## features=

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## Best Little Whorehouse' best lil' summer flick

## by **Bill Robinson**

Battalion Staff While the film itself is not quite as glamorous as the events which surrounded its premiere, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" could prove itself to be one of the best films to hit the silver screen this summer. The film is a delightful

Review

for the production. Perhaps the brightest aspect musical-comedy, primarily be-cause of the excellent casting job done by Colin Higgins, the film's to graphy. The rich even tones of the film make it a pleasure to facts.

director. He skillfully spans the behold and could easily earn Diwide range of talents assembled rector of Photography William Fraker an Oscar for his endeavors. And the cast!

> It is such a perfect cast for the film that the screenplay had to be written especially for it, which it was — much to the dismay of writer Larry L. King, who stuck a little closer to the historical

Higgins adapted the screenplay from the stage play by King and Peter Masterson with Burt Reynolds and Dolly Parton in mind.

And Dolly Parton is one of the things that makes this film great. Appearing in only her second motion picture role — the first was 9 to 5 — Parton proves that she is as good an actress as a singer and has ample opportun-

ity to demonstrate both talents in her portrayal of Miss Mona, the owner of the Chicken Ranch - the legendary brothel which inspired the film.

Good-old-boy Burt Reynolds plays Sheriff Ed Earl Dodd, the good-old-boy lawman of fictional Gilbert, Texas, (the real Chicken Ranch was in La Grange). He is even allowed to sing a cute little duet with Dolly.

One of the big surprises of the film is Jim Nabors, who shows he can do more than television. He plays Deputy Fred, Reynolds' bumbling, Gomer Pyle-like side-kick, in his first film role ever.

Charles Durning gives one of the film's funniest perform-ances doing "The Sidestep" as the un-named governor — pat-terned after Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

Also, Dom DeLuise is great as Melvin P. Thorpe — a character based on the crusading Marvin Zindler, who closed the Chicken Ranch — and Robert Mandan (former star of "SOAP") is perfect as Senator Wingwood.

Even the Aggies get a big role in "The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas" thanks to a little vice tory party at the Chicken Ranch on its closing night.

## 7-Eleven works to reduce chances of being robbed

United Press International DALLAS — On the door of tually every one of the 7,098 Eleven stores in the United

tes is a height indicator. They are posted there for a prious reason — to help solve obberies. The height from the oor is marked off at the four-, five- and six-foot levels. Lines halfway between the brightly colored, easy-to-read numbers indicate six inches.

When a 7-Eleven store is robed, the indicators will help the attled clerk estimate the height f the robber as the bandit hurites out the door. Anything that ids in catching the robber may help prevent further robberies. It is one of many steps Southand Corp. has taken to prevent robberies, a major concern for

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overwhelming decision to rob or

not to rob is the availability of

cash. Because it's cash they're af-

robberies.

Southland closely guards fi-gures on the number of robberthrough Tidel Systems, a Southies and the amount of money land Division that installs money lost. But the company says from storing units called Timed Ac-cess Cash Controllers. Clerks are 1976, when the robbery prevention program was started, through 1981, the company instructed to put all cash over a base amount in the safe-like box showed a 40 percent decrease in bolted to the floor. If bills or sil-

ver are needed to make change, The program involves many individual steps, but the keys are cash control and employee eduthe system will dole it out on a time-delay basis — typically \$10 worth of change at two-minute or five-minute intervals. cation in tested procedures. "We've done interviews with Robbers want to be in and out

armed robbers after they're in a hurry, reducing chances of a caught," Robert L. Buhrig, passing policeman making a cupassing policeman making a cu-rious visit or of other customers Southland's corporate security manager, said. "They tell us the arriving.

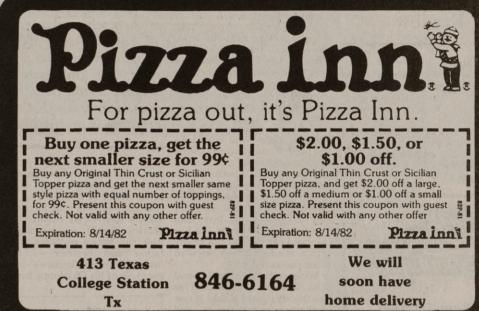
"The average robbery takes 58 seconds," Buhrig said. Robbers don't want to wait

the firm whose 7-Eleven stores usually are open 24 hours a day. Southland closely guards fi-cash control is the key to re-duction in robberies." Cash control is maintained around for the Tidel System to dispense an additional \$10 or \$20. Nationally, the average loss in a 7-Eleven robbery is \$47.

Since the system is only as good as the clerks who use it, reminders on the registers — even the clocks — remind them to "Make That Drop."

The counter area of every 7-Eleven store is clearly visible from outside. Lighting is balanced so those inside can see out and persons outside can see in. Goods are stocked only to heights of about 41/2 feet so clerks can see all areas of the store.

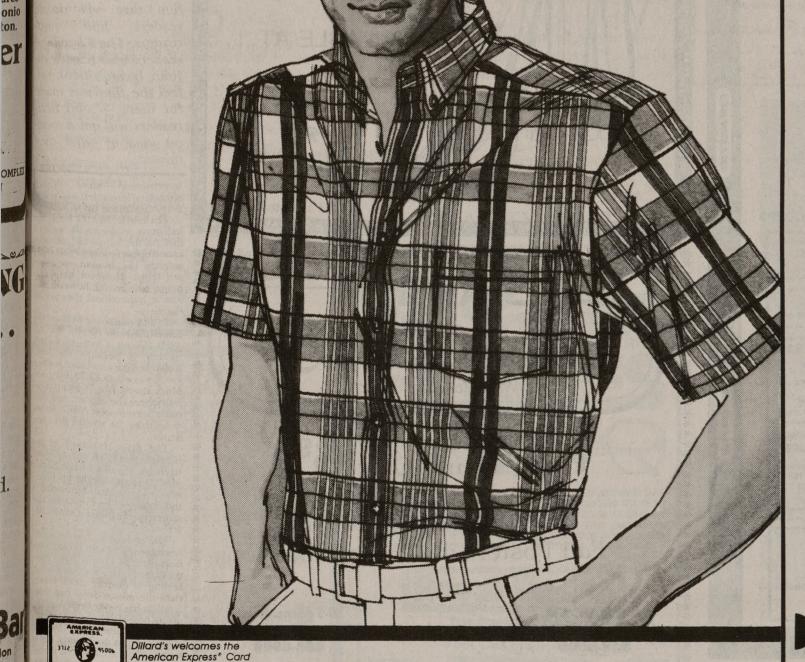
One reason 7-Eleven employees wear smocks is to allow instant identification in case police come upon a robbery in progress.





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