

**"CULTURE OF INTOLERANCE:
CHAUVINISM, CLASS AND RACISM IN THE
UNITED STATES"**

DR. MARK NATHAN COHEN
Distinguished University Teaching, Professor of Anthropology
State University of New York, Plattsburgh
Tuesday, March 24th, 7:00 P.M., Rudder Theater
Sponsored jointly by the: Race and Ethnic Studies Institute,
Department of Anthropology, Department of Sociology,
Department of Multicultural Services, Department of Journalism,
TAMU Anthropology Society

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**Reel
CRITIQUE**



**APRIL
TOWERY**
staff writer

Reviews have once again misled audiences. *Wild Things* appeared to be a sexy and mysterious drama. Uh, no.

This movie is twisted and confusing. Matt Dillon plays Sam Lombardo, a high school counselor at Blue Bay High School, where Suzie Toller (Neve Campbell) and Kelly Van Ryan (Denise Richards) are students. Within the first 20 minutes of the movie, Van Ryan sues Lombardo for rape. Toller follows suit and claims that Lombardo raped her as well, which begins the downward spiral that might be considered a plot.

Kevin Bacon is the only character who delivers an acceptable acting performance in his portrayal of detective Ray Duquette. Richards should go back to modeling for Teen Magazine. Like Sharon Stone, Richards will only make movies in which she can sell her sex appeal. She wears either a swimsuit or a wet T-shirt throughout the entire movie. That is, if she's wearing anything at all.

Speaking of nudity, the movie also features Duquette flashing "the full bacon" in a shower scene. Maybe that's what the film needed to keep audiences awake.

Even though the movie was supposed to be a murder mystery of sorts, it was boring and didn't

make sense. Tangled webs were woven, and it went downhill from there.

Neve Campbell, recipient of Family Films and Family Television Academy's "Best Family TV Actress" award, just can't pull off the bad-girl image. Viewers will always know her as responsible, dependable Julia from "Party of Five" and Sydney, the innocent virgin in *Scream*. Her character in *Wild Things* is a social outsider, from the wrong side of the tracks. She lives in a trailer, where she reads about death and smokes pot. Van Ryan, on the other hand, lives in a mansion with her millionaire mother. And we're supposed to believe that these girls are romantically involved with each other as well as their school counselor?

In the scene in which Campbell tells the detective the story of her involvement with Lombardo, she is in full bad-girl swing.

"Don't touch me," she shouts as thrusts forward a girly fist. Okay, this scene is just funny. She doesn't look capable of hurting anyone, even with her dyed hair and combat boots.

Bacon, who is also executive producer of the film, claimed in an interview that the first time he read the script, he kept thinking it was a trashy piece of crap. Trust your instincts, Kevin. But Bacon said that as he continued reading, each few pages offered a new surprise.

Sure, the movie is not what viewers will expect. This is no romantic comedy. It does offer a few bizarre twists. But surprise doesn't make it interesting.

Wild Things

Starring Matt Dillon, Neve Campbell, Kevin Bacon and Denise Richards

Directed by John McNaughton

Playing at Hollywood 16

Rated R

Critique: D-

**Flashback
Cartoon M**

By CHRIS M...
AND
RHONDA REIN...
staff writers

Before Power Rangers Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles invaded television, quality cartoon shows ruled the airwaves. Kids of the '80s loved characters such as the Smurfs, the Bears, The Smurfs and These Shows were imaginative and fun and absent of violent characters solved their problems in less than a half hour. They had exceptional talent. They must have had incredible problem-solving abilities.

• The Smurfs

It must take an ingenious mind to figure out how to live in a mushroom. The Smurfs successfully made their tiny abodes comfortable and convenient. Brainy Smurf has a shroom full of science goodies, and Smurfette has a fungus-cap with flowerer colorful decor.

• The Little Rascals

Imagine being a two-year-old in a 5-foot-10-inch world. It was amazing what they could do with a butter knife. Now we know how MacGyver found his way out of a jam.

• The Care Bears

OK, how many of you remember making a rainbow in your stomach? That's what the Care Bears did. Their colorful furs and tummys were as irresistible as their personalities. Grumpy, the Care Bear with a grumpy attitude, had a likable personality.

• Scooby-Doo

Now we're talking about the combined genius of Daphne, Greg, Thelma, Shaggy and Scooby. They solved at around 4pm every weekday. These nosy detectives as the villains often outsmarted thieves, murderers and the occasional corrupt enforcement officer. In a groovy van called the Mystery Machine, and the worst of all, every crime-fighting episode when Thelma would lose her glasses. Oh, the horror!

• G.I. Joe

Yo Joe! Now critically acclaimed for being a half-century commercial, G.I. Joe was the king of the after-school block. The fact that there was an actual "Joe" always bothered me. And so did the fact that one's gun shot red or blue and no one ever died. A quick glance at Scarlett O'Hara would seal me. G.I. Joe was also the first to have a lesbian in a leadership role. Lady Jane. And now you know why knowing is half the battle.

• He-Man

Just what the heck was He-Man anyway? Remember when we had a girlfriend, Dee-Dee? He-Man and She-Man were showing each other that they were hidden under those floppy hats? That scene was for years. The way He-Man ruminated He-Man ruminated always crack me up. It was he was bicycling on the "By the power of Grayskull, I have a bowel movement!"

• The Wuzzles

Way before its time, Saturday morning cartoon. When Rhinokey and the Blelion first hit the screen, it was a glimmer in mad Texas mad husbandry scientist's eye.

• The Muppet Babies

This was quite possibly the most intelligent and well-made, except for one thing: Skeeter! Where did she come from, and just what exactly happened to her later? She died from SIDS late one night when Nanny was out of her green stockings?

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Fred Drasner
Chief Executive Officer

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Planning to Attend Law School
from
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