

# Movie Review Rustbelt America battles high powered Wall Street

By DAWN WOOD  
Herald Special

Director Norman Jewison has excelled in creating a perfect juxtaposition between rustbelt America and high powered Wall Street in *Other People's Money*. Unlike in *Pretty Woman* where the changing of the American industrial landscape provided a backdrop to the love story, in *Other People's Money* it is the industrial change that is the central plot around which subplots revolve.

The story is set at the New England Wire and Cable Company (NEWC) in Rhode Island

and in the corporate towers of Wall Street. NEWC is an old smokestack industry that is the hub of a small commercial empire worth some hundred million dollars. The corporation is ripe for a takeover by Wall Street because it is debt free, has a substantive working capital, and profitable components aside of the NEWC division. Enter Danny DeVito as Lawrence Garfield, Wall Street mole.

DeVito's high-tech, info network targets the NEWC as ripe for the picking, and DeVito can't resist going after it. Not that he needs the money, but this is the

game; getting richer on other people's money.

After an initial attempt to buy out the firm during an onsite visit that graphically portrayed the two worlds that America has become, DeVito enters a takeover bid. The company guards itself against the attempted takeover like a merchant ship preparing to repel pirates. The captain (Gregory Peck) of the threatened ship rallies the crew to the defence. Peck is beautifully cast in this role with his wispy white hair, pipe, tweed jacket, tall stature and baritone voice perfectly symbolizing the aging

smoke stack industry.

DeVito, on the other hand, perfectly portrays the slippery, worldly, and arrogant Wall Street, representing the new money order that is struggling with an inferiority complex against the Japanese. Bridging the two worlds of the countryside and Wall Street power towers is Peck's daughter Kate (Penelope Ann Miller) who becomes the NEWC lawyer, and is at home in both worlds.

DeVito immediately falls for Penelope, and tries to seduce her and everything that she stands

for. It is hard to tell whether or not we should take this all seriously. Only Penelope's absolute control of this rapport keeps the audience in focus.

The grand finale is reminiscent of a WWF World Championship match with Peck and DeVito verbally slugging it out for the support of the voting shareholders.

*Other People's Money* has been well crafted and the Jewison touch is prevalent throughout. DeVito is therefore restrained from his usual dark point of view, although his darker side can't help but seep into his role. God help us all if Scorsese and DeVito ever team up.

Relative newcomer Penelope Ann Miller plays a very strong and convincing part. And of course Gregory Peck is perfectly cast. Piper Laurie is one of the more versatile performers, who in this flick has a good supporting role as Peck's self-sacrificing wife and business confidant, representing the business values that are becoming obsolete.

The film is a good view of a changing North America. While this process has been going on for over 15 years or more, it is now something that has become part of our pop culture.

# Christmas concert, a memorable event

By BILL HYDE  
Herald Special

Some 450 patrons heard A. Dale Wood direct the Georgetown Choral Society in a rich, warm and well-balanced Christmas concert on Nov. 30.

The resonance of Knox Presbyterian Church coupled with the traditional Christmas format, brings the best out of the Choir. The sound was joyful and majestic and as well-balanced as the season's imported malt products.

The classical ear feasted on Bach's Christmas Oratorio. The familiar chorales, like the Passion Chorale, were superbly shaded and sung precisely. Contralto Eleanor Long added her

rich voice and musical skills in Prepare Thyself Oh Zion solo. Lou Darcie used his exuberance and energetic baritone in paying homage to Mighty Lord and King, also in solo.

For contemporary melodies, John Rutter is hard to beat. His *Il Est Ne. le Divin Enfant*, was sung with great sensitivity and feeling. It brought to mind the Rachmaninoff Ave Maria, the best cut on the Choir's Holland Tape. The timing and control was a joy to behold.

The Choir paid tribute, again, to the late Barry Grosse, as one of the Canadian offerings. Follow Me Down To Bethlehem had novelty, like a Vaughan Williams, counterpoint and presented a real challenge. The Choir was up to the task and polished off this piece without faltering. The Choir sang A. Dale Wood's, When Joseph and Mary Had a Baby Boy, another melodic and original piece.

Christopher Dawes accompanied the Choir for the per-

formances. This gifted musician and organist, understands choirs and complements the human sound by gentle nudging, professionalism and polish. His two solos provided added variety to the evening.

The Choir rounded out the evening with Christmas selections from popular music. This light note ended the concert and was an appropriate ending.

## Nominations being sought

The Office for Disability Issues of the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship requires nominations for its Community Action Awards to recognize individuals who have helped make Ontario a better place for people with disabilities.

Elaine Ziemba, Minister of Citizenship said 12 people will be chosen as award recipients and most will be disabled. As in the past, she said, they will be people who have shown leadership in encouraging the participation of the disabled in society.

Nominations must be received by the Office for Disability Issues by Jan. 31 and may be submitted by FAX to (416) 327-4097 or by mail to the Ontario Office for Disability Issues, 2nd Floor, 700 Bay St, Toronto, Ontario, M5G 1Z6.

For more information about the awards, call Carol Lague at 1-800-387-4456.



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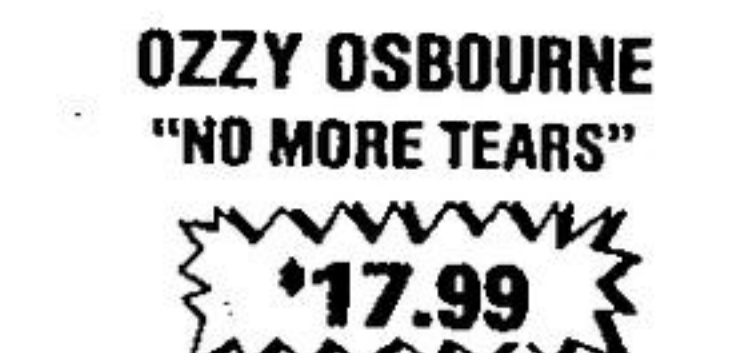
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