



Warwick ROCKY



VOL. 1 NO. 10 April 20-21, 1984 FREE - AT THE WARWICK MALL CINEMAS

Midnight Madness Comes to Warwick

Jon Winkleman

It all started a year ago. My friends and I, being naive and curious, wanted to try it and see what it's like! Being inexperienced, we didn't do much...just watched (I mean really, I would never dress like that or even think about doing that!) I loved it and came out in one piece. I decided to try it again, only this time things were different. within the next hour and forty minutes, I was pelted with rice; proposing to a complete stranger; being soaked with water; surrounded by transvestites, hunchbacks and weirdos; stripped down to my underwear; and finally...transformed into a creature clad in a garter belt and fishnet stockings.

If you haven't guessed what I'm talking about, you've probably never seen *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* before. *RHPS* is one of the most bizarre movies ever made. After it

bombed during its original release in 1975, this rock opera/science fiction parody was switched to the midnight circuit. It soon attracted a larger group of loyal followers who soon began to participate in the activities. While a group of about 10 people sing and act out the movie under the screen, the audience is busy shouting profane, if not funny, comments and alternate dialogue at the screen.

RHPS first came to Little Rhody in 1978 at the Showcase Theatre/Seekonk. It then moved on to a four year run at the now demolished Cinerama. *Rocky* has also been shown at the Avon, Cable Car, Fairlawn and in Newport. Now, *RHPS* has moved to the Warwick Mall Cinema, where it has been playing since February 17th.

Warwick *Rocky* is now attracting a loyal following of students in the tri-school area. During its first few weeks in Warwick, *Rocky* was attracting

some of the largest and rowdiest crowds in the State's history. Although things seem to be quieting down and crowds are getting smaller, the current more experienced and more intimate crowds make for a better evening.

Many virgins, those who have not seen *RHPS* before, are puzzled by those who view *Rocky* on a regular basis (there are a few who claim to have seen it up to 700 times, which is possible although most people exaggerate). "it's not so much a movie," explained Roy Rossi, who plays Riff Raff and organizes each week's cast, "it's more of a social event.... Like a party". *Rocky* is to its fans what rollerskating, dancing or athletics is to its participants, a place to go to and get wild with others who share this common interest. *RHPS* provides its fans with a strong party atmosphere but without the social pressures or false morality in the outside world. *Rocky* is pure fantasy for

those into heavy escape.

The Rhode Island cast was formed at the Cinerama when several fans got together and started acting out the movie. Over the years, the cast has evolved and gone through many changes. The current cast is fairly flexible and varies from show to show. It is composed of players from Providence, Newport and other tri-state *Rocky* groups. Although the R.I. cast may not be as organized as other groups in New England, they have more fun than most. I recently had an opportunity to play Brad and *Rocky* as a fill-in for a regular cast member. Although it was a bizarre experience, as described earlier, it was one of the most exciting weekends I've had and I'd love to do it again. (Roy: hint, hint.)

P.S. I'd like to thank the regular cast for their help, this unique opportunity and for their patience.

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EASTER AND ROCKY HORROR

I've been doing a lot of thinking about the tie in between Easter and Rocky Horror, and I've come to the conclusion that there is no connection. I shouldn't have even started this. Forget it.

MORE ON MR. HEAD

Mr. Head is missing. Anyone knowing of his whereabouts in the past 144 hours please notify us. Mr. Head, if you are reading this, we are all sorry about what was said about you in last week's issue. It's just that no one thought you could do anything about it because you don't have a body and we figured you couldn't move away from us. We were wrong. If you come back, we promise you that you will get your old part back as a substitute Criminologist. And we promise that we won't play catch with you at the beach this summer. Come back, Mr. Head. All those nice warm wigs are waiting for you.

Happy Good Friday, Holy Saturday, and Easter Sunday.