

# 'Craven's New Nightmare' Delivers

Once again we see that real villains never die, they just get sequels.

That's right, Freddy's back, up to his old tricks again. Only this time Wes Craven returns to run the show. All of you Freddy Krueger fans out there, be prepared for a new twist on an old story.

This addition to the series takes an interesting twist. The film centers around the original cast members of the first nightmare. John Saxon and Heather Langenkamp return, but not to revise their roles. They play themselves. This film acknowledges the fact that the first five or six were only movies.

Langenkamp is asked to reprise her role of Nancy for one more *Nightmare*. She refuses, and is sucked into her own nightmare. Freddy begins to find his way into the real world by using Langenkamp's son Dylan as his means. After wiping out a few innocent people on the way, Freddy makes his bid for freedom by capturing Dylan and taking him to the underworld. Langenkamp ventures forth to save her son and to do battle with Freddy for one last time, we hope.

There are a few places that



BY TODD RODGERS

*Wes Craven's New Nightmare*  
(1994, 112 minutes)

**Cast**  
Heather Langenkamp  
Robert Englund  
John Saxon  
Directed by Wes Craven

(out of 10 possible)  
Art Direction/Cinematography: 9  
Acting/Character Development: 7  
Soundtrack & Sound Effects: 8  
Overall Rating (Not Averaged): 8

"The Ticket Price: \$6.00"

this needs to be commended.

First of all, Craven makes this film about a film. What I mean is, he is actually writing a new *Nightmare* during the movie. He even appears in the film, as himself, to discuss it.

Second, he makes quite a few references to the original movie, *Nightmare On Elm Street*. Not only by having Langenkamp,

Saxon, and let's not forget Robert Englund, but also by using a set or two that will bring back some memories.

Finally, there is the character of Dylan, played so wonderfully that it added that much more to the whole mood of the story.

Wes Craven should get a congratulations, not for making the definitive horror film of the century, but for trying to venture away from the same old story line. He could, very easily, have done the same old *Nightmare*, and people would still have flocked to the theater to see it. Instead, he puts a major twist into his film, and I think that alone gives it an edge.

The horror genre has not put out a truly frightening film in a very long time, but Craven gives it a very good try. One movie goer I spoke to described it as "a whirlwind of excitement." So go check it out, and if you're a Freddy fan, I don't think you will be disappointed. Have fun and sleep tight. If you dare.

—*"The Ticket Price"* is based on what we, Rebel Yell movie reviewers, would consider paying for admission if the price of the ticket was open.



Heather Langenkamp discovers the mysterious "boiler room" where she must confront her most terrifying nightmare.

## Fresh and Forgotten

### Video Picks of the Week

BY TODD RODGERS  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Hey movie buffs, I gotta new feature for ya.

I know how hard it is to go to any of these videos stores in town to pick up a new release. So I'm going to try to make things a little easier for your next trip.

Every week I'll give you an option for when you scan the new release section and find nothing, so you won't leave empty handed. So pop the popcorn,

toss in the tape, and hang on to your remote, because here we go.

(1992) *Reservoir Dogs* This one's for all of you who have just experienced *Natural Born Killers* or *Pulp Fiction*, and liked it. Quentin Tarantino is a hot property in the movie world and this is a good reason why. *Reservoir Dogs* is Tarantino at his best. Snappy dialogue, personable characters, and gritty realism make this one a must see. Be warned, this is not for the weak at heart, and if you've seen a Tarantino movie you know why.

(1974) *The Longest Yard* Football season is here and Burt Reynolds is back in the news, so what better a time to pull out *The Longest Yard*. In the world of sports movies, there aren't many that can stand the test of time like this one has. Reynolds, an ex-football star, leads an overly dirty and nasty group of convicts in a game against the war-

den's hand picked team. This is a definite crowd pleaser that's filled with powerful hits and bone crunching comedy. Pull it off the shelf and dust it off. You won't be disappointed that you did.

Well that's it for this week. Check them out, see what you think. If you have any suggestions on the "Blast from the past" videos please write them in. Tune in next week for my special Halloween edition. So until then, Don't burn the popcorn. Enjoy.

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