

Our reviewer swoons for new James Bond

Bond is back at last. How does Timothy Dalton fare? This will probably sound like heresy, but I like him better than Roger Moore, George Lazenby (of course) and yes - even better than Sean Connery.

The Living Daylights follows the usual Bond formula. A beautiful woman, lots of neat gadgets, lots of close calls, and of course, shaken, not stirred, martinis. This movie has some shortcomings though: for one

thing it is a bit too long. I'm sure scenes could have been edited without the plot suffering.

The plot itself is the usual madman out to destroy the world sort of thing. However, the villains in this case, Brad Whittaker, an American arms dealer with the mind of a six year old and General Kaskov, a wayward Russian general, are really unworthy foes. They are made to seem so foolish that it is difficult to

believe they can mastermind a shopping trip to the grocery store, let alone a plot to undermine Glasnost and detente and pave the way to World War Three.

The locations are the usual exotic, starting with the breathtaking opening in Gibraltar, on to Czechoslovakia, Austria, Tangier, Afghanistan, and of course, England. This is escapism on a grand scale. That is the enduring appeal of the bond series - you do not think, you just watch the scenery, the people and the nifty cars. However, I felt that by the time they hit Afghanistan they had gone a little too far in their search for diversion; it was just plain silly to pull the Mujahedin into the picture, even if we get to see Art Malik (Harry Kumar from the Jewel in the Crown television series). There are some scary moments when Bond and Kara, his lady for the movie, take off from a flaming Russian air base with a cargo full of opium, explosives and the requisite murderous henchman. But not enough to justify the time spent in Afghanistan.

This Bond movie has fewer women in bikinis. We never see Maryam D'Abo in anything remotely skimpy, and Dalton never takes off his shirt. Though I'm sure some of the men will miss the swimsuits, I was glad that some sense of the feminist movement has finally found its way into the Bond formula. Not that this is in any way a feminist script; it's just slightly less chauvinistic than usual.

I first saw Timothy Dalton in a remake of Wuthering Heights many years ago. Ever since then I have kept my eye out for him. He has a dimple on his chin and a beautiful voice, he is utterly charming and every bit as capable as any of the Bond incarnations. He is one of the few actors that I can really swoon over. To me he was a delight to watch, definitely the best part of the movie.

Maryam D'Abo is a British beauty

who plays Kara, the Czech cellist that captivates Bond from the moment he sees her play. She is blond with very brown eyes and a wonderful mouth; she makes a worthy foil for Dalton. Joe Don Baker is the slimy, childish Whittaker, and Jeroen Krabbe is the foolish buffoon of a bad guy, General Kraskov. Art Malik plays the Mujahedin leader in the unnecessary sidetrip to Afghanistan; his talents are wasted here. At least I hope he had fun doing the movie.

The Living Daylights has its ups and downs, but it is more entertaining than so much so the fare we have had this summer. And Dalton is a pleasure, a Bond to look forward to for many more movies to come.

WHISPERS

by Dorren Palmer

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CHICKEN MANDALAY

- 4 chicken breasts, 8 oz. each
- 3 tbsp. flour
- 1 tsp. curry powder
- 1 tsp. salt
- 4 tbsp. vegetable oil

Bone and halve the chicken breasts. Mix the flour and curry powder with the chicken in a bag and shake to coat the chicken. Brown the chicken breasts in the 4 tbsp. oil. Place in a large baking dish and cover with the following sauce:

SAUCE:

- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1 cup apricot puree (Strained baby food)
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. curry powder
- 4 tsp. vinegar
- 2 tsp. honey

In a saucepan, combine the ingredients. Bring to a boil and simmer 5 minutes. Pour over chicken. Bake covered in 350 degree oven 45 minutes.

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The BEA team

It's not the A Team, it's the Bea Team. The antics of animal detectives Sandra Leun (left) and Stan Cansfield were enjoyed last week at the John Elliott Theatre. The Toronto-based children's theatre group called Lilliput Productions entertains children ages 3-10. (Herald Photo)

