



FOREVER MY LOVE (HOLIDAY CLASSIC EDITION) (DVD)

Film Movement

Romy Schneider became an international star for her career-defining role as an Austrian princess caught between love and royal responsibilities. Her three world-renowned Sissi films followed the "fairy-tale" lives of Princess Elizabeth and her husband Franz Josef from courtship through marriage. The story begins in the 1850s as Archduchess Sophie of Austria selects the Bavarian Princess Helene to wed her son, Emperor Franz Josef. But the emperor falls in love with Helene's uninhibited younger sister, Sissi, instead. Following the magnificent imperial wedding in Vienna, Sissi takes her newly acquired responsibilities very seriously, but breaks one tradition after another. Franz Josef, however, delights in her openness and simplicity, which eventually prove instrumental in winning over the restless Hungarian nation. Hungary's Count Andrassy confesses his love for Sissi, but although she is attracted to him, she remains faithful to her husband. Sissi falls ill with tuberculosis and is sent to Spain for treatment. Under the care of her mother, Duchess Ludovika, she recovers and is reunited with Franz Josef.

SKATE KITCHEN (Blu-ray)

Magnolia Home Ent.

Camille (Rachelle Vinberg), an introverted teenage skateboarder from Long Island, meets and befriends an all-girl, New York City-based skateboarding crew called Skate Kitchen. She falls in with the in-crowd, has a falling out with her mother, and falls for a mysterious skateboarder guy (Jaden Smith), but a relationship with him proves to be trickier to navigate than a kick flip. *Skate Kitchen* precisely captures the experience of women in male-dominated spaces and tells a story of a girl who learns the importance of camaraderie and self-discovery.

THE BOY DOWNSTAIRS (SPECIAL EDITION) (Blu-ray)

Filmrise + MVDvisual

In this romantic comedy, Diana (Zosia Mamet) moves back to New York City after a few years abroad and finds the perfect Brooklyn apartment for a fresh start. Yet, on the first night in her new home, she discovers that her ex-boyfriend Ben (Matthew Shear) lives in the apartment below hers. After an awkward reunion, Diana proclaims her intentions for a genuine friendship. But as old wounds are opened, both Diana and Ben are forced to confront the true nature of their feelings.

VIKING DESTINY (Blu-ray)

Lionsgate

Viking Destiny is a world full of action and adventure, following a young Viking princess — Princess Helle (Anna Demetriou). The princess has been forced to flee her kingdom after being framed for the murder of her father, the King. Under the guidance of the god Odin, she travels the world, in exciting travels and non-stop fashion, all the while, gaining wisdom and

building the army she needs to win back her throne. Also Starring Ian Beattie, Will Mellor and Terence Stamp.

OUR CARTOON PRESIDENT: SEASON ONE - WITH WORLD CLASS AMENITIES (3-DVD)

CBS Home Ent. +

Paramount Home Media

Executive Producer Stephen Colbert delivers an animated series about life inside the White House under Cartoon President Donald Trump. Trump is joined by puppy-brained sons Don Jr. and Eric, plus wildly out of touch Democrats, and many more. He faces natural disasters, the Russian collusion investigation, and the temptation to nuke anyone who suggests he should eat a salad. When you're finished screaming, laugh at what America has become in the era of *Our Cartoon President*. Exclusive special features include: Introduction by Stephen Colbert, On-Camera Insights by Show Creators, Writers, Animators and Art Directors, Audio Commentaries on Select Episodes, Assorted Clips, Table Read, and more. Enjoy all 17 episodes and "Election Special 2018."

AGONY (DVD)

IndiePix Films

A young woman is murdered, her body dismembered, its parts dumped across Vienna. Two suspects emerge without a clear motive. Christian, a law student who sells concessions part-time at a movie theatre, and Alex, an image-obsessed rapper/boxer. Each young man is trapped in his expectations, set against the abstraction of a violent postmodern news-scape. One of them goes berserk and becomes a killer. Amounting to much more than a slasher movie, *Agony* is a split-narrative character study, comparing two distinct male millennial personalities whose stories do not overlap, save for the fact that they each live in Vienna — if two distinct Viennas. Poignant questions of machismo and sexual identity are deftly brought to light. Based on the true story of shocking and inexplicable murder.

