

'RoboCop 2' good, but not up to original

By Brian Bloch
Emerald Associate Editor

RoboCop is back on the streets of Detroit, this time battling a society thrown into chaos by a highly addictive drug.

Part man, part machine, RoboCop (Peter Weller), faces the seemingly impossible task of ridding his city of its addiction to Nuke in Irvin Kershner's *RoboCop 2*.

Movie Review

The drug is only one of his problems. With the other cops on strike, the city in pandemonium and the company (Omni Consumer Products, or OCP) playing with his circuits, our hero has plenty to do.

OCP, headed again by the Old Man (Daniel O'Herlihy), is covertly forcing the police strike in an attempt to buy up

the city for its own gain. Without the cops on duty, Detroit is overrun with looters, prostitutes and drug dealers.

Meanwhile, the unpaid RoboCop and his partner Anne Lewis (Nancy Allen) are hitting the streets trying to track down the central drug ring controlled by Cain (Tom Noonan). The ring plans to market Nuke, ultimately addicting the entire city.

The bad guys are predictably concerned about RoboCop's new interest in their business ventures and retaliate, taking him temporarily out of service. The company, benefiting from the city's turmoil, is reluctant to repair RoboCop and when they do, leave him with the prowess of Felix Unger.

The mixed-up RoboCop risks his life to shake the reprogramming, and returns ready deal with the drug ring and the

menacing RoboCop 2.

Built by OCP to police the city when it's rebuilt under their ownership, RoboCop 2 is new and improved. The giant cyborg is run by the criminally twisted brain of Cain, who has carried his addiction to Nuke into his mechanical body.

The climax features a bloody duel between the two RoboCops, after No. 2 goes on a drug-induced killing rampage.

Fans of the first movie will find as much violence as in the original. The action is fast and effectively relentless, only slowing when script does.

RoboCop 2 does justice to the flavor of the original, it's familiarly spiced with cynical TV commercials and not-so-subtle jabs at the fate of the world.

The movie also touches on the intriguing part of RoboCop that remains officer Alex Murphy and his battle to find some

kind of identity outside his programming. Unfortunately, those tangents aren't explored thoroughly and leave the viewer wondering why they were even introduced.

There are other instances of the story leaving itself for seemingly worthless tangents, almost as if they tried to jam too much into one story and left the seams jagged.

From there, the movie succeeds. There's plenty of fire, bullets, explosions and great one-liners to make this movie a winner. RoboCop, the character, carries the story through its stalls and tangents, making the movie fun and undoubtedly capturing your attention.

If you liked the original or just hunger for a movie that doesn't pull any punches, *RoboCop 2* won't disappoint you.

CRIME

Continued from Page 3

minutes to check his laundry, and returned to find his wallet and \$19 in cash stolen.

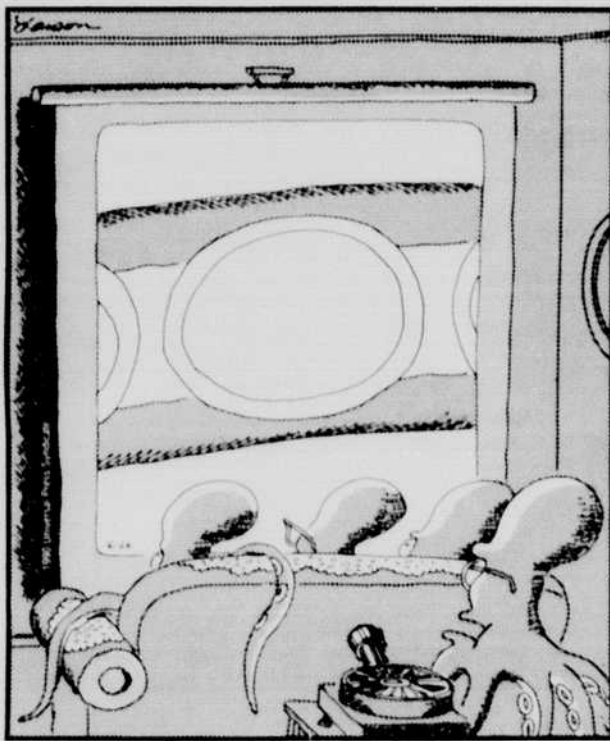
- Unknown suspects broke the front of a vending machine in the University Inn on June 1, and took \$15.50 worth of candy bars.

- OPS reports unknown suspects smashed the driver's side window of a vehicle parked in the Bean Complex parking lot June 4, stealing a compact disc player and a cassette player. The owner's car alarm reportedly went off, but no one responded. The total loss to the owner was \$900.

- In addition, OPS reports nine bikes stolen, and none recovered.

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By GARY LARSON



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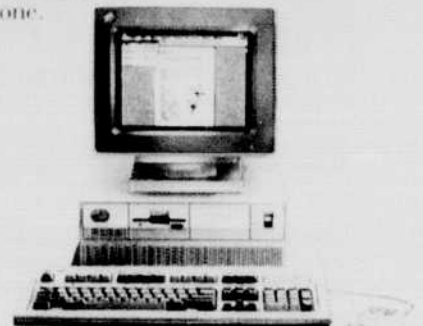
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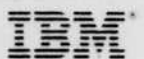
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