

The Reel Truth

By Chris Vessey

This week I had a look at **Jumpin' Jack Flash** and **Deadly Friend**. What a difference in quality between the two!

Jumpin' Jack Flash

Starring Whoopi Goldberg as Terri Doolittle

Jumpin' Jack Flash (hereafter JJF) is a really funny film. Can you imagine a bank computer operator who continually gets the Soviet 20-minute Workout on her monitor screen? All due to a satellite used jointed by her bank and the Soviet government? And it's because of this wacky link that she gets involved with Jumping Jack Flash (note the 'g' — he's British), a British intelligence agent trapped behind Soviet lines. And now, the KGB and the British Consulate are out to get her!

JJF is a comedy, pure and simple. Or maybe not pure; there is a little romance, and a lot of adventure. My per-

sonally favorite scene involved a dress and a very nasty paper shredder, but you'll have to pay your \$5 to find out more. Note: in order to fully enjoy this movie, you must love wacky stunts. A lot of the latter part of the movie is chock full of this. The rest of the conflict is mainly between Doolittle and her boss, and her little "errands" for Jack.

Overall, the movie was good. I liked the casting, and the plot wasn't bad either. I was so relieved to find that she wasn't a computer whiz who could reconstruct anything on CRT with a few maniac keypunches — that's so tacky! It's not so far — fetched that when you sit in the theatre you are saying "no way man." It is much better than that. This movie, I feel, is a well spent \$5.

Remember, all my rates are out of 5.

Rating: **

Deadly Friend

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Seriously, though. After seeing the commercial, I expected the standard horror film: the girl is possessed by demons, wreaking havoc in her general vicinity. Perhaps a guy would step in and battle the spirits, driving them away so he can fall hopelessly in love with her. Not quite.

Deadly Friend is about the new boy in the neighbourhood. It's just that this kid specializes in robotics, Artificial Intelligence (if you follow this paper, you should know what that is) and the Human Brain. He finds that a "dead" brain may still be stimulated to produce a bodily reaction in a long-cold ca-

daver. Foreshadow, foreshadow. His robot, BB is destroyed by an old woman. His girlfriend, Sam (Samantha) is destroyed by her father (a raving paranoid nutter). Of course, this cannot be, says the budding young scientist. And then he steals her lifeless body, performs some 'brain surgery, adds a 32-bit microchip and WALA! Instant girl. Only she behaves like BB. Still quite pretty though. I will leave the rest of the story to you, if you have a spare \$5 kicking around that you don't want for anything better.

Why do I say this? Because the end of the film is utterly mindless (no pun intended). It ruins, maims, murders and slaughters the great work that went before it. I was tempted to leave the first time I saw the robot. But I stayed. And the film was pretty good. The director has managed to swing a fairly corny idea and make a **good** movie from it. But he held the knife to his throat and pushed when he set up the

ending. As I have said, if you have \$5 to spare, go for it. Otherwise don't bother. It's not worth it.

Rating: **
(mainly due to the ending)



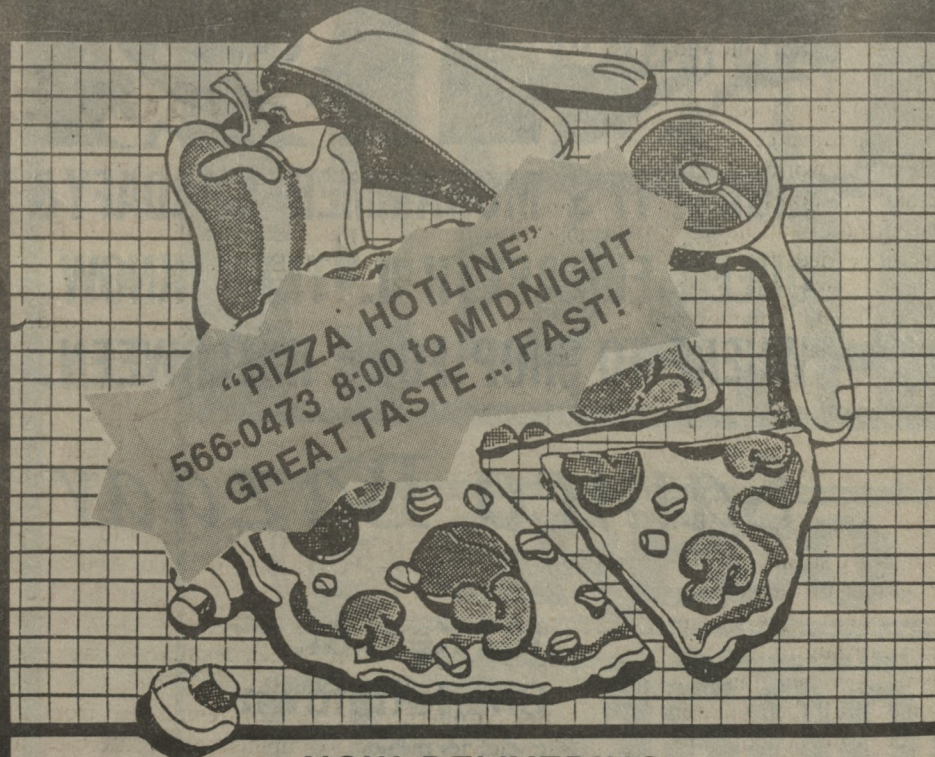
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"CROSS CAMPUS COUNTDOWN"

1. The Smiths There's A Light That Never Goes Out
 2. The Cult Rain
 3. OMD Stay
 4. The Spoons Walk Across The Water
 5. Talking Heads Wild, Wild Life
 6. Johnnie Lovesin Tough Girls
 7. Depeche Mode Black Celebration
 8. Billy Idol To Be A Lover
 9. Skinny Puppy Three Blind Mice
 10. Iggy Pop Blah-Blah-Blah
 11. The Cure Boys Don't Cry
 12. Human League Human
 13. The Eurythmics Missionary Man
 14. Corey Hart I Am By Your Side
 15. Gene Loves Jezebel Heartache
 16. Luba Innocent (With An Explanation)
 17. Pet Shop Boys Love Comes Quickly
 18. Severed Heads FM Stations Blow Up
 19. Tom Cochrane Boy Inside The Man
 20. Rosie Vela? Magic Smiles
 21. B-52's Wig
 22. Bananarama True Confessions
 23. Fine Young Cannibals ... Blue
 24. Chalk Circle The Great Lake
 25. Jermaine Stewart We Don't Have To Take Our Clothes Off
- PICK HIT FOR UP AND COMING SINGLE**
General Public Murder

Wild Pizza.....

GREAT ANYWAY YOU SLICE IT!



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