

BEAT



Berlin still breathing with new wave craze

New wavers Berlin made a splash in the early '80s with their single "Sex (I'm A ...)," but really burst on the scene with "Take My Breath Away," the very breathy and steamy love theme from Tom Cruise's "Top Gun." Berlin spent much of the '90s on the sidelines — with lead singer Terri Nunn going solo — but Nunn rebuilt the band in 1999 and released a new disc, "Voyeur," in 2002. "We didn't even know what to do with Berlin, and we broke up because of that," Nunn said. "A lot of bands that came out in the '90s — like Garbage and the Sneaker Pimps and Nine Inch Nails, who took electronic music to a completely different area — excited me as to what Berlin could do now." Berlin will perform at 10 p.m. Wednesday, May 18, at Chilkoot Charlie's. Tickets to the 21-and-up concert are \$25.



Will singer-songwriter get on or feet

The last time Iowa singer-songwriter Greg Brown was in town, he got the audience on its feet. "The 750-plus folks who showed up knew to expect plenty of edgy wordplay, eccentricity and a deep, gravelly, frail vibrato of a voice," according to a Daily News review of a 2003 concert. "Brown didn't disappoint them, and the crowd would later pay him a standing ovation for it." Brown will perform at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 14, in Discovery Theatre. Tickets are \$22.50, available at CarrsTix or Metro Music & Book. Brown's daughter, Pieta, will open, and Bo Ramsey will accompany both on guitar.



AK This Month ignites noise at birthday bash

AK This Month will celebrate its fourth anniversary in a loud way. Metal band Re:Ignition, featuring Steev Esquivel and Snake from Skinlab, will perform at 9 p.m. Thursday, May 19, at Chilkoot Charlie's. The concert is free, though a cover charge may apply. Local bands Spitshine & Dead on Fourth will open.

A 'Star' fete Boba would be proud of

Use these tips to throw the best-ever 'Sith' bash

By JAMIE ROGERS
Anchorage Daily News

Some were weaned on and Jawas and Wookiees in 1977. Others only began to pay attention to Padme Amidala in 2002. Fans of the "Star Wars" saga are a motley assortment of old-school aficionados and prequel devotees. But they all likely will be anticipating the sixth installment of George Lucas' sci-fi epic.

More than 25 years after the saga began, "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith" opens in theaters Thursday, May 19. As the story of a great adventure in a galaxy far, far away comes full circle, why not celebrate with your own circle of friends and fans. Whether throwing a pre-party for midnight showings of "Sith" or a wake for what was once good filmmaking, these tips will help get your "Star Wars" party started.

SUPER SONIC

Nothing sets a mood better than music. Create a galactic groove with some specially selected "Star Wars" tunes.

For an authentic vibe, find John Williams' soundtracks for all six movies at retail music sellers or online merchants. Need the tracks at hyper-speed? Download individual tracks from Williams' scores for 99 cents or buy the entire albums via iTunes.

To make your party truly memorable, cue up your own mix of music influenced by the stars. Here are some suggestions for satisfying most species of partygoers:

- "Imperial March," John Williams
- "Intergalactic," The Beastie Boys
- "Lucky Star," Madonna
- "Venus as a Boy," Bjork
- "Cosmic Thing," The B-52's
- "Baby I'm a Star," Prince
- "Space Oddity," David Bowie
- "Rocket Man," Elton John
- "Cantina Band," John Williams
- "Subterranean Homesick Alien," Radiohead
- "Lost in Space," Aimee Mann
- "Starship Trooper," Yes
- "Space Truckin'," Deep Purple
- "Chewbacca," Supernova
- "Yoda," Weird Al Yankovic
- "Watermelon Man," Herbie Hancock (channeling Ewoks)
- "Stardust," Willie Nelson

If you'd rather stick with complete albums, try "The Planets" by Gustav Holst or "Mothership Connection" by Parliament. Just play anything to get the Force flowing on the dance floor.

PARTY CLOTHES

Leave your earthly iden-



Photos by Lucasfilm Ltd.

