

ENTERTAINMENT



THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON

Milk Money has sour taste

by DOLORES BARCLAY
Associated Press

Three 12-year-old suburban boys sit in a treehouse musing about life's mysteries. They drop three objects into a shoebox time capsule: a photograph of one boy's dead mother, an eyelash curler and a diaphragm.

Of the latter, one lad says it's a travel drinking cup. The smallest of the trio, Frank, correctly states its intended purpose.

This contradiction of worldliness and naivete contributes to the general mess of Milk Money, a silly, offensive movie directed by Richard Benjamin.

The story centres on Frank (Michael Patrick Carter), whose mother died in childbirth, his science teacher-ecologist father (Ed

Harris) and the prostitute named V (Melanie Griffith) who comes into their lives.

Frank and his buddies, Kevin (Brian Christopher) and Brad (Adam LaVorgna), obsessed with girls, girls, girls, decide they'd like to see a naked woman. So they pool their money, hop on their bicycles and ride into the city to hire a hooker. No surprise — the bikes get stolen.

A hustler sees them flashing around a plastic bag full of coins, lures them to a garage and tries to take the money at gunpoint. V, in a nearby limo feeding strawberries dipped in chocolate to a client, steps out to thwart the mugging.

The youngsters salivate at the sight of her and arrange a deal: They'll give her \$100 if she'll strip. She does.

Later, as she drops off her earnings to her pimp (who has been stealing from the mob), she sees the boys huddled together in the rain on the street. So she takes her pimp's car and gives them a ride home. The car breaks down when she gets to Frank's house.

Dad agrees to fix the car and Frank gives V a place to stay for the night: the treehouse. Frank has the fantasy that V and Dad should fall in love and marry.

What ensues is a series of predictable events with a predictable outcome and a forced subplot involving stolen money and the mob.

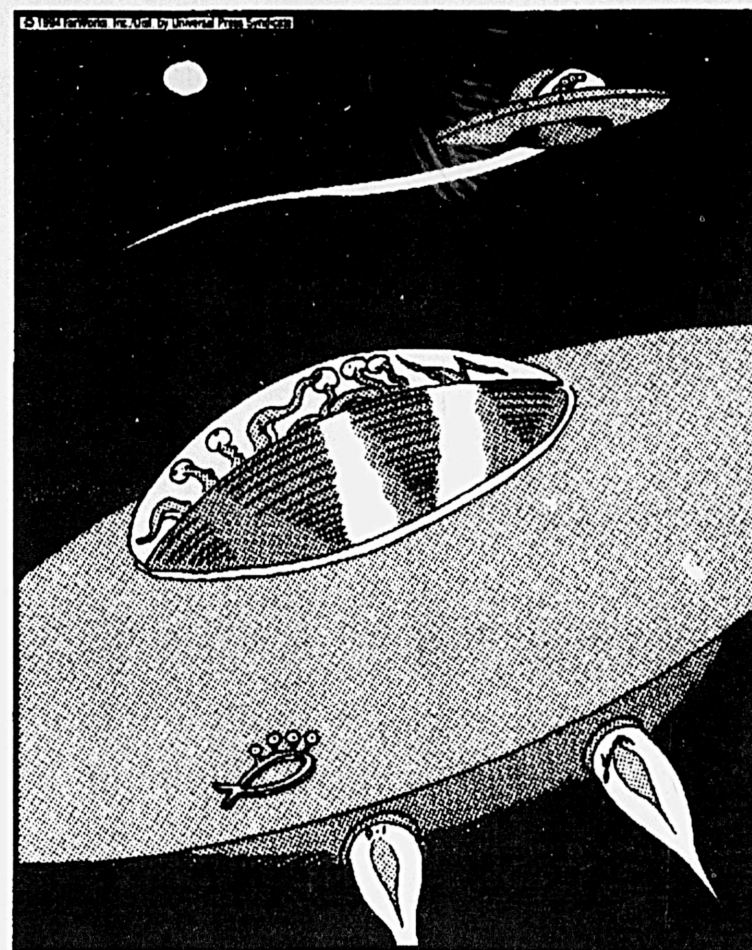
Sprinkled here and there are some playful but questionable scenes. In one, Frank sneaks V into his sex education class (the teacher has been called away to a

phone telephone call) to demonstrate by drawing on V's body a woman's reproductive organs.

