

Harley meets with N.Y. talk show host

At the end of last week's episode, Harley Davidson was on his way to New York to participate in a talk show. Meanwhile, Celeste's running mate, Antoinette Chateaubriand, met

Mary Louise Knapp

with Geraldine Ferraro. As a man of leisure turned tycoon, Otis bought a \$300 suit and accompanied Harley to New York.

Otis and Harley arrived punctually at the sumptuous KRUD-TV studio in

Manhattan. Harley, who wore his usual jeans and T-shirt, seemed at ease, but Otis was uncomfortable in his new threads.

"Gosh," he said. "Even the secretaries look more sophisticated than me, and I'm the president of a big company!"

Just then Ed Phillips, the king of talk show hosts, bounded forward to greet them.

"Welcome to KRUD, Mr. Davidson," he said, shaking Otis' hand. "I hope you had a pleasant journey."

Otis blushed. "Uh, I'm not Mr. Davidson. Harley's right here."

Phillips looked alarmed. "Oh, certainly, certainly," he mumbled. "Uh, Mr.

Davidson, it's a pleasure to have you with us today. Uh, if you'll just step right this way, please..."

He led them into his plush office, poured them coffee, and began to explain the talk show procedure.

"Mr. Davidson, before we go on the air, we'd like to make a few changes in your...er... attire, if you don't mind. You see — well, to be perfectly honest with you, you don't look like a male romance author. We were expecting someone a bit more...er... stylish."

Harley pulled a pint bottle from his back pocket and added its contents to the coffee.

"We think our audience would react more favorably to you if you'd put on a suit. You might trim those sideburns and shave, too. And a little makeup would hide those...uh... blemishes."

Harley abandoned all pretense of drinking his coffee, and began taking

swigs straight from the bottle. Phillips began to sweat. It did not seem that Harley was going to be an easy man to deal with.

"And another thing, Mr. Davidson. Our station policy does not permit drinking on the air. If you could just leave that bottle with the receptionist until you're finished with the show..."

"Look, Mr. Phillips, I appreciate your concern," Harley said. "But I'm either going on the air just the way I am, or not at all. If you want somebody in a suit, why don't you interview Otis there? You can ask him how the Perky Lite Corporation is doing."

Phillips looked at his watch. In ten minutes the show would begin. Although he feared the station's ratings would tumble, he conceded.

"All right, Mr. Davidson, you win," he said. "But could you at least wash your face?"

'Karate Kid': Good movie with above-average story

By Glenn Stava

"The Karate Kid" is a strange mixture of movies. On the one hand it's part "Rocky." On the other hand it's a

Movie Review

little like the old television series "Kung Fu." And then again it's a little bit of every movie you've ever seen where a w kid in town gets pushed around by a bully, but eventually proves himself and not only whips the bully, but gains the bully's respect at the same time.

It's not as inspiring as "Rocky," nor as interesting as the series "Kung Fu." But it's not a half bad movie and is certainly a step or two above most new kid vs. bully movies.

The plot of "The Karate Kid" is predictably simple, but then movies like this can't really be expected to be overly intricate. Danial, a young boy from New Jersey, and his mother move to California. Danial meets a beautiful girl whose ex-boyfriend just happens to be a national karate champion. Now Danial has been teaching himself karate from a book, has several run-ins with this jealous ex-boyfriend and because his skill is no match for that of the champ, he gets beaten to a pulp on several occasions.

Fortunately for Danial, he stumbles

on to an old man from Okinawa named Miyagi who was taught karate as a child by his father, and though he holds no official belt, is apparently somewhat of a master. So Danial learns from Miyagi, not just how to defend himself, but about the inner balance that a true master of the arts feels.

Okay, it sounds just a little bit hokey. But "Indiana Jones..." is hokey and people go see that. Anyway, Danial becomes very good, enters a big karate tournament, and ends up fighting and beating the bully in the final round, thus becoming the champion and winning the respect of all, including the bully.

Despite its predictability, "Karate Kid" does hold a few surprises. One of them is Ralph Macchio who plays Danial. He gives a good understated and very believable performance as the up and coming karate kid. Like the character he was playing, Macchio has good control, and has made the transition from the television screen (he was on "Eight is Enough" in the later seasons) to the movie screen quite well.

