

Weekender Entertainment



He's not Rocky or Rambo

This Stallone not in anyone's shadow



Claremont resident Bill Hammond (right) is a school crossing guard by day and a movie extra by night. He took time out to clown with Frank Stallone, star of *The Pink Chiquitas*, during Monday's filming schedule. Mr. Hammond was asked to serve as an extra in several scenes shot in the north Pickering hamlet.

By CHRIS SHANAHAN

Refer to Frank Stallone as Rocky's little brother and you risk getting punched in the nose.

It's not that he doesn't like the character from his brother Sylvester's blockbuster boxing movies, he'd just rather be known for his own accomplishments.

Stallone's busy in the Claremont area these days acting in his first starring role in the \$1.3 million Canadian feature film, *The Pink Chiquitas*.

"Right now I'm kind of jazzed up about this film," he says of the sci-fi spoof in which he plays ace detective Tony Mareda.

Stallone feels the action comedy is a good way to launch his career in film away from the shadow of Sylvester and the huge success of his Rocky and Rambo movies.

"That's also the best coming out

for me in a starring role," says the actor, who's probably best known for his singing and songwriting. "For me to do a boxing movie or something stupid like that would be the worst possible career move."

Stallone has grown to appreciate his "rural" surroundings while filming around north Pickering and Uxbridge over the past couple of weeks.

The 35-year-old bachelor has created quite a stir when in Claremont shooting scenes in the remodeled four corners district, temporarily renamed Beamsville, U.S.A.

"This (Claremont) is a quiet town where they don't get much excitement, so naturally I get the wolf calls," he explained Monday during a break from filming.

Although his stay here is a big change of pace from his home base of California, Stallone says "I find

the people really nice up here."

He's had small roles in about six movies plus some television work, but it's music that has been his bread and butter over the past 20 years.

The younger Stallone admits to "not seeing eye to eye" with famous brother Sylvester, but says it's nothing more than a normal family disagreement.

Now, he's combining music with his burgeoning acting career in an attempt to develop an entity separate from the Rocky and Rambo stigma that he says can be a real pain.

Mostly recently, Stallone penned *Peace in Our Life*, the theme song from Rambo: *First Blood, Part II*. And he co-wrote *Far From Over*, a hit single which he also sang in the John Travolta movie, *Staying Alive*.



Frank Stallone hangs on for dear life while filming a stunt during his first starring role in a feature film. He plays detective Tony Mareda in the \$1.3 million Canadian production, *The Pink Chiquitas*. It's scheduled for release next summer. Photos: Chris Shanahan

Do you want to be in the movies?

So you want to be in pictures? Area residents have the opportunity to appear as extras in a sci-fi spoof called *The Pink Chiquitas*, now being filmed around the Claremont-Uxbridge area.

Staff at Toronto-based Mount Pleasant Productions are looking for families and individuals for a huge carnival scene on Monday morning, Oct. 7.

The extras won't receive payment, but they will be able to enjoy a fully-equipped midway that's being constructed for the day at Chalk Lake, near Uxbridge.

Interested participants can sign up Monday beginning at 7 a.m. at Dagmar Ski Resort, located on Durham Region Road 23 (Lake Ridge Road), north of Durham Road 5. They'll then be transported to the site, which has been renamed Lake Masse for the movie.

The *Pink Chiquitas* are an army of beautiful women who come to earth when their meteor crashes near a small mid-western town. Detective Tony Mareda, played by Frank Stallone, attempts to conquer them and save the planet.

The \$1.3 million action comedy also stars SCTV alumnus Claudia Udy. Nick Stiliadis is serving as both producer and cinematographer while Anthony Currie is handling the dual role of director and screenwriter.

For more information about appearing as an extra in *The Pink Chiquitas*, contact Ani Baravyan at 294-5557 or 294-5558.

