

MOVIES

Stallone does little justice to 'Judge Dredd'

TICKETS PLEASE



JOHN MONAGHAN

San Francisco — From my balcony seat in the grand old Alhambra Theatre, I couldn't help but be pumped. This was an action movie crowd poised for its first look at what Sylvester Stallone does best — bringing comic book characters to life.

What a disappointment that "Judge Dredd" is, I dare to say it — dreadful. Remember, this comes from one of the few critics who actually liked the new Batman movie and who, after a week on vacation without movies or even television, was ready to enjoy even the trashiest summer blockbuster.

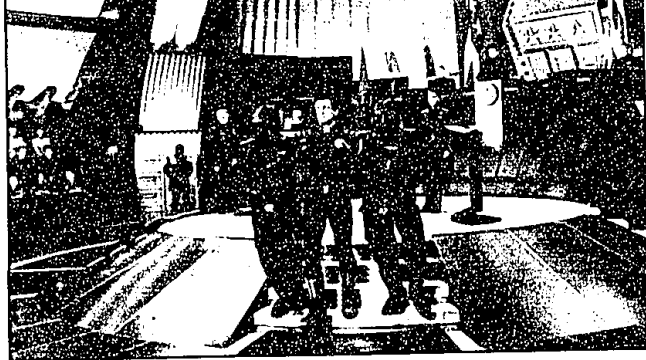
Here Stallone plays an armored, by-the-book policeman of the future who is cop, judge, and executioner all rolled into one. He's got his hands full in "the cursed earth," which is overrun

by thugs and rioters. When someone frames Dredd for the murder of his hardest critic, he is sent to a penal colony in Aspen. This is where the action starts — sort of.

For a movie as loud and explosive as "Dredd" few of the action scenes stand out. There's lots of potential in a giant robot that should have a climactic battle with Dredd, but he's defused — literally — by the comic relief sidekick played by Rob Schneider.

Blame the failure of "Dredd" on the robot-like direction by British newcomer Danny Cannon. He seems overwhelmed by the project, trying to hold the reins in on the confusing story and special effects, which grow gaudier with each scene.

More interesting than "Dredd" is the number of great films it rips off including: "Bladerunner's" neon-lit set design; "Star Wars' " Obi Wan Kenobi, here in the hooded form of wild Max Von Sydow. Not to men-



RICHARD BLANSHARD

Adventure film: In a fiendish plot to overthrow the Judge System, Dredd (Sylvester Stallone) is framed for murder and banished from Mega-City One for life.

To leave a message for John Monaghan, dial 953-2047, mail-

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"THE SWIFTEST, SLICKEST OF ALL COMIC BOOK MOVIES! A VISUAL EYE-TWIRLING TRIUMPH!"

"THE SUMMER'S BEST POPCORN MOVIE!"

"IF YOU SEE ONE COMIC BOOK MOVIE THIS SUMMER, SEE 'JUDGE DREDD'!"

STALLONE

JUDGE DREDD

NOW SHOWING	AMC ABBEY 8	AMC AMERICANA WEST
AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 2	AMC LAUREL PARK
AMC SOUTHWILD CITY	AMC STERLING CTY 10	AMC WOODLAND
QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE 1001	SHOWCASE 1002
SHOWCASE 1003	SHOWCASE 1004	STAR GRANTOT
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR WINDCHESTER	STAR TAYLOR
STAR 12 OAKS	STAR WEST OAKS	FORD WYOMING

"PURE DISNEY MAGIC!"

— From Team BOLLING STONE

"DISNEY'S DONE IT AGAIN. IT'S DAZZLING & WILDLY ENTERTAINING. IT'S A FILM YOU HAVE TO SEE!"

— Ted Sarge, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

"TWO THUMBS UP!"

— ESCAL & ERIC

Disney's POCAHONTAS

NOW SHOWING

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5
AMC SOUTHWILD CITY	AMC WOODLAND	AMC STERLING CTY
NORWEST	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 8
SHOWCASE 1001	SHOWCASE 1002	SHOWCASE 1003
STAR GRANTOT AT 15 MILE	STAR THINGOLY PARK 8	STAR TAYLOR
STAR WINDCHESTER 8	STAR FAIRLANE	STAR LAKEVIEW
STAR OAKLAND	STAR 12 OAKS	STAR WEST RIVER
FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING

SCREEN SCENE

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan.

MAJIC BAG THEATRE
2218 Woodward, Ferndale, Call (810) 544-3030 for information. (\$4, \$3 students/seniors).
"Pulp Fiction" (USA — 1995). 9 p.m. July 11. The theater has turned Quentin Tarantino's esoteric, over-the-top comedy into a "Rocky Horror" of sorts, with intermission twist contest and T-shirt and poster giveaways. You can count on one hand the audience members who haven't seen the movie already.