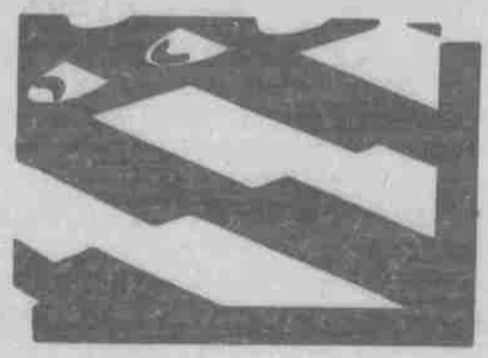
Another surprise is Ralph Morita, who plays Danial's mentor, Miyagi. Morita handles this role with a great deal of care, seeming at times to be nothing more than an eccentric old man, but always later reveals that he has a deep knowledge of the ways of the world. Some critics are calling for an Academy Award nomination for Morita's performance. He was very good. We'll just have to wait and see what the competition looks like.

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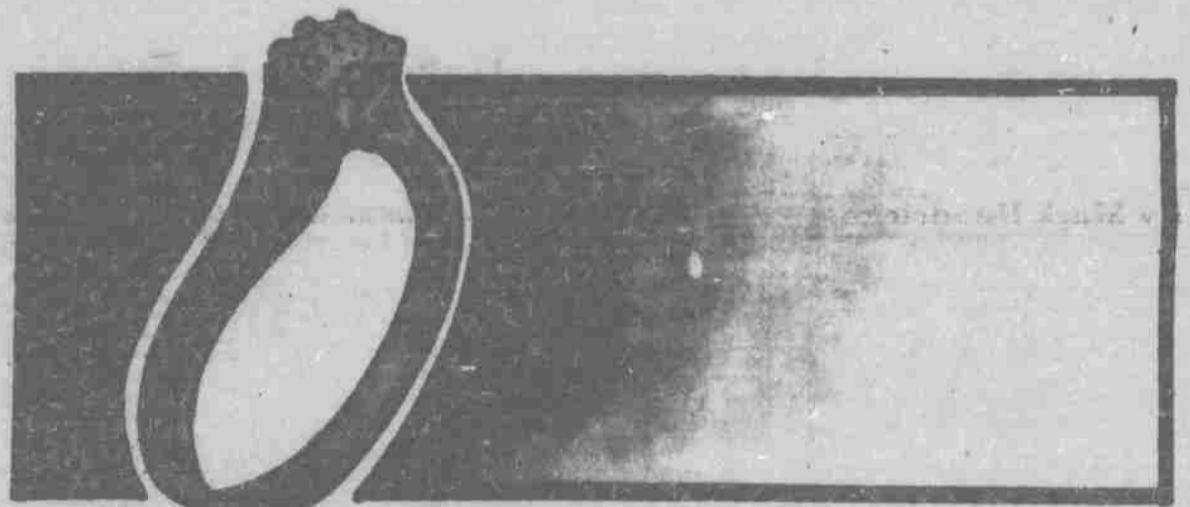
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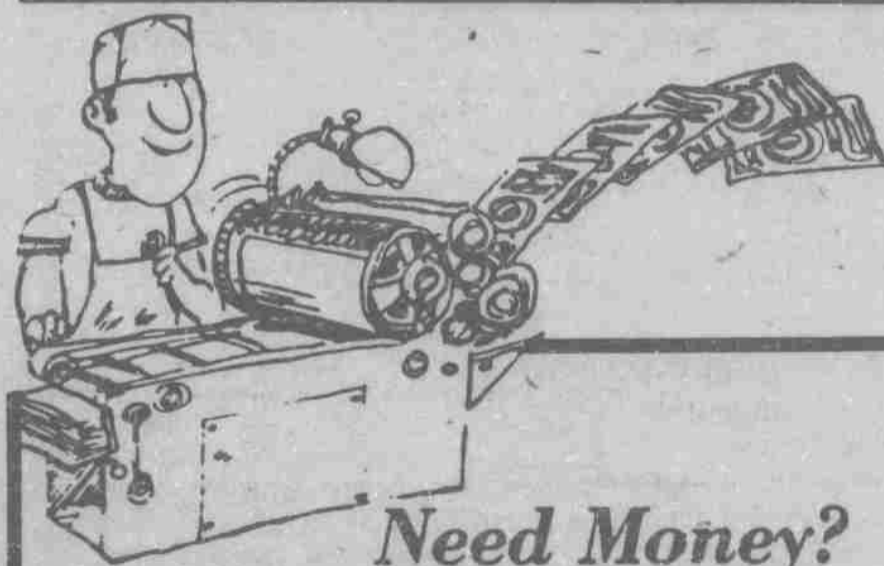
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