Weekender Movie Scene

Code Name Emerald: clever

By IAN BAILEY

CODE NAME: EMERALD: Ed Harris, the star of this film, has given more detailed performances in films such as *Alamo Bay* and *The Right Stuff*. And there have been more striking films about the complexities of espionage.

Yet, despite its simplicity, *Code Name: Emerald* is an old-fashioned, entertaining movie with a clever hero, vile villains and a touch of romance that culminates in a sequence that has to be seen to be disbelieved.

The story is clever enough with just enough twists to command attention. It concerns an Overlord, one of the select few officers who were entrusted with the details of the D-Day Invasion in 1944.

Eric Stoltz (The hero in *Mask*) is an American Overlord who is captured by the Nazis. They intend to squeeze his secrets out of him through interrogation. Their plan disturbs the Allies to no end until

they find a solution to the problem in a German agent code-named Emerald (Ed Harris).

Although the Nazis believe that Emerald is one of their agents, he is actually working for the Allies. When the Overlord is captured, Emerald is recalled to Nazi-held Paris, ostensibly to help in the interrogation, but actually to make sure that the Stoltz character does not talk.

As adapted by Ronald Bass from his novel, *The Emerald Illusion*, the film throws a few curves into its plot, particularly in which of a trio of Nazis (Max Von Sydow, Horst Buchholz and Helmut Berger) is also a double agent prepared to help Emerald with his mission.

The result is kind of surprising. Although the movie is very subdued, its careful plotting and the rugged integrity of Harris' performance combines for a very entertaining thriller. **MARKVILLE (PG) **½**

MARKVILLE

COCOON: A group of senior citizens at a Florida retirement home become involved with a team of extraterrestrials on a secret mission in this sentimental yet gently amusing look at old age. The film features good performances from a cast that includes Hume Cronyn, Don Ameche and Maureen Stapleton. Brian Dennehy is particularly good as the leader of the aliens. **(PG) Swearing) * 63***

COMMANDO: Arnold (The Terminator) Schwarzenegger stars in this adventure about an ex-member of a military strike force whose retirement ends abruptly when his daughter is abducted by kidnapers, who demand that he go on one last mission. (No rating at press time).

COMPROMISING POSITIONS: Good characterizations help this droll mystery about a suburban housewife (Susan Sarandon) who tries to find out who murdered her dentist, a phi-

landering cad who was involved in illicit pornography. Nicely directed in closed suburban settings by Frank (Monsignor) Perry. **(AA) **½ FOLLOW THAT BIRD:** A film adapted from the Sesame Street TV series. Saturday & Sunday matinees. **(F)**

THORNHILL SQUARE

AGNES OF GOD: A pregnant nun, a murdered baby, and a possible case of divine intervention are the elements that director Norman Jewison, working from a screenplay by playwright John Pielmeier, combines in this haunting look at a clash between faith and reason. The three key players—Meg Tilly as the nun, Anne Bancroft as a Mother Superior, and Jane Fonda as a court-appointed psychiatrist who must sort out the situation—are excellent. It's also nice to see them playing Canadians in an unabashedly Canadian setting. **(AA)*****

INVASION U.S.A.: Too much

sadistic violence and too little plot are the traits of this nauseating, jingoistic junk, a film for the kind of people who get their kicks from ripping the wings off flies and running down small animals. Terrorists invade the U.S. and launch a campaign of terrorism wherein they torture and kill Americans. Chuck Norris plays a vigilante who, in turn, tortures and kills the terrorists. Violent lowlights include Norris pinning a villain's hand to a table with a knife and then leaning on its handle to torture him and Norris reducing another fellow to flaming odds and ends with a bazooka. It's a very difficult movie to sit through. **(R: Coarse Language) ½**

JAGGED EDGE: A courtroom drama starring Glenn Close and Jeff Bridges. Directed by Richard (Return of the Jedi) Marquand. **(R)**

RATINGS
 **** — Excellent
 *** — Good
 ** — Fair
 * — Poor