



Stolen baby steals show

Raising Arizona
Twentieth Century Fox
Capital Square Cinema

review by Melinda Vester

Raising Arizona is a comic love story that looks at the problems of parenting.

After numerous visits to jail, H.I. McDonough (Hi) falls in love with his booking officer at the police station, Edwina (Ed). Many arrests later, the unlikely couple gets married. Everything is perfect. Almost perfect, that is. This couple can't have children to finish their happy little family. Their dream picture isn't complete.

Conveniently, the wealthy Nathan Arizona Sr. and his lovely wife, Florence, are blessed with quintuplets, so the McDonoughs have hope. Ed, played by Holly Hunter, feels she absolutely must have a child, and as the Arizonas have so many children, why not? Hi (played by Nicolas Cage) may have his apprehensions about Ed's idea, but he goes along with it anyway. From here on the couple have to avoid the police, a bounty hunter and two convicts.

Nathan Jr., the stolen child, steals the show from his adult co-star. He is a cute and lovable child whose expressions comment on the "adult" behavior around him. He's never in the least bit concerned about the events that occur and smiles continuously throughout the film. It took fifteen children to film the roles of the Arizona quintuplets, particularly in the scene in which Hi steals Nathan Jr. When Hi breaks in to the Arizonas' home, all

five babies escape from their crib and Hi has to put them back to bed, quietly. This scene is absolutely hilarious. Hi looks like a child trying to control a whole box full of kittens that don't want to cooperate. (And babies are difficult to work with at the best of times!)

Hi is another lovable character, well-played by Nicholas Cage. As a criminal, he is a convenience store bandit; as a husband and father he's incompetent, but he tries hard. He is a complete idiot, although he means well. Hi wears loud shirts and Bermuda shorts, a comment on his mentality, and his hair is always a mess.

Ed is also lovable. As a cop, the audience wonders why anybody would give her a gun. As a wife, she is demanding; she keeps Hi under her thumb. At least she has some sense though. When Hi's two buddies from jail arrive at their home, Ed says they can't stay. Although Hi talks her into letting them stay for one night, Ed's first instincts were right, Hi's buddies are wanted men. Holly Hunter plays this role with a great deal of humor, she is very convincing.

'Frantic' describes the pace of the film. The stunts are, at times, hair-raising. On one occasion the two convicts discover that they had left the baby on the roof of the car and he fell off. When they backed up to find the child, they stopped just inches short of crushing the little fellow, leaving the audiences' hearts in their stomachs.

All in all, the film is quite funny and it may actually leave you in stitches. You will, for sure, say "is it over already?"

Making Waves

by Dragos Ruiu

The last word...
This is my last column of the year.

It's been interesting, I'll give you that. It's also been very surprising. The mail this column has generated was a big surprise. When you put in x hours per week to write something for the Gateway you never actually think that people read this stuff. So when you get your first piece of mail, or you meet someone who says they like your stuff or loudly declare that you are a twit before they know you, it can be very disconcerting.

I survived, and you know what? I learned something. Never underestimate the media! If there is anything I have learned all year volunteering for this paper it's that what story Dan Rather's editors choose as the lead story counts for more than anything that the Senator from Hoboken could possibly do.

In our part of the world, we rely on the media to keep the government in check, and more importantly to tell us what the famous people are doing. What? Why is that important? Simply put, ours is a world of fantasies. Our lives are mundane compared to those of the 'stars', and the majority of the people all secretly have their idols who they try to emulate. Be it H. Ross Perot's business dealings or Don Johnson's stubble, the slaving masses usually emulate them. (Ask yourself, how many pink T-shirts did you see guys wearing before *Miami Vice*?)

That's why *People* magazine thrives. As revolting as the concept is, we must face it that trends are started by media stars and followed by everyone else, not vice versa. When John Wayne got pissed off at a Republican convention, that's news, boy.

So never underestimate the newspaper editors, the TV reporters, the media. They have the power that politicians crave; they control the people. (Yeah, yeah, paranoid delusions and all...)

But it has been an interesting year, and if I have made one person think then I'm happy! Good luck on finals...

Fluff:

There has only been one crossbow murder in England since 1971. Always a handy fact.

Jimmy Swaggart's long awaited *Best of album* has been released. The disappointment? No duets with Jerry Falwell. Shucks! But I heard it says interesting things if you play it backwards...

Question of the week: Does the Canadian Home Shopping Channel have any real video cameras? Why then do they only show still flashes of their commentators?

In the States 11 BILLION dollars worth of cocaine and marijuana was seized in 1984. In Canada, we spent 15 billion on all aspects of the music industry last year. Yikes, I wonder if they would miss one tenth of one percent of that? (I know a really worthy cause...)

Gossip: Mandy Smith, now 16, has recently received a recording contract and recorded "I Just Can't Wait." You might remember Mandy from her splashy affair with Rolling Stone Bill Wyman, last summer. Wyman's age? 50!

Quote: Patti Smith, 1973. "Rock 'n' roll is for men. Real rock 'n' roll is a man's job. I want to see a man up there. I want to see a man's muscles, a man's veins. I don't want to see no chick's tit banging against a bass." Suuure, whatever you say, Patti....

A parting thought: Have you ever calculated Barbie's real life measurements if she was 5'8"? Try it. It's shocking.

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