



Leslie Nielsen shows off the effects of his education at Thorhild school in *The Naked Gun*.

Naked Gun is good escapist comedy for the masses

The Naked Gun *
Famous Players Capitol Square**

review by Grant N. Winton

Okay, we've all seen the detective shows where the detective slams open the door, does a forward roll into the room and comes up firing. But how often have you seen him follow it up by cartwheeling into the bedroom, handspringing down the hall, and still managing to maintain his composure when confronted by a sexy blonde boiling a chuck roast in the kitchen? This is the sort of thing that goes on in *The Naked Gun*. The movie, which is based on the defunct TV series *Police Squad*, is guaranteed to keep you rolling in the aisles.

The Naked Gun, like *Airplane* and *Top Secret*, the previous offerings from executive producers/writers Jerry Zucker, Jim Abrahams, and David Zucker, is a continuous string of sight gags and slapstick humour, where nothing ever seen in a detective movie is sacred. From the antics of O.J. Simpson, to Leslie Nielsen and

George Kennedy sitting in their squad car eating pistachio nuts until their lips turn red, we are exposed to every police stereotype possible, and see each disintegrate before our eyes.

The plot of the film concerns Lt. Frank Drebin (Nielsen) trying to prevent the assassination of Queen Elizabeth during her visit to Los Angeles. The hit man hired for the job is wealthy and respected businessman Vincent Ludwig (played by Ricardo Montalban, who makes a great villain). In the process of tracking him down, Drebin meets and falls in love with Ludwig's beautiful personal assistant, Jane Spencer (Priscilla Presley). The plot is actually unimportant and serves only to lead us from one joke to the next. It is the continual humour that makes the movie, and keeps the audience laughing.

Leslie Nielsen is excellent as the deadpan Drebin, and describes his character as "the quintessential character of our time. He's King Lear, Everyman, Rosencrantz, Guildenstern and Gumby all rolled into one." Drebin is the klutzy protagonist of the film, who, as a true cop, hasn't eaten at home in so long that, when he does, he

Littlefoot grows up in Land Before Time

Land Before Time *
Cineplex Odeon Eaton Centre**

review by Sherry Beswetherick

Land Before Time is an animated journey back to the prehistoric era. The story centers around one dinosaur, Littlefoot, a baby brontosaurus. As the world around Littlefoot, his mother, and his grandparents changes, they realize they must get to the Great Valley, a land of lush vegetation, if they are to survive.

Along the way Littlefoot meets up with a stubborn young triceratops named Cera (pronounced Sara). Cera announces that she only plays with "her own kind," but Littlefoot chases her and tries to get her to play with him anyways.

The two young dinosaurs manage to run into a monstrous "sharp-tooth"; a flesh-eating tyrannosaurus rex. The "sharp-tooth" chases them until finally Littlefoot's mother comes to the rescue. Although the brontosaurus outweighs the tyrannosaurus rex, the "sharp-tooth" still manages to harm Littlefoot's mother and she dies.

While this ferocious battle goes on there is an "earthquake." The land splits open, and many dinosaur families are split up, including Littlefoot and his grandparents. Littlefoot realizes he must continue the journey to the Great Valley if he is to ever

see his grandparents again.

Along the way, Littlefoot meets up with four other young dinosaurs who have also been separated from their families: Petrie, a pterodactyl who is afraid of flying, a happy little antosaurus named Ducky, Spike, whom they find still unhatched, and finally Cera. They all decide to travel together and although Cera and Littlefoot have their little arguments, they manage to get to the Great Valley safely and are reunited with their families.

The animation in *Land Before Time* is fantastic; almost lifelike, if you can imagine a live cartoon. The backgrounds are especially good, with details like moving cloud formations and leaves rustling in the wind.

The storyline deals with some issues that are very real dilemmas for some children. First, the death of a parent. The movie provides very emotional scenes of Littlefoot trying to understand why his mother died; something that even captured my attention. Loneliness is another issue, along with friendship and acceptance as Littlefoot is brought together with the other dinosaurs. They learn that it does not matter what one looks like; it's what is inside that counts.

Even though *Land Before Time* is just over an hour in length, it is a good, entertaining movie for all ages. Who says you have to be a child to watch cartoons?

FM 88 CJSR Weekly playlist

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1988

THIS LAST WEEKS
WEEK WEEK ON

1	1	2	Guerilla Welfare — Rhesus Pieces
2	18	2	Boyoyo Boys — TJ Today
3	2	3	Mendelson Joe — Born To Cuddle
4	7	3	My Dog Popper — 668 Neighbor of the Beast
5	-	1	R.E.M. — Green
6	-	1	Mary Margaret O'Hara
7	5	4	Steve Earle — Copperhead Road
8	3	3	Various Artists — Stay Awake
9	6	2	Talk Talk — Spirit of Eden
10	-	1	Los Lobos — La Pistola Y El Corazon
11	-	1	Sonic Youth — Daydream Nation
12	11	2	Danzig — Self-titled
13	-	1	Public Enemy — It Takes a Nation of Millions
14	10	4	Fishbone — Truth & Soul
15	17	4	Lloyd Cole & the Commotions — Mainstream
16	-	1	Ruben Blades — Antecedente
17	-	1	Ministry — The Land of Rape & Honey
18	9	3	Arlene Mantle — In Solidarity
19	-	1	Brian Lynch Sextet
20	-	1	John Oswald — Plunderphonics
EPs			
1	1	2	Grant Hart — 2541
2	7	3	MC 88 & the Crush Crew — Tory Tory Tory
3	-	2	Funky Worm — Hustle!
4	5	8	Rin Tin Tin — Give Meech a Chance
5	2	3	Bicycle Thieves — Imperial Love
6	3	5	Wicker Man — Frightened
7	-	2	Stompin' Tom Connors — Lady R.D. Lang
8	4	6	Colour Nine — One Colour Grey
9	6	4	Sun Gods — Sometimes
10	9	4	Antelope In Apache Land — Birdz Iye Vue

can't find anything in the fridge less than three years old. Priscilla Presley is surprisingly good, and amazingly gorgeous, as Jane, the girl who practices safe sex by wearing a six-foot condom over her entire body. The cast also includes cameo appearances from Reggie Jackson, "Weird Al" Yankovic, and John Houseman (how they got him to do something like this we'll never know).

In places, the movie seems to have serious passages that last longer than necessary, but in reality they probably

only take about two minutes each before leading into another joke. But even during these serious stretches, you need only look at Nielsen's face (he is on the screen for the entire picture), and you'll break into fits of laughter. Let's just hope that with a face like his, he sticks to comedy movies.

For a good evening's entertainment, you can't beat a good escapist comedy film with absolutely no message, and *The Naked Gun* fits the bill nicely. This movie lives up to expectations, and is well worth seeing.

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