



Steven Seagal plays a retired DEA agent who returns home to find his neighborhood in the grip of a drug kingpin.

Segal's 'Death' marks him as unconvincing character

By CAROL GLENN

Well President Bush, here's one more feather to put in your cap. "Marked For Death" is yet another mundane movie highlighting the nation's war on drugs with the one-man vigilante police force from Krypton battling the devil-possessed drug lords.

Directed by Dwight H. Little and written by Michael Grais and Mark Victor, "Marked For Death" makes you want to ask, "How many more drug movies are going to be made?"

Steven Seagal (unpopularly known for his roles in "Above the Law" and "Hard to Kill") stars as retired Drug Enforcement Agent John Hatcher, the vigilante who thinks he is above the law. Basil Wallace is Screwface, the Jamaican drug lord, who thinks he is some sort of supreme ruler over the universe.

The story begins with Hatcher returning home for some rest and relaxation after seeing a close friend die during an undercover assignment. Hatcher visits with old friends, his sister Kate and gets reacquainted with the old neighborhood and the number one problem eroding the fabrics of the community, drugs.

He sees the drugs dealers, but thinks that there isn't anything one man can do, or for that matter, what the entire judicial system can do to combat the growing narcotics problem in the United States. Hatcher compares himself to a man who is sticking his finger in a breaking dam.

After walking through his old stomping grounds and poking his nose in places where it doesn't belong, Hatcher discovers how far the drug problem has spread. Hatcher becomes angry and frustrated so he

begins his one-man crusade to rid the community of Screwface and his drug dealing groupies.

As you can guess, Screwface isn't at all tolerant of Hatcher's vision quest to create a drug-free community so he sends some men to shoot up Kate's house. But, Hatcher won't stop and Screwface goes to the house himself to mark the family for death by painting cult symbols in the entry way and on the front door and by attacking Kate.

You've seen the old drug genre dealt with a thousand times over the past 10 years and really there is only so far writers and directors can go with it until the public gets disgustingly bored. I think nearly every possible avenue the drug plots could go has already been heavily traveled.

If action is what you're looking for, though, this is the movie to see. "Marked For Death" is chunked full of action, although I'm not too sure how much of it is realistic looking.

Seagal is a master of Oriental martial arts and he implements this talent in "Marked for Death" as he breaks peoples arms, legs and backs, among other body parts, without breaking a sweat. Seagal needs to put the martial arts on the back burner for now and start working on being a convincing character. He's got the action part down; he just needs immense help in the way he delivers his lines.

"Marked For Death" is rated R for frontal nudity and intense action and violence.

Maybe if the drug dealers get as tired as the public is with these mundane drug movies, they'll turn to some other occupation for American writers and directors to exploit in their movies.

Wilder's romantic antics satisfy 'Funny' audience with boy-meets-girl plot

By CAROL GLENN

Too bad Duffy Bergman's biological clock isn't a Timex, otherwise it could take a licking and keep on ticking no matter how old he got in the semi-entertaining movie "Funny About Love."

Written by Norman Steinberg and David Frankel and directed by Leonard Nimoy, "Funny About Love" exploits the traditional boy-meets-girl genre. This time they work with a child-bearing, biological clock twist.

"Funny About Love" stars the hilarious Gene Wilder as Duffy, a political cartoonist; Christine Lahti as Meg Lloyd, Duffy's wife;

fast, it's only after the couple attempts to conceive that the plot tends to drag.

After trying on their own for a long time ("Work, work, work. It's a messy job, but someone has to do it," as Duffy puts it.), they decide to seek professional help to diagnose their problem with conception.

Next, they go through test after test after test to discover that Meg is infertile.

Duffy accepts this for a while but he eventually brings up the subject of adoption — a subject which he was originally against. His obsession to have a child soon drives Meg into a frenzy and leads the couple into heart-wrenching fights.

So what comes next, you guessed it, is their separation and Duffy's affair with the younger, fertile woman. Maybe Duffy's desires of proving his manhood and having a child tend to cloud his vision of what love really is.

Despite the very talented cast, as you watch "Funny About Love" you will notice some shortcomings in the plot.

