

**Rob Freese's
DRIVE-IN
DELIRIUM!**

**GODMONSTER OF INDIAN FLATS:
SPECIAL EDITION (1973) ⚡⚡⚡**

D: Fredric Hobbs. Christopher Brooks, Stuart Lancaster, E. Kerrigan Prescott, Robert Hirschfeld, Richard Marion, Karen Ingenthron, Steven Kent Browne. 90 mins. (AGFA/Something Weird Video) 7/18

Better strap yourself in for this obscure drive-in oddity, friends. Sheep rancher Eddie (Marion) witnesses the birth of a mutated sheep creature. Dr. Clemens (Prescott) and his hippie assistant Mariposa (Ingenthron) bring Eddie and the mutated sheep thing back to the doc's lab. Clemens conducts tests on the creature, which grows to giant size and radiates a horrible-smelling phosphorous gas the Doc has also found in the local mines. Meanwhile, Mr. Barnstable (Brooks) comes to town to try and buy up local mining leases for the Wright Corporation, but Mayor Silverdale (Lancaster) declines to sell any of the land. When Barnstable refuses to take "no" for an answer, Silverdale has his dim-witted henchman Phillip Mandove (Browne) frame Barnstable for attempted murder. After escaping his lynching party (!), Barnstable seeks refuge in Dr. Clemens' lab. Silverdale's

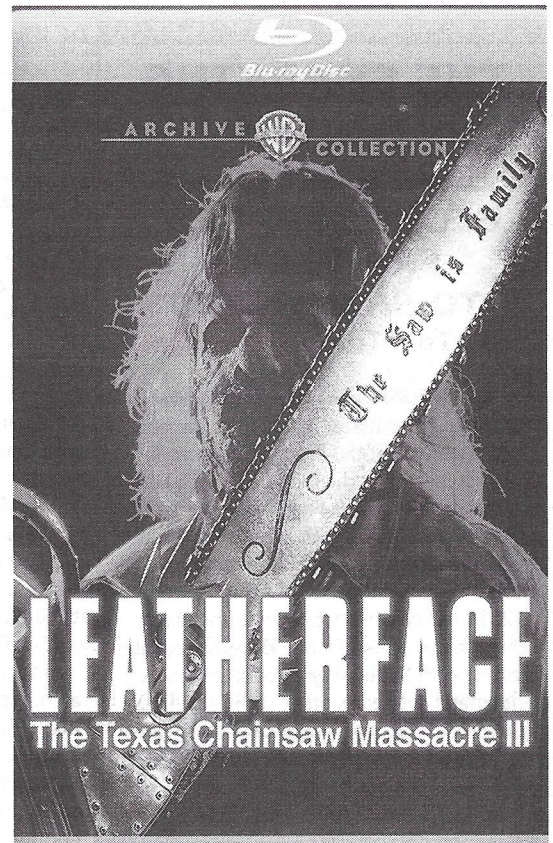
posse hunts Barnstable down and, in the subsequent melee, the 8-foot giant mutant sheep breaks loose and escapes. During its brief reign of terror, the woolly monstroid scares some kids having a picnic and dances with Mariposa before the posse lassos and captures it. In the end, Silverdale reveals to Barnstable that he bought up all the townspeople's mining leases and made a bundle selling them to the Wright Corporation himself. Silverdale tells the citizens that the town will soon enjoy a tourist boom as he plans on putting the sheepazoid on display for all to see. Dr. Clemens and Eddie convince the people it is all a trick, and the citizens revolt and dump the sheep thing in the city dump, where it explodes. In the distance, a herd of grazing sheep are exposed to the phosphorous gas from deep in the mines below. Writer-producer-director Hobbs' contribution to the "nature/animal run amok" subgenre is certainly a memorable outing. Although painfully confusing at times, the film exerts an undeniably hypnotic spell—once you start watching it you can't pull your eyes from it because you have to see what will happen next. Because of the ridiculous-looking creature, this film was supposedly never released, but

I find it hard to believe it didn't play a drive-in somewhere. Bizarro-world film junkies will delight in this whacked-out creature feature while others will simply scratch their heads and wonder what the hell is going on. Extras include a bonus second feature, **The Legend of Bigfoot**, in a new 2K restoration, along with bonus shorts and trailers from the AGFA vaults.

**LEATHERFACE: THE
TEXAS CHAINSAW
MASSACRE III (1990) ⚡⚡⚡**

D: Jeff Burr. Kate Hodge, William Butler, Ken Foree, Viggo Mortensen, R.A. Mihailoff, Tom Everett. 85 mins. (Warner Archive) 2/18

Bickering yuppies Michelle (Hodge) and Ryan (Butler) encounter a cannibal clan while driving through Texas on their way to Florida. Survivalist Benny (genre fave Foree) tries to keep the yuppie-geeks alive against the sicko family led by Junior (the titular Leatherface, Mihailoff), a hulking, chainsaw-toting hayseed who wears a mask made from human flesh. The third installment in the seminal splatter series is actually closer in style to the original and succeeds in paying homage to the first film (as well as the second) while piling up the expected gruesome shocks and



twisted chuckles. A new family is introduced that includes a wheelchair-bound matriarch and a cute little blond girl who carries a baby's skeleton stitched together as a doll and who sits in papa Leatherface's lap and gives him kisses. Genre scribe David J. Schow's lively script keeps the action progressing at a rapid pace and offers many priceless nuggets of dialogue along the way. (E.g., "There's roadkill all over Texas," "Because if you don't poke 'em, they won't leak," and the stomach-distressing classic, "Junior likes them private parts.") After setting his first film, **The Offspring** (which deserves a lavish Blu-ray special edition), in Tennessee, director Burr proved the perfect choice to direct this demented drama of Southern-fried craziness. Foree's survivalist character is one of the best heroes in the entire series, while Caroline Williams, the radio DJ heroine from **Chainsaw 2**, appears in a brief cameo as a TV news reporter. The bloody mayhem includes face sewing, yuppie nailed to a chair, chainsaw evisceration, exploding fingers, blasted-off ear, face sucking with a severed head, a pit of melting bodies, and sledge-O-matic yuppie brain smashing. The ratings board came down hard, branding the pic with an X for violence and delaying its release date for months. It was then banned all over the world. Warner Archive's Blu-ray includes a filmmaker's audio commentary, the making-of doc **The Saw Is Family, We Know What to Do with Them Parts** (deleted scenes), alternate ending, original theatrical trailer and TV spots. Although much maligned during its theatrical release, **Leatherface** delivers the goods. Never forget, friends: "The Saw Is Family!" ⚡