"Quadrophony" (Britain — 1979). 9 p.m. July 12. Mods and

Rockers battle in 1960s Britain in this well-made youth rebellion film based on the hit album by The Who. Look for a very young Sting as the Mod idol who is actually a bellboy.

MAJIC ART THEATRE
118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile, Royal Oak. Films play through at least Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call (810) 542-0180 for information and showtimes. (\$6.50; \$4 students and matinees; \$3 twilight).
"The Postman" ("Il Postino") (Italian, 1995). The story of exiled Chilean poet and diplomat Pablo Neruda (Philippe Noiret) and his relationship with an uneducated postman.

"The Bridges of Madison County" (USA - 1995). Skepticism greeted Clint Eastwood when he decided to bring Robert James Waller's much-loved, equally maligned novel to the screen, but it's not bad at all. Meryl Streep plays the Iowa farm wife whose chance encounter with a worldly photographer (Eastwood) changes her life forever.

"The Underneath" (USA - 1995). This new psychological thriller reunites "sex, lies, and videotape" director Stephen Soderbergh and actor Peter Gallagher.

"Wigstock: The Movie" (USA - 1995). RuPaul, Lypsinka, Crystal Waters and Deee-Lite are among the luminaries who celebrated the 10th anniversary of Wigstock last glamorous drag version of Woodstock held in New York City, is

chronicled in this acclaimed new documentary.

RED FORDS THEATRE
17360 Lahser, Detroit. Call (313) 537-2560 for information. (\$2.50)
"Steamboat Bill Jr." (USA - 1928). 8 p.m. July 6 only. Organist Dennis James will accompany a screening of the Buster Keaton classic about the son of a burly, brawling riverboat captain who has to prove his mettle. Capping a week-long convention of the American Theatre Organ Society.

"Hello, Dolly!" (USA - 1969). 8 p.m. July 7, 2, 8 p.m. July 8 (organ overture begins a half hour before showtime). Barbra Streisand stars in the film version of the Broadway favorite as matchmaker Dolly Levi. Directed by Gene Kelly and featuring Michael Crawford, long before making it big as "The Phantom."

"THE GREAT SUMMER ADVENTURE!"

MIGHTY MORPHIN POWER RANGERS THE MOVIE

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR	AMC EASTLAND 5
AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC SOUTHWILD CITY	AMC SOUTHWILD
AMC WOODLAND	NORWEST	QUO VADIS
RENAISSANCE	SHOWCASE ABBEY HILLS	SHOWCASE JORDAN 6-19
SHOWCASE STERLING HILLS	STAR GRANTOT	STAR LINCOLN PARK
STAR WINDCHESTER	STAR WEST OAKS FAIRLANE 12	STAR WEST OAKS LAKEVIEW
STAR OAKLAND	STAR 12 OAKS	STAR WEST RIVER
FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING

FROM THE BEST-SELLING NOVEL BY THE AUTHOR OF JURASSIC PARK

"WHAT A TRIP!"

"DON'T MISS IT!"

CONGO

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5
AMC SOUTHWILD CITY	AMC WOODLAND	AMC STERLING CTY
NORWEST	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 8
SHOWCASE 1001	SHOWCASE 1002	SHOWCASE 1003
STAR GRANTOT AT 15 MILE	STAR THINGOLY PARK 8	STAR TAYLOR
STAR WINDCHESTER 8	STAR FAIRLANE	STAR LAKEVIEW
STAR OAKLAND	STAR 12 OAKS	STAR WEST RIVER
FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING	FORD WYOMING

SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW SAT. JULY 8TH!

GET READY FOR THE COMEDY EVENT OF THE SUMMER!

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF 'MRS. DOUBTFIRE'

HUGH GRANT

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SNEAK PREVIEW SATURDAY, JULY 8TH

AMC EASTLAND	AMC LAUREL PARK
QUO VADIS	SHOWCASE JORDAN 1-19
STAR LINCOLN PARK	STAR GRANTOT
STAR WINDCHESTER	STAR WEST OAKS

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REGULAR ENGAGEMENT STARTS WEDNESDAY, JULY 12TH

FIRST KNIGHT

STARTS FRIDAY

AMC AMERICANA WEST	AMC BEL AIR 10	AMC EASTLAND 5
AMC SOUTHWILD CITY	AMC WOODLAND	AMC STERLING CTY
NORWEST	QUO VADIS	RENAISSANCE 8
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