

**suds & duds**  
COIN LAUNDRY AND PUB  
**HAPPY HOUR IN THE LAUNDROMAT**  
Carrboro's Most Civilized Laundromat  
**25¢ OFF EACH WASH LOAD**  
Monday thru Friday Only Offer Expires June 30, 1991

- CLEAN laundromat
- double & triple loaders
- 35 washers
- 22 dryers
- wash, dry, fold
- COZY pub with T.V.'s
- beer
- soft drinks
- video games
- hot dogs
- snacks

**Carrboro Plaza**  
Hwy. 54  
next to Sav-A-Center  
929-3101