

# Entertainment Outlook

## Traditional western making a comeback

### GEORGETOWN CINEMAS

235 GUELPH STREET - 877-6232

1. STARTS TODAY

## IT'S THE BEST FILM OF THE SUMMER"

Two cops on a stakeout. They watched her get up in the morning. They saw her come home every evening. It was all routine until they went undercover.



RICHARD DREYFUSS EMILIO ESTEVEZ

## STAKEOUT

It's a tough job but somebody's got to do it!

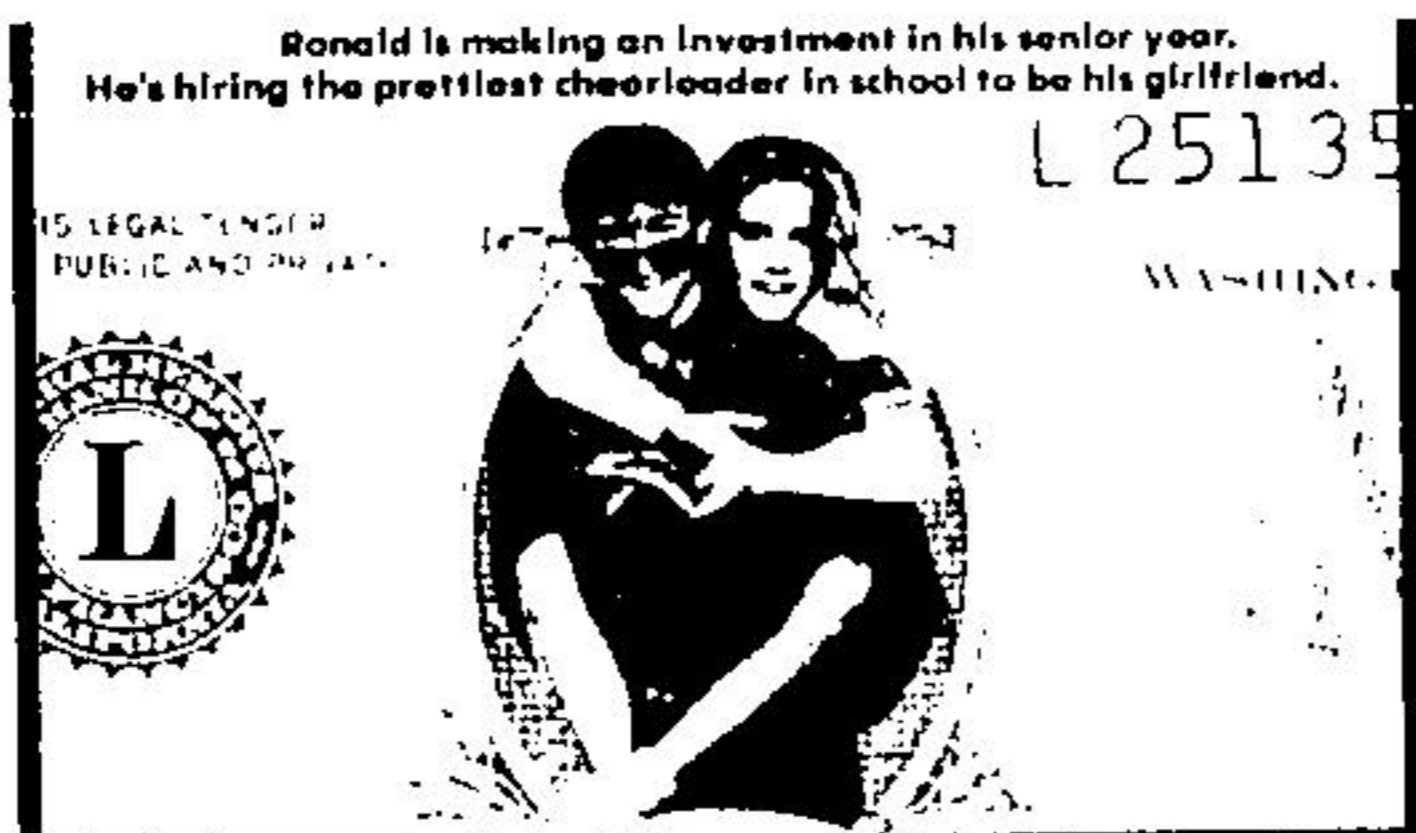
MPAA RATING: R  
 LANGUAGE: COARSE LANGUAGE, BRUTAL VIOLENCE  
 COARSE LANGUAGE  
 BRUTAL VIOLENCE



