

ROBOCOP

by James Connolly

That's what the headline bragged. Well, how could I resist such a calling? This sci-fi movie reputed to have some real gory scenes. A great evening's entertainment.

"Give us 3 minutes, and we'll give you the world" the evening news broadcast commences with the lead story "South Africa and the nuclear bomb". As the user to home, there is a wave of epidemic proportions sweeping across the United States. In this futuristic newscast, Coppers are the big ticket.

Murphy (Peter Weller) a rugged individual of a policeman, starts of his career as a real law enforcer. Leaving the police

station in a turbocruiser, he and partner Lewis (Nancy Allen) chase after an armored car driven by the "bad guys." Murphy and Lewis, up against 5 men with high powered artillery, use their pistols with little luck. By the time Murphy is about to cuff & stuff the ring leader, his backup is down and out, and the rest of the gang are surrounding him. It's a very sadistic game of target shooting that the "bad guys" have with Murphy. Surprisingly, they never hit his head.

The body of Officer Murphy is whisked into a special lab in the local hospital where they try to save his life. When all attempts fail, Morton orders his remaining appendages removed, and Murphy is

declared the host for the first RoboCop.

Peter Weller, the star, is touted as the greatest actor since rabbits multiplied. Well, aside from a respectable list of musical and theatrical appearances he has made, he's by far an unknown actor, having played secondary parts in movies like "Butch and Sundance: the early years," and "Shoot the Moon." And as far as his acting goes in RoboCop, just how much acting does a robot have to do? His four months of understudy with a mime to learn the motions of a robot were well spent.

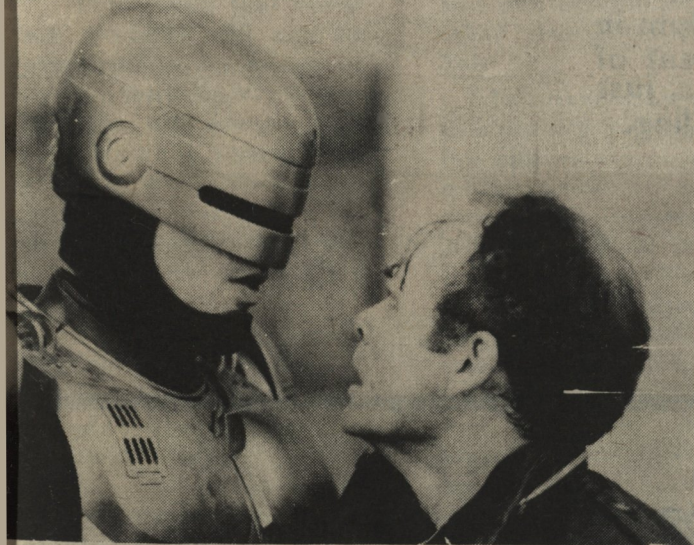
The movie has its good moments, and they belong to Officer Anne Lewis (Nancy Allen) and softspoken villain Clarence Botticker (Kurtwood Smith). Both Allen and Smith do great jobs. Smith is always cool, even when being shot at. Allen, a star of "1941," "Carrie," and "Dressed to Kill" had to cut her long, flowing hair for this film, but she survived to deliver some scenes worth watching.

It's a strange mind that truly enjoys this movie. It's rated Restricted because of its copious amounts of violence; there's no romance to be found in this movie. Some of the action is so violent and bad, that you just can't help laughing. The

nature of humour is such that you laugh at someone else's bad luck. As such, this movie is a great comedy.

Unless I was forced, I doubt that I would voluntarily pay money to see RoboCop again. I did enjoy it to a point the first time. Viewers have 2 options, go on cheap seat night (Tuesdays) or wait for the film to

come out on Home Video. So many things look better on the Big Screen that I would recommend you see this movie on a cheap seat night. It was recorded using Dolby Surround Sound, but Charlottetown's theatres are strictly monophonic. You can see RoboCop at Prince Edward Cinema 1.



Peter Weller as RoboCop

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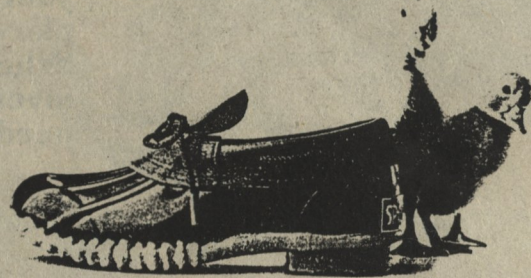
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