The sixth installment of the "Star Wars" series is reason to celebrate, but don't make a hospitality mistake like this surprise banquet in "The Empire Strikes Back." Read "The Star Wars Party Book" by Mikyla Bruder or our own tips for themed snacks, decorations and entertainment.

tity behind and come dressed as your favorite character or one of the nameless mass of extras. Professional costumes can be purchased online from the official "Star Wars" site at www.shopstarwars.com. However, Dooley's Tuxedo & Costumes at 730 E 15th Ave. has adult costumes of Darth Vader, a stormtrooper, Yoda, Chewbacca and Leia. Costs for a one-day rental range from \$57 to \$97 depending on the outfit. The shop also stocks child costumes for sale. Store owner Starla Heim says the costumes could rent quickly, but there are plenty of non-"Star Wars" costumes that could be adapted to resemble outer-space characters. For availability, call the store at 272-5517.

Party World at 3810 Arctic Blvd. also has adult "Star Wars" costumes available to rent. Call 561-5558 for prices and availability.

To complete your look or just strike fear in your party hosts, check out Borders Books & Music, 1100 E. Dimond Blvd. The

store has Lucas-licensed light sabers with blue or red glowing blades and sound effects from the movies on sale now for \$99.

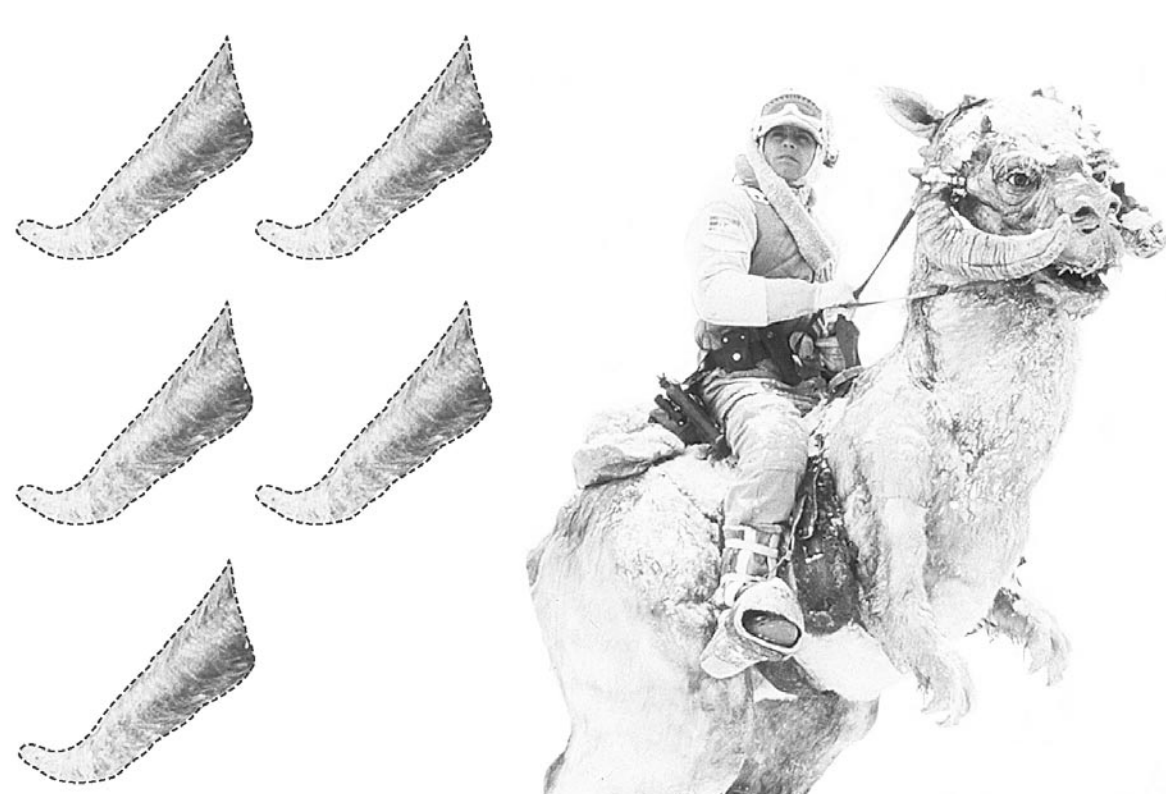
Fly the other end of the costume universe by making your own low-budget versions of popular characters. Be Obi-Wan Kenobi or a Jawa in a brown hooded bathrobe. Wrap a belt around a white, long-sleeved dress for instant Princess Leia. Tape rubbish to a trash bag and then slip it over your body — you're the garbage compactor. For our detailed guide to "Star Wars" attire, see Page 17.