COARSE LANGUAGE  
BRUTAL VIOLENCE

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3. STARTS TODAY



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 David Thomson, ROLLING STONE

"DIRTY DANCING earns a place as one of the top ten 'pop music' party movies. Right up there with SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER, FLASHDANCE and FOOTLOOSE."  
 David Thomson, ROLLING STONE

[PG-13] PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED

Evenings at 7:00 & 9:15 p.m. Only

At first I was just thrilled to read the great news from Hollywood — the traditional Western is making a comeback.

It's true. Both Bonanza and Gunsmoke are being remade into TV movies, and pilots for several new Western series are in the works. In other words, it looks as if there'll soon be something other than Bugs Bunny for the discerning, intelligent adult to watch on TV.

Mosey on down to the Sony, boys — High Art is a-comin' back.

Now granted, it could be argued that a new Gunsmoke TV movie is something less than an epoch-making event. Indeed, a cynic might point out that the film is unlikely to be a paragon of slam-bam action, considering that both Marshal Dillon and Miss Kitty must be in their 90s by now.

"Is yuh gonna gun down the no-good Weevil Kid, Marshal?" "Sure am, Ma'am. You tell him ah'm right here, a-waitin' for him. Nurse says he can come round durin' visifin' hours..."

Still, no right-thinking person can deny that the traditional Western constituted the high-water mark of true culture — ranking just slightly ahead of the Collected Works of Shakespeare, and well above The Iliad of Homer.

It is a truth universally acknowledged that the apex of human civilization is a pizza (no anchovies), a six-pack and High Noon on the late show.

And that's why it's such a crime that the would-be sociologists of the world are trying their best to ruin our delight at the Western's comeback by claiming that it reflects the stampede back to conservative values in Ronald Reagan's America.

This claim is silly, absurd and insulting.

In the first place, you and I do not live in Ronald Reagan's America. We live in Ronald Reagan's Canada, which is a slightly different matter.

Moreover, I angrily reject any suggestion that I love Westerns because I am a Reaganite conservative. On the contrary — I love Westerns precisely because I am NOT a Reaganite conservative.



Weir's View

By Ian Weir

All true Western-lovers were dismayed when Ron was elected in the first place. This is because he made such lousy Westerns.

Any one of us could have told the Americans that their big mistake was not electing Jimmy Stewart instead. If you want to be led by a cowboy-actor, for Pete's sake, elect a good one.

But the core of the problem is the implication that Westerns are popular because their heroes are men who talk softly and shoot loudly. As such (the argument goes) we secretly wish that the NATO Alliance were led by Wyatt Earp.

Admittedly, Westerns have a certain moral simplicity which is appealing. Life in the 1980s would undoubtedly be much easier if your only concerns were talkin' straight, shootin' square and lookin' for the man who hot your Pa. (On the other hand, your Pa might not be too keen about this state of affairs, but let's leave that aside for the moment.)

But this whole line of argument misses the point. Westerns are not popular because the heroes are simple, straightforward and trigger-happy — they're popular because the villains are simple, straightforward and trigger-happy.

The big problem with the modern world is that the villains refuse to identify themselves by wearing black hats and saying "Har-har-har" when they burn down a homestead.