For example, you may be offended by Duffy's rude treatment of his mother's accidental death. You may also find it slightly unbelievable to see Duffy, who is about 50, having an affair with a girl who is about 20. I didn't think Wilder and Masterson pulled this part of the movie off successfully.

It's hard to give "Funny About Love" either a thumbs up or a thumbs down. It really wasn't great or bad. The story is fairly ordinary, but praise goes to Wilder for making several parts of the movie really funny.

There isn't anything unique in this movie. You've seen it all before, but somehow the old boy-meets-girl genre still attracts a crowd. I guess we all have a soft spot for true love.

Rated PG-13 for profanity, "Funny About Love" makes the constant ticking of everyone's biological clocks not so alarming. Instead, it takes a humorous look at the reality of being fruitful in the '90s.

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and Mary Stuart Masterson as Daphne. Duffy's younger woman and middle-age fling when he and Meg are separated.

The story begins as most boy-meets-girl movies do, with the unacquainted couple meeting in a strange place and something magical happening when their eyes meet.

In this case they meet at a bookstore where Duffy is promoting his new book of controversial political comic strips and Meg is catering the event. After some discrepancies over the taste of cappacino, one thing leads to another and the couple falls in love, moves in together, gets married and decides to start fulfilling their marriage vows of being fruitful.

This part of the movie went by



Sue Foley

HIGHLIGHTS

Sprawl plays tonight

The Front Porch Cafe will house one of Texas' hottest funk bands tonight as part of its weekly funk jam.

Houston's Sprawl, recipients of Best Urban-Contemporary Band and Funk Band in the Public News readers poll this spring, is supporting its second release, *The King of Parking*, on its own Rastaman Work Ethic label. Sprawl, making their first appearance in Bryan-College Station, is a hard drivin' funk and ska band buoyed by its killer horn section.

The horn trio: Bo Morris on trumpet, Clay Embry on sax and Reverend Dave Dove on trombone, is a spastic mess live, stomping around between parts, while singer Matt Kelly adds the speed spiels. Drummer Nick Cooper, guitarist Dan Robinson and bassist Jeff Nunnally round out the seven-piece's raw, original sound.

Sprawl recently finished a nationwide tour, playing to all types of audiences and on all kinds of stages, according to Cooper. The group is also producing several funk and rock acts around the state, including Joe Rockhead and Fleshmop. Most likely the next big funk craze in Texas, do yourself a favor and see tonight's crazed show.

Foley sings Saturday

Blues is no longer strictly a man's world. Twenty-two-year old guitarist Sue Foley, originally from Canada, signed on to Austin's Antones label last year and instantly attracted great interest for her tough brand of blues.

Bringing a traditional, old-blues guitar-pickin' style to Texas, she has incorporated an Austin blues sound into a style all her own. Supported by a three-piece band, Foley is finishing up a highly-anticipated first release for Antones.

Foley convinced the local blues-hounds with her performance this summer at the Front Porch Cafe. Saturday night's performance at the Front Porch should be another good one.

AROUND TOWN

MUSIC

Information is provided by the individual nightclubs and is subject to change.

FLYING TOMATO

At Northgate at 303 University Drive. All ages admitted. For more information, call 846-1616.

Thursday — **Rock-a-fellas**. Rock. Starts at 8:30 p.m. \$1 cover.

Wednesday — **Sneaky Pete**. Sing-along. Starts at 8:30 p.m. \$2 cover.

GALLERY BAR

In the College Station Hilton at 301 E. University Drive. Only ages 21 and older admitted. Call 693-2500 for more information.

Thursday — **Carla Lack**. Easy listening. Starts at 5:30. No cover.

Friday, Saturday — **Mark Bendiksen**. Jazz pianist. Starts at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, 7 p.m. on Saturday. No cover.

KAY'S CABARET

At Post Oak Mall. Ages 18 and older admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 696-9191.

Thursday — **Don Overby and Scott Eddy**. Light rock. Starts at 9:30 p.m. No cover.

Friday — **Road Kings**. Rockabilly. Starts at 9:30 p.m. \$3 cover.

Saturday — **Live music - TBA**. Starts at 9:30 p.m. Cover charge.

MAMA'S PIZZA

At 1601 S. Texas Ave. in College Station. All ages admitted. For more information, call 696-0032.