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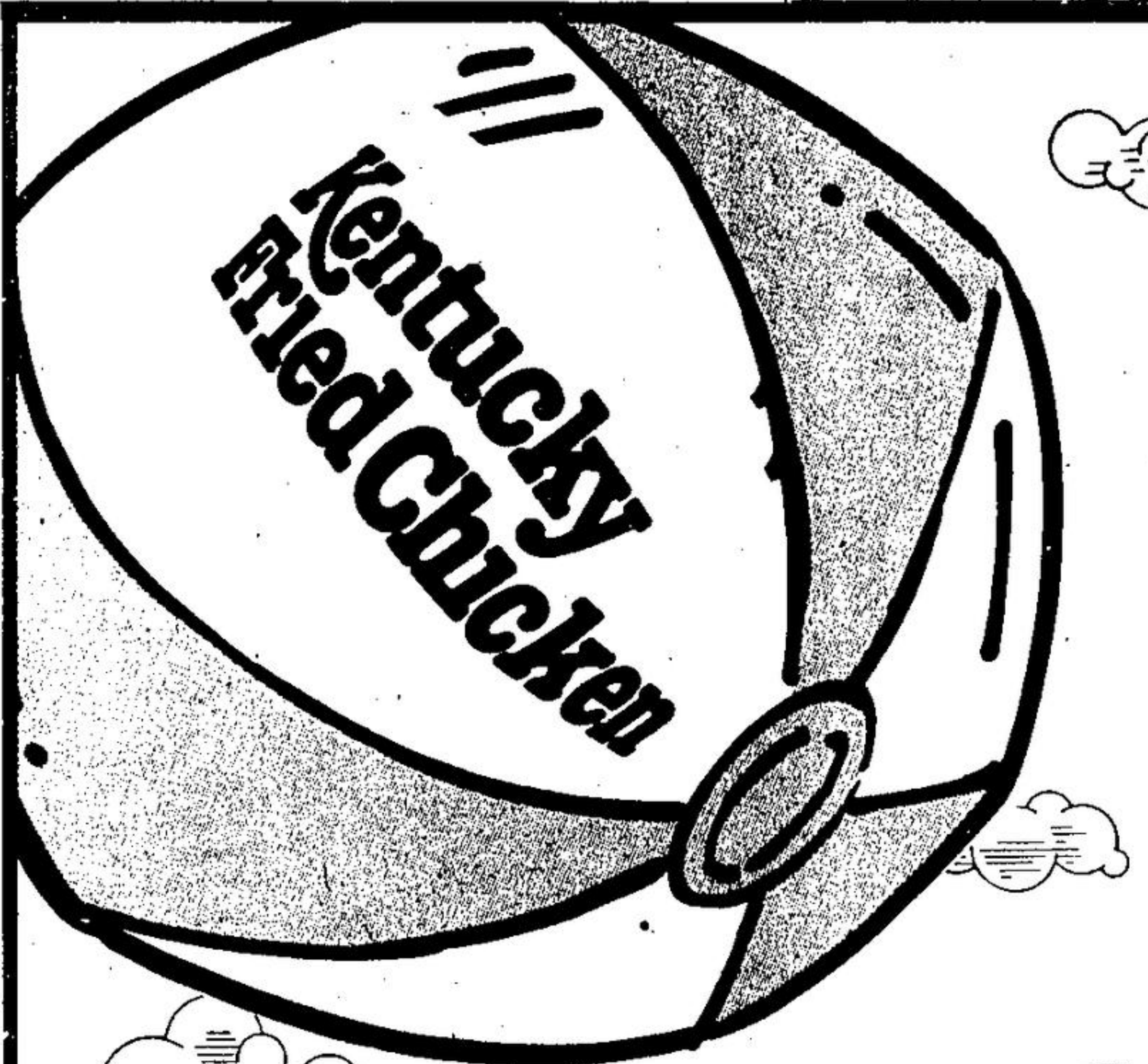
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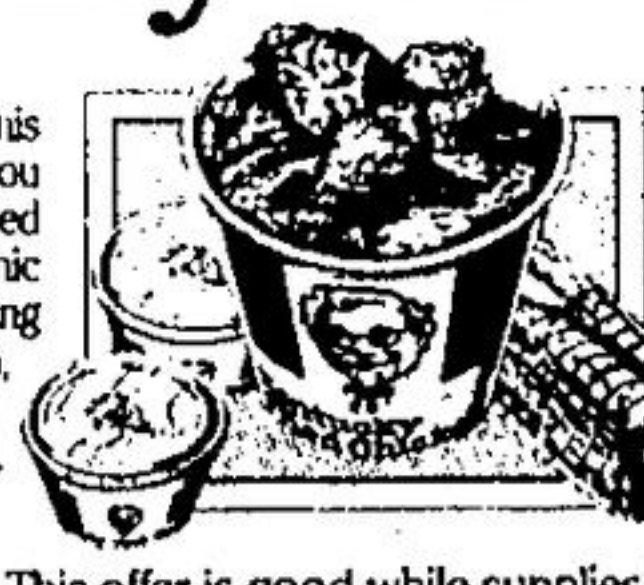
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NOMINATION MEETING

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JOHN TONELLI SPORTS CENTRE
217 Laurier Ave., Milton

Time: 7:30 p.m., August 7th, 1987