

Muddled 'Mohicans' never really quite meshes

By Henry Herx
Catholic News Service

NEW YORK — The characters and some of the key action scenes are all that remain in the latest screen version of James Fenimore Cooper's classic novel *The Last of the Mohicans* (Twentieth Century Fox).

The movie starts in 1757, the third year of the French and Indian War, and New York's colonial militia is away defending the frontier with the British troops at Fort William.

Pausing to help while on their way to Kan-Tuck-Key are a veteran trio of the forest — Hawkeye (Daniel Day-Lewis), his Mohican foster father, Chingachgook (Russell Means), and the Mohican's son, the noble Uncas (Eric Schweig) of the title.

After surrendering the besieged Fort William to the French, the British forces are allowed to leave under safe conduct.

The Huron allies of the French, however, ambush the British as they march through the wilderness.

Though Hawkeye is unable to stop the resulting massacre, he at least is able to rescue the British commander's daughter, Cora (Madeleine Stowe), whom he loves.

Central to all this is the treachery of the wicked Huron warrior, Magua (Wes Studi), who ultimately kills Uncas and in turn is hacked to pieces by Chingachgook.

In adapting Cooper's classic to the screen, director Michael Mann updates its romanticized version of pioneer life



Frank Connor-Twentieth Century Fox
Daniel Day-Lewis stars as Hawkeye the frontiersman in Michael Mann's epic adventure, *The Last of the Mohicans*.

amidst noble woodland savages by dwelling in realistic detail on the savagery of hand-to-hand combat.

Mann's Hawkeye, unlike Cooper's superhero, is an angry young man who slashes his way through the wilderness while pining passionately for Cora, who returns his love for no apparent reason.

The result is a confusing mixture of romantic idealism and violent realism that never meshes in any way but does

provide some silly bemusement.

One can admire the respect the production pays to the Indians' closeness to nature, but the humanity of the characters is missing from the truncated, unsatisfying narrative.

Because of its many graphic depictions of deadly violence and bloodshed, the U.S. Catholic Conference classification is A-III — adults. The Motion Picture Association of America rating is R — restricted.

Singles

Writer-director Cameron Crowe taps into the anxieties of the twentysomething crowd with his romantic comedy *Singles* (Warner Bros.).

The subject is the dating game as practiced by the residents of a singles apartment complex in Seattle.

Janet (Bridget Fonda) is dating rocker Cliff (Matt Dillon) and doesn't want to hear that she's not his main or only squeeze.

Downstairs, Steve (Campbell Scott) has sworn off women for work, until he sees Linda (Kyra Sedgwick) at a rock club. Both are wary of a new relationship but unable to take it slowly.

Debbie (Sheila Kelley) is going the video dating route with a strange tape sure to attract the local looneys.

Crowe keeps it mostly light-hearted and superficial as the young adults triumph or get wounded in the dating wars.

The only dramatic element is Steve and Linda's break-up when she thinks he only proposed because she was pregnant.

With its upbeat tone and clever dialogue, *Singles* appears it will have a steady date at the box office.

Because of a restrained treatment of a sexual encounter, a benign attitude toward premarital affairs and an instance of rough language, the USCC classification is A-III — adults. The MPAA rating is PG-13 — parents are strongly cautioned that some material may be inappropriate for children under 13.

Dining Around the Diocese

AVON INN
55 East Main Street
Avon, NY 14414
(minutes off 390, exit 10)
716-226-8181

The Avon Inn welcomes all to join us and to experience the charm of this 170 year old Greek Revival Mansion. Listed on both the State and National Registers of Historic Places, the Inn continues to serve travelers and local communities with an atmosphere reminiscent of days gone by.

Join us for LUNCH, Tuesday through Friday, as you enjoy delicious entrees and our all-you-can-eat salad bar. Dinners are served Tuesday-Sunday with a Fish Fry on Friday nights.

Sunday dinners are now being served from 1:00pm to 8:00pm with early bird specials from 1:00-3:30. Early bird specials are also available Tues, Wed, and Thurs from 4:30-6:00pm.

Try our \$75 GET-AWAY PACKAGE. It includes a room for two, a bottle of champagne, \$25 dinner certificate, and a continental breakfast. Please call for reservations. Not available on Saturdays.

The Avon Inn is the perfect place for Wedding Receptions, Showers, Banquets and Business Meetings for up to 200 guests.

Make plans to experience the timeless elegance of the historic Avon Inn today.

BOSDYK'S
Restaurant & Lounge
430 Spencerport Rd.
(corner of Longpond)
716-247-7690

Open 7 days a week for lunch and dinner, we offer a relaxing, comfortable atmosphere and reasonable prices. Whether you choose from our complete menu, or from one of our daily lunch or dinner specials, we're sure to please your palate. Come and try one of our lunch and dinner specials. Our party room is available for gatherings of up to 60 people. We hope to see you here!



