

Dynamite indeed

By Matt Rutherford
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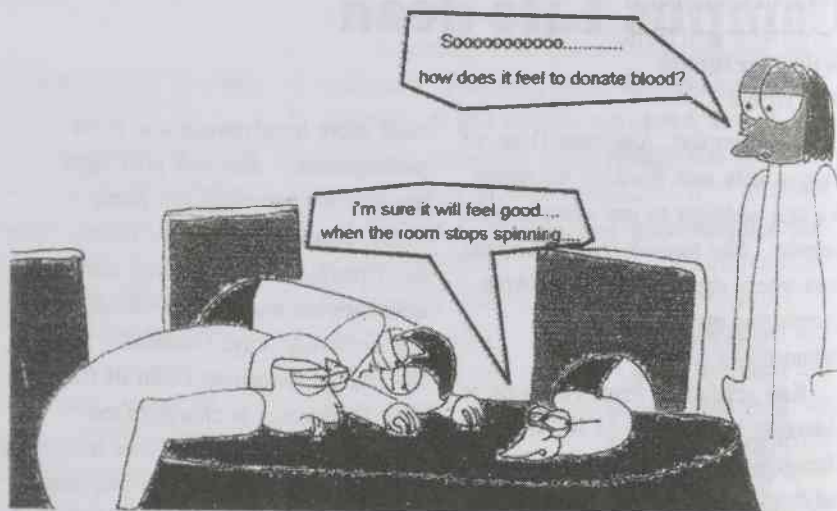
"Napoleon Dynamite" will probably become one the most critically acclaimed cult classics. The humor filled film was written and directed (something rare these days) by John Hess, co-scripted by Jerusha Hess. This film is extremely character driven and sends waves of laughter throughout the entire theater even as the credits roll. While the plot itself is not difficult to understand, it has the unique ability to attract both adults and teens alike.

The insane and wonderful characters are given life by an eclectic grouping of actors and actresses. John Heder's acclaimed role as Napoleon (a weird kid in high school who is quite aware of his weirdness) is the main deliverer of laughter throughout the movie. Napoleon's environment is blasted with odd occurrences, such as his grandmother's (Sandy Martin) dune-buggy accident and an interesting sales woman who leaves all of her merchandise on his front porch. Efrén Ramirez gives a wonderfully deliberate portrayal of Napoleon's best friend, Pedro. Together these two wreak havoc upon the high school lives of their less than intelligent classmates.

Part of the huge appeal for young people about the screen play is that it plays on our oh-so politically correct society and simply turns it upside down. The scripting for this movie is clever, the performances absolutely amazing, and Hess almost effortlessly manages to capture the "beauty" of Idaho in his own interesting way. Filming in his own home town, Hess, seems to choose the perfect atmosphere to deliver a film that is nothing short of comical genius and devious artistic brilliance.

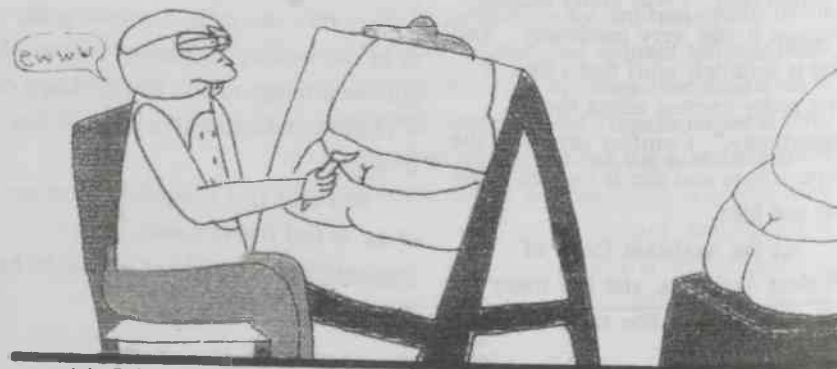
Conceivably the best part of "Napoleon Dynamite" is the films PG rating. It goes almost without saying that is a great time to take a break from the sickening teen high school flicks about romance and bad sex. (American Pie anyone?) "Napoleon" takes this concept to a higher level and gets laughs without negotiation of the films ratings. So in short, this movie is one of the best out there, and it's worth the 5 bucks and grossly overpriced concessions.

Comics



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MEANT BY "DRAW WHAT'S IN FRONT OF YOU"



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