

**REEL
REVIEWS**

Movies go for the Money and/or the Oscars

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The movie-houses went for the money as 1985 turned to 1986, and, buried among the

Diplomatic Corps, into which she has married, with the value-system she developed during the war.

This is not a true story although the film includes real

thur Conan Doyle.

The film is quite good, especially the characters of Holmes, played superbly by Nicholas Rowe, and Watson, played by Alan Cox. Holmes

meets Watson at an exclusive private school and after solving "crimes" created by his friends for fun, comes face-to-face with a real mystery.

"Young Sherlock" makes a deliberate attempt to tie the characters and even the look of the young pair to their later famous traits—for example, the distinctive hat and pipe of Holmes are introduced in this film. Conan Doyle had in fact written that Watson and Holmes met in later life, but that inconsistency does not much effect the enjoyability of this movie—a descendent of Conan Doyle even gave it her blessing.

There are a few spots where the credibility of "Young Sherlock" departs acceptable levels, but this is nevertheless an enjoyable film. It was directed by Barry Levinson

"The Jewel of the Nile" has little in the way of theme or characterization, but was nevertheless reasonably enjoyable.

A sequel to "Romancing the Stone," "The Jewel of the Nile" continues the romance between Jack Colton, played by Michael Douglas, and Joan

Wilder, played by Kathleen Turner.

Joan experiences writers' block and so eagerly accepts an offer to write the life story of an Arab-looking strong-man as he plans to take over a region of Africa. Wilder is too honest for what she finds in Africa, and subsequently gets into trouble. After being rescued by Jack the twosome, along with the Holy Man (Avner Eisenberg), are pursued through desert territory meeting exotic tribes and experiencing high adventure.

This film is full of action and has a few humorous moments but it has little else. The film was directed by Lewis Teague.

"Spies Like Us" is a very popular film but is only of moderate quality.

It stars Chevy Chase and Dan Aykroyd as two formerly lacklustre government employees who are "promoted" into spies to act, unbeknown to them, as decoys for the real spies. Aslin Millborge and Emmet Fitzhume get into some hilarious positions as they trek from desert country into southern

Continued on page 11



Disguised as locals, Jack and Joan (Michael Douglas and Kathleen Turner) elude their pursuers in the recent hit film "Jewel of the Nile"

greater and lesser blockbusters, were a couple of films that may be up for an Oscar or two.

The Christmas season is one of the biggest movie-going seasons of the year and this year the cinemas were jammed with mass-appeal films to cater to the rush. A record number of films were held over recently—in fact, for the first time in my memory, there were no new films last Friday in Fredericton. The best film since last spring, however, went by unnoticed. My top marks for fall 1985 would go to "Plenty" starring Meryl Streep.

The following is a brief rundown of some of the recent films:

In "Plenty", Meryl Streep played Susan, whose life was traced from her days with The French underground during the second world war up to the recent past.

This was a superb film in almost all respects, but the characterization was particularly good. We gradually see Susan's character change from the tough war agent through an indecisive period when she had several non-committal affairs to a psychotic stage where she has terrible trouble reconciling the attitudes of the British

historical events, such as the Suez Crisis, in its plot. The movie-goer is left wondering how much is fact or fiction although it seems very likely that diplomatic life must be somewhat like that portrayed in "Plenty"

I expect there will be a few Oscar nominations for this film which was directed by Fred Schepisi.

Another film due for an Oscar or two is "White Nights". This traces the story of a Soviet defector who unexpectedly returns to the Soviet Union when his plane makes a forced landing there. The defector, played by real-life defector and dancer Mikhail Baryshnikov, meets an American dancer, played by Gregory Hines, who has defected to the Soviet Union, in Siberia.

The plot is fascinating and unique and the views behind the iron curtain, where all the action takes place, are tantalising. Some of the footage was actually shot in Leningrad and smuggled out (you can tell these scenes by the angles and quality drop)

"Young Sherlock Holmes" is another attempt to squeeze an interesting plot out of the characters created by Sir Ar-

UNB is tuning up

The UNB Bicentennial Choir is now welcoming new members for the second half of the 1985-86 season. The only re-

quirements are that you are a full or part time student, and that you like to sing.

Rehearsals are every

Monday at 7 p.m. in the Memorial Hall Auditorium, leading to a major concert in late March, and two or three performances to round off the year.

Don't be shy. It's a great way to make good friends, recharge your batteries and generally fight

off the winter blahs.

If interested (or if you had the intentions last term but not the time) come out on Monday, January 13. The repertoire is varied, challenging, rewarding and fun. For more information, phone Director Steve Peacock at 474-0755.



UNB Bicentennial Choir singing at the fall convocation