CANNON'S
1551 Mt. Hope Ave.
(1 minute north of W. Henrietta Rd.
exit off Rte. 390)
(716) 461-1026

A Rochester favorite for 24 years, featuring a diverse menu including seafood, steaks, chops, veal, and Italian dishes. Dinners served Sunday, 4:30pm - 11:00pm; Monday - Thursday, 4:30 - midnight; Friday and Saturday, 4:30pm - 1:00am. Bar opens daily at 4:00pm.

CINELLI'S
Country House Restaurant
6007 Lake Rd. (Rt. 18)
Sodus, New York 14551
(315) 483-9154

One of Wayne County's finest restaurants and Party Houses, Cinelli's Country House Restaurant is a really special place! Fine service, great view, wonderful food, and a marvelous menu are just the beginning.

A big, beautiful California-coast-style solarian dining room with real wood arches and glass commands an unparalleled panorama of orchards, farms, old woods, and Lake Ontario.

In addition to our extensive lunch and dinner menus, you may also choose from between 10 and 12 daily specials. Sunday Specials from our country oven include: Roast Leg of Montana Lamb, Fresh Roast Pork and Fresh Roast Turkey served with country dressing and pan gravies.

For your reception, banquet or dinner for two to be truly special, choose a really special place. There's no better choice than Cinelli's!

Open year-round, serving lunches Tues.-Fri. from 11:30a.m.; dinners Tues.-Sat. from 5p.m.; Sunday 12:30-8p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended. "A big city menu at country prices."

CONESUS INN
2170 East Lake Road
(East side of Beautiful Conesus Lake)
(716) 346-6100

Now is the perfect time to take a leisurely drive to the Conesus Inn. Located on Conesus Lake, the Conesus Inn serves dinners Tuesday through Saturday from 5pm and Sundays

beginning at 4pm. As always, you'll find the same spectacular Prime Rib, Alaskan King Crab Legs and Australian Lobster Tail that you've come to expect and enjoy from the Conesus Inn. The beautiful surroundings and atmosphere of the Conesus Inn make it an ideal spot for dinner. Whether it's an intimate evening for two or a large gathering of friends...the Conesus Inn has a perfect evening of dining waiting for you.

While you're here, remember to choose a fine wine from our extensive wine list. Visit the Conesus Inn soon... "For The Prime Of Your Life". Just ten minutes from exit 9 off 390. Call today for reservations.

THE HOLLOWAY HOUSE
Rt. 5 & 20, E. Bloomfield
1-657-7120

Enjoy the colonial surroundings of the historic Holloway House for birthdays, anniversaries or just plain dining out! Built in 1808 as a stagecoach stop, this restaurant (with a ★★ Mobil Guide Rating) offers both a fullcourse and a-la-carte menu including turkey, steak & seafood. Round out your meal with their famous Sally Lunn Bread and homemade desserts. Enjoy the Saturday Prime Rib Special, or try the Early Dinner Specials from 12-3pm Sunday (not on holidays). Owned and operated by the Wayne Family for over 30 years, they welcome you for lunch Tues. - Sat. from 11:30A-2P or dinner from 5:30-8:30P. Sat. til 9P, Sun. 12-7:30P. Closed Mondays.

IRONDEQUOIT TOWN LOUNGE
705 Titus Avenue
(716) 342-3465

Serving lunches 11:30-3p.m. daily except Sunday. Featuring a Early Bird Special every night but Friday. Fish Frys every Friday. Our party room can accommodate up to 60 people for your next gathering. Clip out this ad and receive \$5.00 off two dinners (not valid on dinners under \$8.00 or Early Bird Specials), offer good Sunday thru Thursday, during the month of October. Please present ad when ordering.



MR. DOMINIC'S AT THE LAKE
4699 Lake Avenue
(716) 865-4630

If you're planning lunch or dinner out, take a drive to Mr. Dominic's at the Lake. Noted for their fine Italian cuisine, they offer delicious appetizers, wonderful soups, 11 veal dishes, vegetarian, chicken and fish specialties, and homemade pasta. Early bird dinner specials are served Sunday-Friday. Also offered is a 10% senior discount. Delivery is available for your luncheon group of ten or more. Lunch hours from 11a.m.-1p.m., Tuesday-Friday. Dinner hours Monday-Friday 4-9:30p.m., Saturday 5-10p.m., Sunday 3-9p.m.

PETALS
at the Marriot Thruway Hotel
5257 W. Henrietta Road
359-1800

Petals offers a rich wood and brass decor, serving traditional American cuisine. Popular for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Lunch, Mon. - Sat., 11:30a.m. - 2p.m. Dinner, Mon. - Sat., 5 - 11p.m. Sunday Breakfast Feast served 11:30a.m. - 2:30p.m.

THE REDWOOD
Rtes. 21 & 53
Naples, New York 14512
(716) 374-6360

Take a drive to scenic Naples and make sure you visit the Redwood. Serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner, The Redwood serves Fish Frys every Friday, and Barbeque Beef Rib Saturdays. Stop by Wednesdays for our \$8.95 Prime Rib Night. Open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. Tues. - Thurs; Fri. & Sat. till 9 p.m.; Sun., 7 a.m. - 8 p.m. Closed Mondays. Reservations are recommended.