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- Monitored intrusion alarms
- Washer/Dryer available\*

**Map of The Wilmington Area**



**ANIME, from page 13:**

English (eigo). Anime, according to Woodhead, is not a genre as it is in America.

"It's a way of making a movie or a TV show," Woodhead said. "A lot of that reason is because animation is cheaper to make than live action. Because Japan is a country with not even half the population of the United States, you can't afford to make a \$150 million special effects film, but you can afford to make a \$6 or \$10 million animation film...in Japan you have animation...from the most G-rated kid's stuff through soap operas, suspense, mystery, sports stories, right through stuff that's terribly awful and disgusting..."

Woodhead has noticed a shift in the mainstream entertainment industry's view of anime, which used to see animation as kid's stuff, very non-threatening. While the authentic Japanese animation is still "very niche," as Woodhead put it, prime-time television shows like "The Simpson's" show a strong anime influence.

"It's also starting to influence Hollywood films, much in the way that over the last few years, for example, Hollywood has been stealing a lot from Hong

Kong cinema, including many of their stars and directors. They've also now started stealing from anime," Woodhead said.

The most obvious example of anime's influence on American cinema is the 1998 blockbuster, "The Matrix."

"The creators flat-out admit that it's a Hollywood film that steals from Hong Kong, kung-fu, and Japanese animation..." Woodhead said. "You're going to see a lot of anime-inspired live-action films...and I think a lot of really good anime films are going to get remade as live-action films within the next five to ten years."

Although some anime, like Pokèmon, has made a huge impact on the United States, Woodhead does not see most anime becoming a major mainstream trend.

"I think you're going to find that there are some things that are just going to come over and become huge, and then there's a lot of really specialized genres from Japan that are still going to be sort of a cult type of market," he said. "Those sort of cult films are the ones we actually specialize."

One of the hot "cult" series AnimEigo plans to import this year is "MACROSS." In the '80s, there was an American series called "Robotech," which combined the animation, plotlines and characters of three separate anime series. One of those was "MACROSS." AnimEigo recently acquired the rights to sell the original Japanese series in the United States.

"We're doing it as a sub-titled, limited edition release," Woodhead said.

In the world of anime fans, dubbing vs. sub-titling anime films is a very big issue. Some fans are devoted to sub-titles because they like to hear the original Japanese, and others like the ease of dubbed movies.

"The fans who consider themselves to be the real, hard-core fans tend to be biased in favor of sub-titles because they want to listen to the original voices," Woodhead said.

While some fans refuse to waver on the issue, Westman likes both styles.

"If the dubbing is good, I really like dubbed movies, but I've seen a lot of really bad dubbing," the long-time anime fan said. "I guess mostly I prefer subs[subtitles], but if you've got good dubbing it's worth it."



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