

CIMN's New Music Marathon Features Woodstock-ish Atmosphere

On September 26th CIMN held its new music festival as part of their Atlantic university radio conference. Featuring almost every genre of music imaginable, the event was an eleven act marathon that attracted a moderate sized crowd of mostly alternative types, including a lot of teens looking to escape that eleventh grade grind. The big hit of the night were the Sons of the Mourning from Charlottetown, a grunge band that lured a loyal crowd of slam-dancers as well as the EP's, who formed a barricade in front of the band and gently shoved back flying bodies. Other acts included Hemlock, a viciously virtuostic prog-metal group, complete with candles and a monk for that gothic feel; the hammy hard rock of Carfew; the Irish folk of ghost aficionado, Teresa Doyle; and a lot of other bands I can't remember or didn't actually see. Overall, the night was the grooviest the Barn has ever seen.



Sneakers

Starring Robert Redford, Dan Aykroyd, Sidney Poitier, River Phoenix, Mary McDonnell
by David Ramsay

Robert Redford is back starring in his first film since Havana (1990). Sneakers is a comic thriller directed by Phil Alden Robinson (director of Field of Dreams). The film involves high-tech gizmos and gadgets that look like something straight out of Mission Impossible. According to Entertainment Weekly, the technology is so accurate that it glitches and had to be built into the film in order to ensure that the movie did not become a training video for criminals. Don't let all this complicated electronics scare you off though, because you don't have to understand everything in order to enjoy Sneakers.

In Sneaker there is a team of techno-wizards that are led by Redford's character (Martin Bishop). The team has a business that involves breaking into client's buildings in order to see if their security systems are suitable. However, the game gets dangerous when the team is hired by the government to retrieve a mysterious black box that is capable of scrambling impenetrable computer codes. This leads the audience down a road of government secrets and by the time the trip is finished you end up trusting no one.

I must admit that the idea of a black box is somewhat of a cliché, but the superior acting makes up for the almost routine plot. Dan Aykroyd is especially hilarious as Mother, the team member who has a conspiracy theory for every event in history. Strong performances by River Phoenix, Sidney Poitier and David Strathairn as Whistler, a blind member who has ears like a radar and gets his first driving lesson in the course of the film. Redford gives a great performance as the team leader and is quite funny. (Look forward to the scene where he poses as a private investigator.)

Go see Sneakers; it's an excellent film and well worth the price of admission.

B+