DARTH DECOR, YODA GRUB

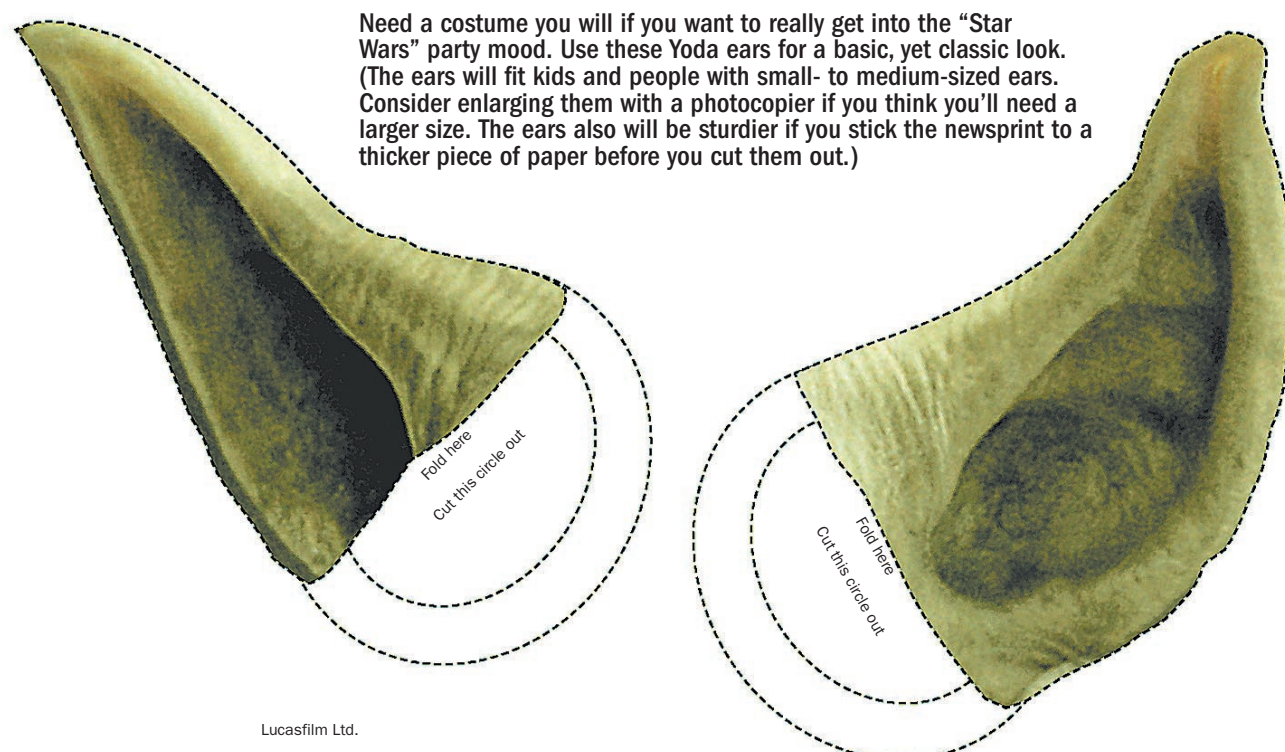
It's a rare human who has an R2 unit ready to serve guests; you'll have to coordinate party favors and decorations on your own.

Party World and Party Craft at 639 International Airport Road and various Hallmark stores have officially licensed "Star Wars" party favors. Darth Vader and Yoda, light sabers drawn,

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Fans of the "Star Wars" saga can adapt classic party games to keep the young and young at heart entertained. "Pin the Tail on the Tauntaun," inspired by "The Empire Strikes Back," is a test of memory and anatomy. Get an adult to help you cut out the tails, kids, then wrap a blindfold around your eyes. Take turns trying to connect the tail to Luke's steed on the ice planet Hoth.



Lucasfilm Ltd.

Need a costume you will if you want to really get into the "Star Wars" party mood. Use these Yoda ears for a basic, yet classic look. (The ears will fit kids and people with small- to medium-sized ears. Consider enlarging them with a photocopier if you think you'll need a larger size. The ears also will be sturdier if you stick the newsprint to a thicker piece of paper before you cut them out.)

