



Leia, played by Carrie Fisher, and Chewbacca urge C-3PO to keep quiet during a raid at Endor.



the movies

Louise
Snider

Space adventure continues in style

Do you tamper with success? Not unless you have moon rocks between your ears. And George Lucas doesn't.

What this means to moviegoers is that the third chapter in his space-adventure saga that began with "Star Wars" and continued with "The Empire Strikes Back" is cut to the same stylish pattern as its illustrious predecessors. It's just as creative, just as much fun, just as exciting.

All the components that made the other two films such crowd pleasers are present in "Return of the Jedi" (PG). Most important, the principals are back in the roles they created: Mark Hamill as Luke Skywalker, Carrie Fisher as Princess Leia and Harrison Ford as Han Solo.

Also Billy Dee Williams as Lando Calrissian, David Prowse as Darth Vader (voice by James Earl Jones), Alec Guinness as Ben (Obi-Wan) Kenobi, Peter Mayhew as Chewbacca, Anthony Daniels as See-Threepio and the voice of Frank Oz as Yoda.

IN ADDITION, the artists' imaginations have soared with a whole new menagerie of creatures. They range from the gross, foul inhabitants of the fortress of Jabba the Hutt to the cuddly, teddy-bearlike Ewoks of the forest.

The latter are as attractive and winning as the former are ugly and repulsive. Although the two groups are polar opposites in appearance and values, they both offer a startling contrast to the film's display of high-tech warfare and hardware.

Here, again, the filmmakers have not let us down. The optical illusions and special effects are more dazzling and impressive than ever. The conception of what a giant space station looks like seems so right that one can only note that if real space stations don't look like that, they should.

In spite of the return of familiar faces and the awe-inspiring special effects, the movie is not without its weaknesses. There are two primary ones — skimpy dialogue devoid of new thoughts and severely restricted character development.

Ford, who showed such charisma in the other two films, is vapid and ineffectual in this one. Billy Dee Williams and Fisher have very little to say or do, although the plot suggests an interesting potential for Princess Leia. See-Threepio's participation is enlarged, but it is Luke Skywalker who is the center of attention. In this regard, there is a pleasant surprise. Mark Hamill shows a new maturity as an actor and also there is growth in his role.

EVEN LUKE, however, suffers from the lackluster dialogue. When he speaks with Yoda and Ben Kenobi, we expect to discover some philosophical nugget, some Zen truth. None appears.

Considering that Lucas and Lawrence Kasdan (Kasdan wrote "The Empire Strikes Back") co-wrote the script, it is surprisingly lacking in verbal punch or emotional tension. What we get is a lot of gibberish.

At least one-third of the movie is devoted to Jabba the Hutt, the disgusting creatures surrounding him and their unintelligible vocalizing. Who needs Dolby sound for gibberish? We could have done with a lot less of the Hutt and his Hutties.

The compensation for such beastly drivel is the action. There is plenty of it, including a unique space-cycle race through a dense forest, light-saber duels, and an aerial attack on a new death star the Empire has built.

Amid the high-tech, high-energy action, we find the Ewoks, who join the Rebel Alliance, using primitive weapons: Bows and arrows and bolos. Whether this was meant to be significant, who knows? In any case, it's still another example of Lucas' ability to weave together disparate characters and chronologies and make them work.

As an individual film, "Return of the Jedi" lacks a vital core of thought and emotion. The force is there but diminished. The trilogy as a whole is a spectacular accomplishment, however.

As story originator and producer, Lucas, with a bright burst of new age movie-making, has wedded science-fiction to a very old and durable theme: A saga (of space) was built on a mythology of mystic knighthood and peopled with a beautiful princess, a caring adventurer and an impetuous and idealistic young warrior.



Billy Dee Williams is Lando Calrissian who, with his co-pilot, Han Solo, manages the controls of the Millennium Falcon.



EVERY SUNDAY
THE MOST ELEGANT CHAMPAGNE BRUNCH
(AT THE ALMOST UNBELIEVABLE PRICE)
ONLY \$6.95

Congratulations. Every Sunday from 10-2 pm you will experience a brunch, unlike any other. Brunch with Topinka's. Children are welcome. And their brunch is only \$4.95 if they're under 10.

Topinka's

24010 W. 7 Mile Rd., corner of Telegraph/531-9000

STARTING JUNE 12th

BENEVOLENT AND
PROTECTIVE
ORDER OF
SOUTHFIELD

Elks
SUNDAY
8:30
BINGO

CARPENTER HALL
8448 W. 12 Mile
(near Coolidge &
Woodward)
Proceeds for
CIVIC PROJECTS &
BUILDING FUND

Rip's

FOR
SEAFOOD SPECIALTIES
ON FRIDAY

Flounder Stuffed with Crab Meat **\$7.95**
Catch of the Day from **\$5.95**

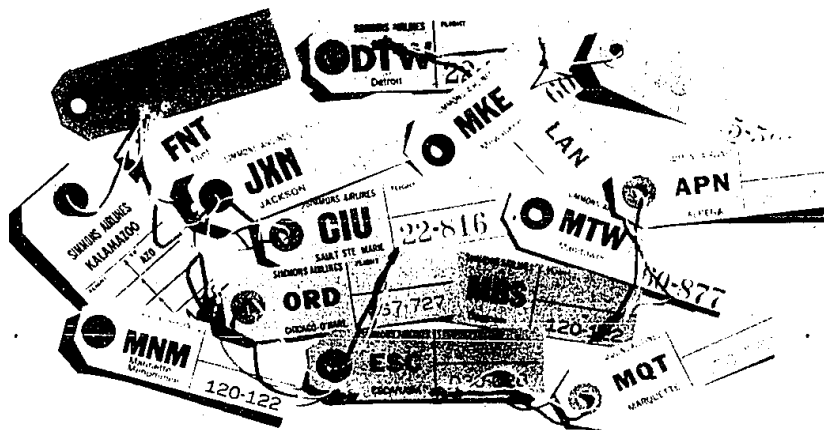
Reservations Suggested
998 W. Huron • 2 Blocks West of Telegraph • 683-1116

**Famous
on Friday**

Prime Rib Dinner "Special Cut" \$14.95 per couple
Includes: Potato du Jour, Salad, Relishes, Bread Basket
...every Friday!

Kingsley Inn

Woodward at Long Lake • Bloomfield Hills • 642-0100



Letter-perfect.

Only Simmons Airlines features so many letter-perfect flights to so many Michigan cities... plus Chicago and Milwaukee.

Simmons Airlines is flying your way throughout Michigan and around the Great Lakes. Our convenient schedule connects the major cities of the Lower and Upper Peninsulas with Detroit, Chicago and Milwaukee. We feature the Shorts 360

wide-body airliner for fast, comfortable flights that will save you time—and system-wide fares that will save you money. The next time you fly in or out of Michigan, choose Simmons...the Michigan Connection!

Call your travel agent or toll-free
1-800-682-7834 for information and reservations!



The Michigan Connection

DETROIT AREA

HUDSON'S TRAVEL SERVICE
Oakland 583-8820 Northland 569-5153
Westland 425-3386 Briarwood 994-0085
USE YOUR HUDSON'S CHARGE

BIRMINGHAM

THE TRAVEL
AGENT
4084 W. Maple
642-2840



**SIMMONS
AIRLINES**
The Michigan Connection