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Redneck Rhymer Strikes!

By Matt Peck

You'll listen up now. Roy Manning of Fayetteville, North Carolina is an entertaining and funny man. He has produced a wonderful new book of ancestral poetry that will put any mock discriminating reader to happy tears.

Manning who "wishes to entertain" himself, has certainly written what can be considered entertaining. As to what he writes about, perhaps he is his best explanation:

"I mostly write about things and people that I've known. Those always lived in a rural environment, hence my rhymes reflect life as I have observed it. Many of the incidents are variations of actual events. I also have a vivid imagination and often combine fact with a bit of fiction. I have even, on occasion, been libelous at it."

With an odd yet charming wit and a down home sense of reality, we are sure you will want to reserve your copy of *Redneck Rhymer Strikes!* as soon as possible. Use the order form on this page and send it to the St. Andrews Press, Laurinburg, NC, and we will reserve for you your personal copy of Roy Manning's new Redneck verses.

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SCREEN DEMON



By Angela Lynch

SNEAKERS - PG13

I must admit, when the opening credits of a film proclaim that "A TURNIP CURES ELVIS" it gets my attention, and with a knock-out cast including Robert Redford, Sidney Poitier, Dan Aykroyd, River Phoenix, Ben Kingsley, and Mary McDonnell—how could it not hold my attention for the rest of the movie?

Robert Redford stars as Marvin Bishop, the head of an anarcho-tax security company. Baited by government agents into stealing a "black box" he and his colleagues soon discover that this box contains a computer chip that can unscrupulously decrypt government codes. After a few interesting and unexpected plot twists, they find themselves in a tightly woven web of danger and espionage.

Remaining a great deal of humor, *Sneakers* also makes some serious and significant comments on the "new world order." In one of his guy Ben Kingsley's (Cosmo) lines, he talks of a new world war "not fought with who's got the most bullets, but who controls the information." Think about this—now that the Soviet Union has been dismantled and the United States' intelligence community no longer has a clearly defined enemy—who is left to be investigated? Can we be safe from surveillance by our own government? (Thank goodness I tagged along with my SAGE professor and his wife to see it.)

But don't get me wrong. This film is not your regular espionage thriller. Surprisingly enough, *Sneakers* is a comedy—and a great one at that. Even Dr. Carl Wilson was overheard saying, "...high-tech muckety. I thought it was a great film." Perhaps a SAGE field trip is in order?

Screen Demon giving Woo-hoo! Thumb's up.

UNDER SEIGE - R

Many believed that it would be a cold rainy day in Hell, but the unthinkable has happened—a Steven Seagal movie with a plot. It's not exactly plausible, but really, could we as a society handle a balance between gratuitous violence and meaningful dialogue?

Anyway, a naval battleship on its way to be decommissioned, is hijacked by a group of military hooligans lead by veteran actors Tommy Lee Jones and Gary Busey. The only hope for the free world is ace chef Casey Ryback (Seagal), a man whose keen fighting abilities are rivaled only by his own epicurean sense of gourmet cuisine.

Ryback and his unwilling companion, Miss July '89, set out to free the ship and shoot up a whole bunch of bad guys in the process. Not too many surprises here. Watch for the scene where Ryback practices safe demolition by concocting a home-made Tupperware bomb complete with a candle.

If you're feeling emotionally vacuous and looking for mindless entertainment, this may be your film. Otherwise, *Under Siege* proves to be yet another action flick filled with huge explosions, high body counts and bad dialogue. Listen closely and you'll hear the sound of one hand applauding.

Screen Demon giving Pretty Lane.