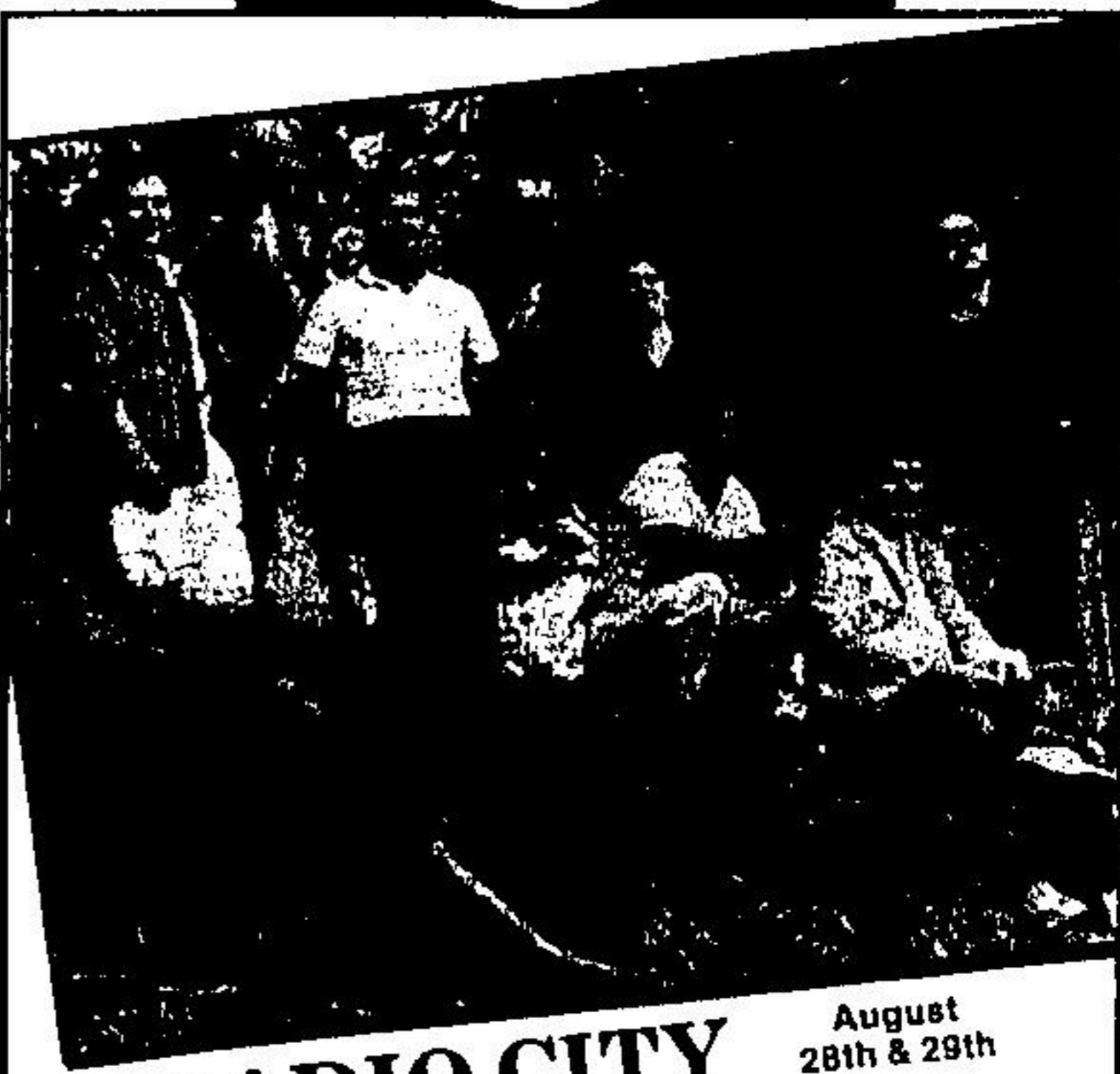
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