Instructions: Cut around the edges of the ears and the inner circle, leaving a loop at the end of each Yoda ear. Fold a straight edge where the Yoda ear meets the loop. Hold the Yoda ear up to your head. The loop, folded where the ear meets your head, points to the back. Stick your real ear through the loophole. When your costume is complete, the Yoda ear should stick out perpendicular to your head and the loop should lay flat against your neck behind your real ear. Your real ear should be behind the Yoda ear.

FETE: From Page 5

gaze back at you in packages of stickers, plates, goodie bags an even fold-up 3-D Vader helmets. Less commercial and more unique, solid-colored party accessories will bring to mind specific characters. Mix and match these motifs:

- black and white (Vader, stormtroopers)
- sage or emerald green (Yoda or Boba Fett)
- metallic silver and gold (R2-D2 and C-3PO)
- brown (Jawas or Chewbacca)

Choose plates, napkins, table coverings, cutlery and helium-filled balloons to complete your theme.

Do or do not, there is no try when you want to re-create the atmospheres of "Empire's" planets Hoth or Dagoba with wispy fog. Use 2 to 4 pounds of food-grade dry ice for each gallon of room-temperature punch or water. Food-grade dry ice is available at Fred Meyer, 2300 Abbott Road, for \$1.79 per pound. Bring an ice cooler, or other similar container that can be vented, to hold the solid carbon dioxide until you get home. The ice should be handled only by adults wearing gloves since it can damage your bare skin, and although it's food grade, you should not eat the ice. Carefully scoop out any remaining pieces after the ice chunks have mostly sublimated.

Satisfy hungry bounty hunters with a variety of refreshments. "The Star Wars Cookbook" by Robin Davis and "The Star Wars Cookbook II" by Frank Frankeny offer inspired recipes including Hoth Chocolate, Tusken Raider Taters, Han-burgers, Padme Pad-Thai, Yoda Soda and more. For some locally cooked-up "Star Wars" recipes, see Page 15.

Commercial snack tie-ins include Pepsi, M&Ms and Cheez-its, or you could always order a "Jabba the" Pizza Hut pie.

To make your own snacks, use your imagination, Luke. W.W.Y.E. What would Yoda eat? Probably some Dinty-Moore stew or any energy bar, unwrapped and hand-molded into a round stick shape. Place un-

wrapped Hershey bars (almonds side up) on a plate, call them Han Solo carbon-freeze bars, then call it a day. And cinnamon buns. If you have to ask ...

THE KIDS' TABLE

Judge them not by their size. Little "Star Wars" fans like to party just as much as big kids. The easiest way to entertain youngsters is to let them watch the movies. They may not have seen the films in theaters, so this is one time when they can get an education in front of the television. Get to stores now if you want to rent a marathon's worth of movies, or buy the films wherever DVDs and video tapes are sold.

However, in a change from his previous films, George Lucas' "Sith" is the first "Star Wars" film to carry the PG-13 rating (for sci-fi violence and some intense images). Some little

Jedis may need more training before they go to the theater.

Kids (and some adults) also can get hours of entertainment out of toys related to the movies, and you don't have to go far to find them. For a comprehensive look at "Star Wars" playthings, see Page 7.

Again, the only limit to some great kid-friendly party games is your imagination.

Make your own Jar Jar Binks pinata. Use our templates to play "Pin the Tail on the Tauntaun" or make Yoda ears (let your folks wield the scissors, kids). Think up your own "Star Wars" crafts.

You'll never know how much fun you can get out of empty paper gift-wrap tubes until two junior Jedis square off against each other with them.



NOW PLAYING

Don't have so much fun that you forget when the movie premieres. Century 16, 301 E. 36th Ave., opens "Revenge of the Sith" with showings at 12:01 and 12:10 a.m. Thursday. The 12:01 showing has sold out. Regal Totem at 3131 Muldoon Road will be showing "Sith" at 11:59 p.m. Wednesday.

Get there early if you don't have tickets already. It may be the last time you will see an opening night of the "Star Wars" films.

■ Jamie Rogers is a copy editor for the Daily News.



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