

FILM REVIEW: Hollywood Has-Beens Exact Revenge on Crooked Promoter in 'Supercon'

By Kam Williams
For The Skanner News

Back in the '80s, Keith Mahar (Russell Peters) was a child actor who found fame playing the young sidekick to charismatic Adam King (Clancy Brown) on a hit TV series. But after the show was canceled, Keith's career collapsed and his parents frittered away his pay by the time he became an adult.

Consequently, he's been reduced to eking out a living on one of the lowest rungs of the

of their favorite characters.

Keith and his fellow has-beens have no idea that Adam has been skimming money off the top of the purse with the help of his trash-talking assistant, Gil (Mike Epps). But when evidence of the scam surfaces, he and a few other fading stars hatch an elaborate plan to rob the crooked promoter rather than report the theft of services to the authorities.

That is the improbable point of departure of "Supercon," a campy ac-



Keith Mahar (Russell Peters) is was a child actor, reduced to comic convention appearances in 'Supercon'

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showbiz ladder. Namely, he spends his weekends signing autographs and posing for pictures at nostalgic comic conventions run by Adam and attended by crazed fans wearing costumes

tion comedy directed by Zak Knutson (Milius). Provided you're willing to buy into the picture's wacky premise, you're likely to find the ensuing turn of events entertaining.

Knutson certainly assembled a talented cast to execute the zany script he co-wrote with Andy Sipes and Dana Snyder. Among the thespians featured are comedian Mike Epps, two-time Oscar-nominee John Malkovich (for Places in the Heart and In the Line of Fire) and Maggie Grace, who played Liam Neeson's daughter in the riveting

suspense thriller Taken. And making an uncredited appearance as Gil's gay bodyguard is Tyrus, the WWE wrestler-turned-talking head on the Fox News Channel's Greg Gutfeld Show.

It's hard to take any of "Supercon"'s over-the-top silliness seriously, and the increasingly-bizarre hijinks are just funny enough to recommend for open-minded

folks not easily offended by patently political-ly-incorrect fare.

Good ★★

Rated R for crude sexual content, homophobic slurs, pervasive profanity and drug use

Running time: 98 min.

Production Studios: Momentum Productions

To see a trailer for Supercon, visit: TheSkanner.com.

'Kings'

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This otherwise grim period piece arrives blessed with a retro soundtrack featuring James Brown's African American anthem "Say It Loud, I'm Black & I'm Proud," Bill Withers' haunting, R&B classic "City of the Angels," and Nina Simone's searing rendition of "Ooh Child." Nevertheless, consider "Kings" a harrowing descent into depravity that makes "The Florida Project" look like "Leave It to Beaver."

Very Good ★★★

Rated R for violence, sexuality, nudity and pervasive profanity

Running time: 92 min.

Production Studios: Bliss Media/CG Cinema/Maven Pictures

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