TOPPER TAKES A TRIP (Blu-ray)

MVDvisual

Cosmo Topper finds himself haunted once again in this hilarious follow-up to the classic *Topper*. But this time it's only one spirit ... the lovely Marian Kirby. It seems that while her husband George has made it 'up there,' Marian hasn't quite reached the necessary spirit level to join him. Seeing that her earthling friend, Topper, is having personal and marital difficulties once more, the screwball spirit decides to help him out ... with the expected results. Before he knows what's going on, the bewildered Topper is off on a mad jaunt to the Riviera with lunacy not far behind. A wealth of memorable characters pop up to add to the hilarity of the classic fantasy-comedy with Roland Young and Constance Bennett repeating the successful portrayals of the haunted and the lovely haunter in *Topper Takes a Trip*.

Happy New Year to our readers of Video Views and Facts on Wax!

The time has come, the walrus said,

TO TALK OF MANY THINGS of shoes and ships and sealing wax of cabbages and kings

by Sal Giarratani

HAVE YOU HEARD THE LARRY NOVAK SHOW?

Conservative radio talk show host Larry Novak can be heard on WVBF 1530 AM every Saturday from 11:00 a.m. until noon. He takes on the political issues of the day and gives a local perspective on it all.

I SAID IT BEFORE, I'LL SAY IT AGAIN

Best conservative talk guy has to be the young Buck Sexton whose show runs on 1200 AM from 6:00-9:00 p.m. weeknights. He is lively, intelligent, educational, and entertaining.

IF THIS IS PREMIUM CHECKING INTEREST ...

One large savings bank is offering customers a whopping 1.25 percent interest on premier checking. What's the rate for non-premier checking accounts? Right now, interest on savings or checking is so low, I go to banks that have good coffee available for free. It is my way of upping my bank interest with caffeine.

EASTIE REAL ESTATE GOING THROUGH THE ROOF

No wonder there are so many families on Section 8 vouchers. How in the world are folks of modest income able to afford the skyrocketing home sale prices or rentals? A three-unit home on Paris Street is for sale with the price a great value at only just under \$650,000. Another three family on Condor Street on the market for seven digits.

This booming economy that City Hall keeps gloating about is a boom for some, but for the rest of us the boom is busting us. How long can all this go on before the economy implodes? Right now, affordability is a sick joke. And it's not just here, it is everywhere. Glad I am not a young person today because you'll be paying through the nose. How can you save today? Once people rented and saved until they could buy their own homes, but with rents on the average of \$2,000 a month or more, who can save?

PUMA DONATES TO BPS ATHLETIC DEPT.

On December 12th, Mayor Marty Walsh and interim School Superintendent Laura Perille were presented with a \$15,000 check from PUMA Basketball to the Boston Public School Athletic Department. This donation will assist the system's sports programs to ensure all students have opportunities to succeed as budding athletes.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO THE OLD BOSTON ARMY BASE

There is a stone marker with a plaque recalling the original Boston Army Base now called the Innovation and Design Building right next to the old Black Falcon Cruise Terminal now renamed in honor of former Boston Mayor Ray Flynn. The old building, which by the way carries an ominous address, 666 Summer Street. I remember when I had to go to the Army Base back in November 1966, to get my physical and get sworn in to the U.S. Air Force. I am glad I didn't know it was 666 Summer Street. Things were already scary enough with the Vietnam War brewing. Did you



Boston Army Base, 100 years old

know this monster building is one third of a mile long and that back when it opened it was the largest office building in the country?

Also the water between the cruise terminal and the old Edison plant about to be turned into condos was actually the South Boston Naval Annex. The Boston Navy Yard was once so busy it had to add the South Boston annex to the Charlestown Navy Yard.

A big Happy Anniversary to the old Boston Army Base that was recycled into its new current use.

ROSS BALDWIN FIFTH GRADE MUSICAL & SALUTE TO VETERANS



My niece Helen with me after the Veteran's Day event.

While down in South Austin, I once again attended two events at my great niece and nephew's school. The Ross Baldwin Elementary School which serves the Meridian area of south Texas put on a great Fifth Grade Musical in which my great niece sang with her fifth grade classmates. Also, the kids put on a great Salute to Veterans for the Veterans Day holiday.



Ross Baldwin Elementary School, Austin, TX, fifth grade students singing some great songs for all to hear.

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