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39 Main St., Markham
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Markham Movie Scene
Slugger's Wife
outdated, weak

By IAN BAILEY
THE SLUGGER'S WIFE: With playwright Neil Simon as its writer and director Hal Ashby (Coming Home) behind the camera, this comedy about baseball and love looks promising but strikes out halfway through. Here's the pitch: The Slugger is Darryl Palmer (Michael O'Keefe), a player for the Atlanta Braves. The Slugger's Wife is Debbie (Rebecca De Mornay), an aspiring singer who Darryl ardently pursues until she becomes Mrs. Palmer.

The Slugger's Problem is that he can't see his wife as anything more than a good luck charm whose presence helps him to hit home runs. The Slugger's Wife's Solution to the Slugger's Problem is to run away from home.

STRIKE ONE: This film might have been novel in 1945 or 1955, but in 1985 the key conflict (especially as it's played by O'Keefe and De Mornay) is quite outdated and a bit sexist.

The problem is that O'Keefe and De Mornay are so unevenly matched. O'Keefe's Darryl starts as a rogue but turns into an arrogant creep while De Mornay's Debbie comes across with all the spirit of a puppy. She apologetically seeks out her own career with all the assertion of an eight-year-old leaving home because her parents won't let her stay up and watch TV. There's no tension between the characters and thus no interest.

STRIKE TWO: With the exception of a few heavy hitters, the performances are quite weak. Neil Simon doesn't seem to have given much spirit to either De Mornay's character or the character played

by the other female lead, Canadian Lisa Langlois, and their performances are quite weak. O'Keefe is a bit better but his arrogance remains superficial without another strong character to challenge it.

Unfortunately, the only heavy hitters here are stuck in the dugout. Randy Quaid and Cleavon Derricks are quite funny as Darryl's fellow players but they don't get much time onscreen. The only other solid comic performance comes from film director Martin Ritt (Norma Rae, Souther) as the Brave's coach, who drops a few quite funny lines that match his crusty character.

STRIKE THREE: There's a pretty funny spirit running throughout this movie, but nothing ever seems to come together. It's as though no one quite had their heart in it. While there are some funny scenes, there aren't quite enough. The baseball scenes (particularly the last game) lack suspense. The songs (which were co-ordinated by Michael Jackson's producer Quincy Jones) are hyped-up re-treads of standard hits: (AA) THORNHILL SQUARE

THORNHILL SQUARE: AMADEUS: The brilliantly depicted rise and fall of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, with the fall being engineered by his rival Antonio Salieri. Winner of eight Academy Awards. (PG) ****

THE BREAKFAST CLUB: (AA) Coarse Language) ****

RATINGS
**** - Excellent
*** - Good
** - Fair
* - Poor

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PIANO BAR SUNDAY 7-11 P.M.

DEER PARK PLAZA
346 MAIN ST. N., MARKHAM
HWY. 48, ONE MILE NORTH OF HWY. 7

294-7331

MARKHAM

NOTICE TO ALL RESIDENTS OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM AND THE TOWN OF RICHMOND HILL

NOTICE OF THE PASSING OF A ZONING BY-LAW BY THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF MARKHAM

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Markham passed By-law 100-85 on the 26th of March, 1985 under Section 34 of the Planning Act, 1983

AND TAKE NOTICE that any person or agency may appeal to the Ontario Municipal Board in respect of the by-law by filing with the Clerk of the Corporation of the Town of Markham not later than the 30th day of April, 1985 a notice of appeal setting out the objection to the by-law and the reasons in support of the objection.

An explanation of the purpose and effect of the by-law, describing the lands to which the by-law applies, and a key map showing the location of the lands to which the by-law applies are attached. The complete by-law is available for inspection in my office during regular office hours, Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

DATED at the Town of Markham this 1st day of April, 1985.

G.F. Roseblade A.M.C.T. C.M.C.
Town Clerk
Town of Markham
8911 Woodbine Avenue
Markham, Ontario

Explanatory Note:
By-law 100-85
A by-law to amend By-law 2325-68 and 165-80
The lands affected by this by-law consist of Part of Lots 9 to 14, inclusive, Concession 3, and Part of Lots 9 to 13 inclusive, Concession 4 as shown on the Key Map attached.
The purpose of this by-law is as follows:

- To repeal By-law 2325-68 as it applies to the designated area of this by-law.
- To expand the designated area of By-law 165-80 to include certain lands east of the Rouge River and to zone the said lands as Select Industrial and Limited Commercial (Holding) [(H) MC 60%], Open Space (01) and Institutional and Open Space (02).
- To incorporate two new zones and corresponding development standards into By-law 165-80. The new zones are the Open Space (01) zone and the Institutional and Open Space (02) zone.
- To incorporate Holding (H) zones in accordance with the provisions of the Official Plan and the Planning Act 1983. Exceptions to the development requirements and permitted uses apply to three specific areas in the Institutional and Open Space (02) Zone at the north west corner of Highway 7 and Warden Avenue. The lands zoned (02) adjoining the 01 zone is a public park. The Unionville High School and the Markham Theatre are under construction on the 02 zoned lands adjoining Warden Avenue.

The effect of the by-law is to permit the lands being added to By-law 165-80 to be developed for industrial and associated commercial purposes (MC zone) and Institutional and Open Space uses. The valley of the Rouge River is to be zoned Open Space (01).

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at the
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Map showing the area affected by proposed by-law, including locations like Highway 404, Highway 7, Warden Avenue, and Buttonville.

16th AVENUE

BUTTONVILLE

MUNICIPAL OFFICES

WARDEN AVENUE

404

7

LEGEND:
AREA TO BE ADDED TO BY-LAW 165-80 AND LANDS TO BE ZONED (H) MC 60%, O1 & O2
AREA AFFECTED BY PROPOSED BY-LAW

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CHARITY BROWN
REE BOYD

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