STUDETT LIFE

Reno's Finest invade Miami | Scorsese wins big on Oscar night

By Joshua Lane student life editor

If you are a fan of Reno 911! the Comedy Central T.V. show, then you should not be surprised by anything in the movie spin-off, Reno 911!: Miami. In fact there isn't a whole lot to separate it from its basic cable counterpart. It is the same no-script ad-libbing. The characters are still the same as they always have been, which is not necessarily a bad thing. The "R" rating means you'll hear much more foul language than the T.V. show as weell as much more nudity.

This movie follows the Reno Sheriffs Department as they head down to Miami for a Sheriffs Department convention. Once they arrive it seems that they have not been registered for the event and are forced to stay in a hotel outside the convention center. This proves to be a good thing as a bio-terrorist attack forces the entire Miami Police Department to be quarantined in the convention center, leaving Reno's finest to keep Miami's streets safe. One Of Reno's Finest officers, Deputy Travis Junior.

As you can imagine the Reno Sheriffs Department

find themselves in one funny situation after another. The Reno Sheriffs Department find themselves battling drug lords, dealing with dead beached whales, and unraveling a huge government conspiracy.

The movie has a few cameos, including Pee Wee

Herman himself ,Paul Rubens, and the Rock, AKA Duane Johnson as a S.W.A.T. officer who has a hysterical monologue. Also appearing is Paul Rudd

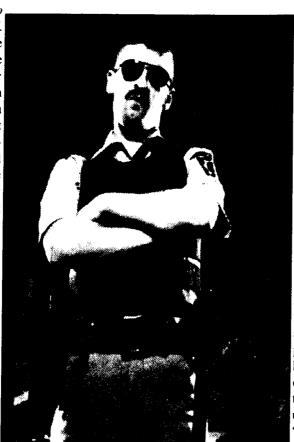
> from The 40 Year Old Virgin fame and comedian Patton Oswalt.

The film is shot with the "COPS" style kinetic camera movements which actually fits its over-the-top style. I found myself laughing from beginning to end.

There are many memorable lines throughout the movie. In one scene Deputy Travis Junior wakes up from a dream and announces to his partner that he "Just had the craziest dream." His partner then realizes the situation and says "You know you're driving, right?" At which point they go flying into a portapotty and it crashes

The only reply is "We're okay nobody was in it."

If you are a fan of the show it is definitely a movie that you shouldn't miss. That is not to say you have to see any of the show to know what is going on, it is certainly not a requirement. Reno 911!: Miami gets my stamp of approval and is in theaters now.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO on their windshield.

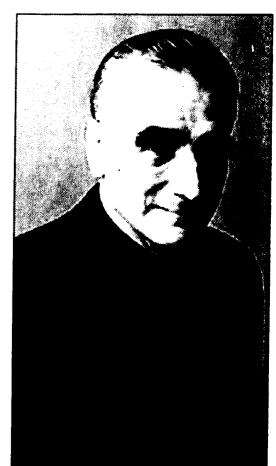
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The 79th annual Academy Awards aired Feb. 25th and there were quite a few surprises. The highly favored Babel missed the top prize of best picture losing out to The Departed. Babel was expected to be the big winner as the Academy notoriously votes for movies that have controversial plot lines and not the gangster shoot-em-up films. Also, Alan Arkin was the big surprise winner in the Best Supporting actor category. Dreamgirls was left by the wayside, as they only picked up one award for achievement in sound editing.

It seemed the biggest story of the night was Martin Scorsese getting the Oscar for Best Director. He was considered to be a heavy favorite since the nominations where announced. He received a standing ovation and said he was extremely "touched" when he was presented his Oscar by childhood friends George Lucas, Steven Spielberg and Francis Ford Coppola.

The other big winners were all pretty much expected. Forest Whitaker won the best actor Oscar for his role in The Last King of Scotland. And Helen Mirren was the obvious choice for Best Actress for her portrayal of Her Majesty in The Queen. Jennifer Hudson of "American Idol" fame took home the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in *Dreamgirls*.

Some other surprises of the night were in the Best Foreign Language Film category and the Best Song category. The Mexican film Pan's Labyrinth losing to the German film The Lives of Others in



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Martin Scorsese took the Best Director Oscar.

the Best Foreign Language Film category. It seems the three Dreamgirls songs cancelled each other out as Melissa Etheridge won for her song "I Need To Wake Up" which was the theme song for An Inconvenient Truth.

"This is the first movie I've done with a plot"

Scorsese on The Departed

All in all, it was a good night for the Academy Awards. Ellen DeGeneres was a very funny and great host. She said that this years Academy Awards had a record number of foreign actors and directors, and said that if it weren't for "Foreigners, gays, and Jews, there would be no Oscars, or anyone named Oscar for that matter."

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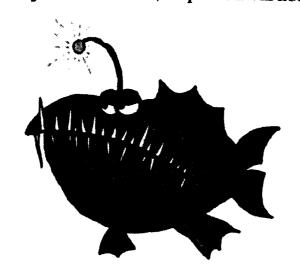
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