Sunday — **Mama's Boys**. Rock. Starts at 9 p.m. No cover.

Wednesday — **Lippman Jam**. Open stage. Starts at 8:30 p.m. No cover.

TEXAS HALL OF FAME

On FM 2818 in Bryan. Alcohol served. For more information, call 822-2222.

Thursday — **Special F/X**. Country. Starts at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m.

\$3 cover (\$1 off with A&M ID). Friday — **Johnny Lyon and the Country Nu-Notes**. Country. Starts at 9 p.m., doors open at 8 p.m. \$5 cover.

Saturday — **Cookin'**. Country. Starts at 9:00 p.m., doors open at 8 p.m. \$4 cover. (\$2 off with A&M ID).

FRONT PORCH CAFE

In Bryan at 4410 College Main. All ages admitted. Alcohol served. For more information, call 846-LIVE.

Thursday — **The Sprawl**. Funk. Starts at 9:00 p.m. \$5 cover.

Friday — **Champ Hood**. Texas acoustic music. Starts at 9 p.m. \$3 cover.

Saturday — **Sue Foley**. Blues. Starts at 9 p.m. \$6 cover.

Tuesday — **Acoustic Stage**. Starts at 8:00 p.m. \$1 cover.

Wednesday — **The Vincents**. Rock. Starts at 9 p.m. \$3 cover.

TIPPY'S

At 1803 Greenfield Plaza in Bryan. Ages 21 and older admitted. For more information, call 846-7203.

Thursday — **Road Kings**. Rocka-

billy. Starts at 9:00 p.m. No cover. Friday, Saturday — **The Rounders**. Rockabilly. Starts at 9 p.m. \$2 cover.

MOVIES

Information is subject to change. Showtimes are for Friday. Admission restrictions may apply.

CINEMA THREE

Located at 315 College Ave. Call 693-2796 for more information about showtimes. Matinee shows Saturday and Sunday only.

Desperate Hours. Rated R. Showtimes are 2, 4:15, 7:15 and 9:15.

Hardware. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:15, 4:45, 7 and 9.

Post Cards From the Edge. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:30, 4:30, 7:30 and 9:30.

POST OAK THREE

Located in Post Oak Mall. Call 693-2796 for more information about showtimes. Matinee shows Saturday and Sunday only.

GoodFellas. Rated R. Showtimes are 2, 5 and 8.

Marked For Death. Rated R. Show-

times are 2:20, 4:45, 7 and 9:15. **Ghost**. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 2:10, 4:30, 7:10 and 9:30.

SCHULMAN SIX

In Bryan at 2000 E. 29th Street. Call 775-2463 for more information about showtimes.

Flatliners. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:20, 4:30, 7:10 and 9:30.

Pretty Woman. Rated R. Showtimes are 2, 4:25, 7 and 9:35.

Young Guns II. Rated PG-13. "Dollar movie". Showtimes are 2:15, 4:40, 7:15 and 9:40.

Die Harder. "Dollar movie". Rated R. Showtimes are 2:05, 4:35, 7:05 and 9:45.

Jungle Book. "Dollar movie". Rated G. Showtimes are 2, 4:35, 7:10 and 9:30.

Problem Child. "Dollar movie". Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 2:15, 4:45, 7:25 and 9:50.

MANOR EAST THREE

In Bryan in Manor East Mall. Call 823-8300 for more information about showtimes.

Funny About Love. Rated PG-13. Showtimes are 2:20, 4:50, 7:20 and 9:50.

Pacific Heights. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:10, 4:40, 7:10 and 9:40. **I Come in Peace**. Rated R. Showtimes are 2:15, 4:45, 7:15 and 9:30.

AGGIE CINEMA

For more information, call the MSC Box Office at 845-1234. Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children. All shows will be shown in the Rudder Theater.

Dead Poets Society. Rated PG. Showtimes are 7:30 and 9:45 Friday and Saturday.

Strange Brew. Rated PG. Showtimes are midnight Friday and Saturday.

Dracula (1931). Rated G. Showtime is 3:00 p.m. Saturday.

Ghandi. Rated PG. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday.

THEATER

Aggie Players

For ticket information call 845-1234.

My Children! My Africa! Showtimes are 8 p.m. tonight, Friday and Saturday.