In another, V shows up at a school party in her hooker attire and, while dancing with Frank, allows him to slide between her legs while she gyrates above his head. It is uncomfortable to watch at best.

The film-makers manage to squeeze in just about every cliché and stereotype: silly schoolgirls whose only interests are making boys like them; dumb women (especially Anne Heche as the prostitute Betty); prostitutes with hearts of gold.

Benjamin's direction of John Mattson's screenplay is slow and Milk Money seems much, much longer than its 110 minutes.



LOLLAPALOOZA BRINGS NEW TYPE MUSIC TO COWBOY COUNTRY

SURREY, B.C. (CP) — Grunge rockers, headbashers and thousands of ordinary young people invaded cowboy country this week as the travelling music festival known as Lollapalooza landed at a suburban harness-racing track.

They began lining up at day-break for the 11 a.m. opening and streamed steadily onto the hot, dusty Cloverdale field, where street vendors were hawking merchandise and techies were juicing up two stages for a music extravaganza.

The main attractions were the Smashing Pumpkins, the Beastie Boys, George Clinton and the P-Funk Allstars and the Breeders, but it was more than just a \$43-a-ticket music fest.

There were tattoo parlors boasting the only temporary tattoos that aren't stickers "for those who want to take a walk on the wild side," palm reading, a poetry tent (with readings unlike anything heard in high school) and a so-called electrical carnival with 50 computer terminals for imagery play.

There were plenty of opportunities to spend money: \$30 T-shirt souvenirs, hash pipes fashioned

from plastic honey bear containers, shorts and T-shirts made from hemp cloth, sunglasses, hats, jewelry, cards, veggie burgers, fruit shakes and an array of junk food.

Only the condoms were free.

The neighborhood was braced but optimistic as the carnival got underway, obviously soothed by the sight of Surrey RCMP and some 150 private security workers frisking everyone as they entered the field.

"I was concerned a little bit," said Lorelei Thomas as she pushed a tot in a stroller down an adjacent street. "But I think it's good for the kids as long as they behave."

RCMP Const. Glen Atkins said a couple of knives were seized at the gate early in the day and there were a few drug busts, but the crowd was generally co-operative.

Three ambulances were on standby early in the day and a booth was ready for those suffering

heat exhaustion, asthma attacks and head and spine injuries from the body-slam dancing called moshing.

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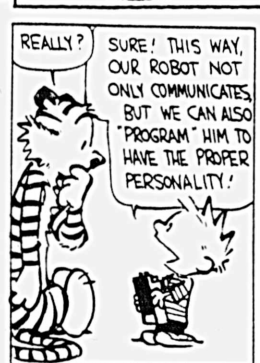
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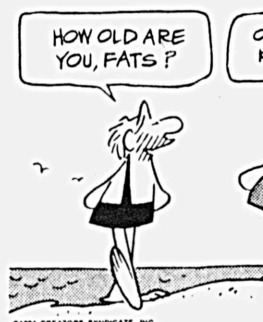
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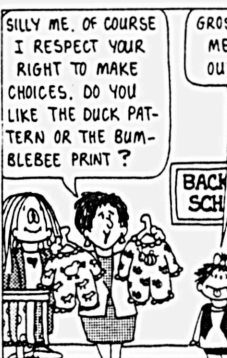
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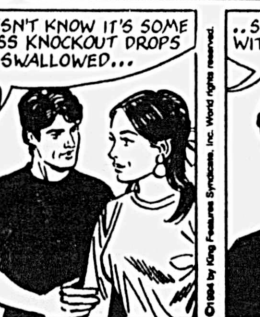
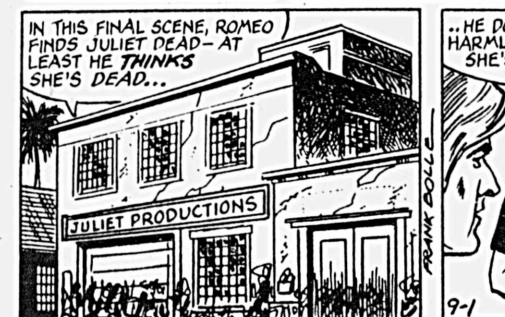
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