

Sylvester Stallone is Marion Cobretti, the unbelievably tough city cop who takes on tough city cop who takes on jobs nobody else can handle, in "Cobra." A gang of psychos is no match for him. Wayne Crawford plays the titte role in "Jake Speed," as a fictional superhero who comes alive to help save a kidnapped woman. He lan't daunted by the real world's dangers.





🔯 the movies Dan 🦄 Greenberg

'Cobra,' 'Jake Speed'they may be winnners but you will lose out

tions of stationes taxes; (CR), and of the less-heralded "Jake Speed" (R). Having eliminated the Communist menace in Southeast Asia in the guise of Rambo, Stalione now is cleaning up the cities. "Crime is a disease and I'm the cure." So sayeth the Cobra, nickname of Los Angeles Folice Department Zombie Squad Lt. Marion Cobretti (Sain obtier coperation). When Swat Teams have falled, send the Cobra and his sidekick, Sgt. Gonzales (Reni Santoni), While Gonzales consumes Junk food, Cobra storms psychos barricaded with terrified hostages.

The film is mainly devoted to

with terrified hostages.

The film is mainly devoted to Cohra and Gonzales protecting a witness, of course a fair young maiden, Ingrid (Brighte Niclsen). She had witnessed a gang of manla-cia, as-wielders at work. They are creating a new order. How or why is never specified, but when they're not clanging their axes together in unison during ceremonies in an old warehouse, they're out slicing people. The Night Slasher (Brian Thompson) is most effective.

THE WHOLE AFFAIR is pretty typical of Stallone movies and the gag is wearing thin. Stallone seems to be getting stronger, more and more invincible, as each film rolls. more invincible, as each film rolls. He no longer gets captured and tor-tured by the evil opposition, nor temporarily on the ropes, like the "Rocky" films have led us to ex-pect. Cobra certainly would not have had any trouble with terror-ists at Cannes.

lawe had any topolose with terrorists at Canners.

Stallone's obligatory big-battle scene pits Cobra against a continual stream of heavily armed motor-cyclists but his grenades and machine pistol makes it look casy. If you enjoy stunt riders falling while Siy grunts, you'll like this scene, followed by the final brouthaha in a steel foundry where Cobra eliminates the Night Slasher and other upper-échelon psychopaths.

In addition to the dull and predictable course of events, the acting is vintage Stallone Grunts, muscle-flexing and occasional monotone, comments issue from Stallone's repertoire of one facility in the control of t sen, a pretty girl with an engaging smile. She screams OK.

"JAKE SPEED" is much the same as "Cobra," with one excep-tion. Although badly developed, it does have one clever Idea, not something you can say about "Co-bra." Both are adventure Illims with "casts of thousands," numer-ous stunts and uninspired, conven-

"Leaden, "wooden" and "unimaginative" are appropriate descriptions of Stallone's latest, "Cobra(R), and of the less-heralded "Jake
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Squad Lt. Marion Cobretti (Stalino), who does the dirty jobs that
no other cop can.
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Active the deficites. Both are
die dult. "Jake Speeds classed in the
least protection is, unfortunately, poorly realized.
Wayne Crawford is leaden in the
least protection of Stale Speeds and in
the role of "Destroyer" paperback nede
his protection of the Stale Department in the Stale
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stroyer novels.

A clever idea, summoning up the bero of an impossible paperback series, a hero for all seasons who makes Stallonian characters appear wimpy. The idea that Jake and his "writer" are looking for a new adventure for their next novel is very plausible as they enter the real world.

But the whole thing falls flat on its imaginative face as the plot proceeds in a murky manner with flawed continuity and an almost to-tal lack of development of this basic story concept.

IT IS ALWAYS amazing that film production companies, with access to millions of dollars and numerous talented personnel, can produce movies with such obvious stupidities.

"Jake Speed" was filmed on location in Paris, Los Angeles and Zimbabwe, but none of that cures the fact that Marcen could have been kidnapped unfor more credible circle that the property of the property of

her girlfriend behind.

In between those two improbabilities, there is never any clear delineation between reality and fantasy-adventure novel. That's the film's major flaw. It never explores or exploits the idea that paperback superheroes can bring their impossible strengths and their human folbles into the real world.

worn.

Add to that an unending series of stereotypes and poor acting, for example, the hero's dull bewilderment and the villain's vastity over-drawn, supposedly satirical presentation, and you have a film duller and more unimaginative than the novels it purports to salirize. "You have" because I've had it.

table talk

Dad's buffet

Sunday brunch at the Deer Lake Racquet and Country Club in Clarkston will be served from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 15, Father's Day, A centerpiece with golf and tennis paraphernalia, a six-pack, TV set and other stuff dad likes will be featured on the buffet table. Doug Jacobs and the Red Garter Band, playing Dixieland, is a regular attraction at the brunch, served other sundays from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Brunch is \$10.95 for adults, \$4.95 for children.

Father's feast

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Glft baskets made up with break-fast, lunch, dinner or sweet-tooth specialties will be available for Fa-ther's Day from Chefs de Cuisine in

West Bloomfield. The gourmet food shop is taking orders for the baskets, which also will include a bottle of sparkling cider or champagne and a copy of the New York Times.

Outdoor cafe

The Bates Street Cafe has opened again for the summer, serving lunch under colorful umbrellas on the lawn, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. weekdays at the Community House. Birmingham's largest outdoor cafe also offers Thursday Bulfet Dinner each week beginning at 5:30 p.m. before the start of the concert at the "In the Park" series. Wine, been and cocktails are available. The cafe also will be open for private parties in the evering. For more information, call 644-882.

'Prime time'

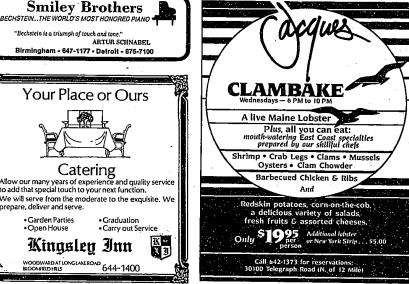
The Northield Hilton in Troy has created "Prime Time," a low-priced prime rib dinner, including potato, regetable and salad, for \$5.95. Chef John Rabenowitz prepares the special meal, served from 6 pm. Fridays at the Wicker Works. The restaurant's full menu, as well as wine list, is available too.

Shore dinner

. The Lark restaurant in West

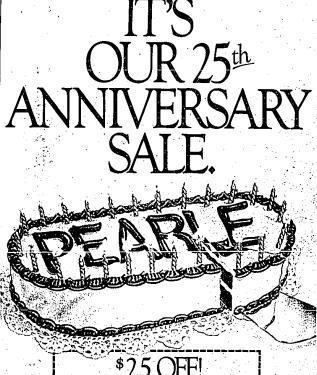
Bloomfield is featuring a shore dinner at 7 pm. Monday-Tuesday, June
30 and July 1. Menu highlights are
fried soft shell crab and for Belon oysters on the half shell, claim and leek
soup, wood-grilled Atlantic Salmon
and half of a three-pound lobster.
Price for the seven-course dinner
is \$57.50.
For reservations call 661-4466.
On its regular menu, the Lark offers outdoor grilled specials again
this summer, as weather permits,
using local hardwoods, vine cuttings
and mesquite.







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