



Thunder Kitties

By Chaz Radle
Staff Reporter

The Thunder Cats, cat like humanoids with space ships, sticks and swords. Crash land on a 'land before time' sort of earth and fight an old dusty mummy forever. The show consistently made up of the clanking of plastic swords and the hissing of two legged kittens.

Back in the day, there were many cartoons for us to watch as kids, and everyone should have seen either Thunder Cats, or the best action cartoon of all time: Beast Wars. Sure, watching Liono claw at the evil indestructible mummy is a hoot, but the clanking and tearing of giant robots with the occasional overly destructive laser beams could dominate 'puddy wuddy' any day. Plus, there is still clawing found in Beast Wars when the giant robots transform in to amazing animals or bugs, even cheetahs! Cheetara from the Thunder Cats, lightning quick and a total babe, sure she was fun to watch, but what's even better than that? A cheetah on all fours that launches rocket launchers and shoots destructive laser beams out of his mouth, and those laser beams are a great metaphor for a snappy attitude to turn any preschooler into a future punk.

Beast Wars was basically the 90s twist on the old Transformers cartoon where they always transformed into cars and searched for Energon all around

the galaxy. The show featured many of the same characters, such as Optimus Prime, changing him to Primal instead, and he turned into a powerful gorilla, a good exchange for the king of the highway. And of course he was still locked in battle with Megatron, who did not give up any of his power, taking the form of first the T-Rex, and later a dragon.

Thunder Kitties, try your best to out power the Beast Wars, but no matter what, Beast Wars had more cool characters, personalities, and even the amazing toys that you could throw across the street and never break. Transforming toys have always been the coolest, and always will be. How much fun is a lion in tights with an extending sword, honestly?

Thunder Cats, Thunder Cats Ho!

By Matt Broniec
Staff Reporter

The Thunder Cat cartoon is about a race called Thunder Cats. In the first episode, their home planet, Thundera, is destroyed, and their leader, Jaga dies. Lion-o is to become the new leader of the Thunder Cats. They eventually find a planet named Third Earth. They build and explore this planet and also find a new enemy named Mumm-ra. He has the help of three mutants named Sliithe, Monkian, and Jackalman. Some of the other Thunder Cats that are helping Lion-o are Tigra, Cheetara, Panthro, Wily Kat, Wily Kit, and Snarf.

Later, Mumm-ra decides to re-build Thundera and the Thunder Cats go and re-build on the planet. The Adventures of the Thunder Cats really revolved around them trying to stop evil and help the helpless. That is what makes this show so good.

The first thing about Beast

Wars that I wasn't the biggest fan of was how the robots fight. They are all made of metal its not like one has strength, and one is smart, they all are the same. In Thunder Cats, the fighting was exciting and it was fun to see the bad guys struggle to try to keep up with the fighting of Lion-o, the strength of Panthro, or the speed of Cheetara. But instead, in Beast Wars, everyone really has the same technology and all it takes to win is to get the first shot off.

Another thing that annoyed me was all their names. Yes, some did sound cool, like Megatron, or Optimus Primal. Some of the names are neat but you can't always tell who is who. You have a couple of names that you can tell who the Transformer is but when you get to guys like Thrust, Quickstrike, or Rampage, it was confusing when I was little. For the Thunder Cats, you had easy names like Lion-o, who had a mane like a lion, Cheetara who was covered in spots and ran very fast, and Panthro who looked like a panther. It is all nice and simple so you can enjoy the show instead of trying to figure out who is fighting who and then because of that you miss half the show.

Another thing that annoyed me was the fact that since they were robots, they could be repaired! Now that's cheating. When someone gets torn apart and killed, it should stay that way, instead of always bringing them back and repairing them. There were a couple who did die but, it took forever for that to happen.



Courtesy of thegamergene.com

Snack Review

I love the 90's... at least the taste



Photo by Amanda Nesci

By Paul Vickers
Business Manager

When it comes to the 1990's most people just think, "been there, done that," but I decided to stop and take a "taste" back to the time when all students at Lakes were growing up.

Snack food has evolved, like most things, but still has some of the same qualities as it used to back in the 90's.

The cheesy puffs, Cheetos, used to be called Chester's but since I can remember they have gone by Cheetos.

Also, before Fruit Rolls Ups became popular, the fruit type snack was not rolled up, rather, in long string forms that made up a design, called Fruit String Things. I used to love peeling the design off and eating the Fruit String Thing and wish they could still be around.

One 90's snack food item I was able to get my hands on are the perfect reminder of childhood, Dunkaroos. This delicious snack is most remembered by the kangaroo that appears on the

packages.

The cinnamon graham crackers with vanilla frosting and rainbow sprinkles came in six individually wrapped packages. There were ten crackers in the shape of airplanes, motorcycles, hot air balloons, and the kangaroo himself.

I cannot explain the feeling I got when I tasted these heavenly bites of goodness, but I will.

The frosting was very sweet and the graham crackers were the best they could have been. Unlike most snacks similar to these, there was plenty frosting to supply the crackers, which made them even better.

Other sweets that were commonly purchased back in the day were Warheads, Zebra Gum, which was fruit flavored and had zebra stripes on the gum, Wonder Balls, and Baby Bottle Pops, which have recently been rediscovered due to the Jonas Brothers being selected to do the theme song.

Many of the snack foods seen in the 90's were very sweet and very creative. Sprinklins, the yogurt, always came with a mix-in. The mix-ins ranged from the common sprinkle, to mystery powders that changed the color of the yogurt.

Out of all of the 90's snack foods I can remember, Dunkaroos were by far my favorite. The evolution of snack foods has come a long way but at the same time, chips and candy bars will always be superior.



out of 5

Pro-Football becomes reality



Courtesy of leatherheadsmovie.com

By Nick Valentine
Staff Reporter

There is an un-written rule in Hollywood: spring is for baseball films; fall is for football films. But don't get me wrong, because I am a huge football fanatic, so it doesn't really bother me.

First, before I get into the movie *Leatherheads*, I must give props to the authenticity of it. The language, the game play, and the acting, I felt like I was at a 20s movie. Also, I like how the film uses old school photography to show still images and shots of the boys playing football. It adds more to the feel of that era.

It's 1925 and professional football has yet to evolve to the point where it's more than a sideshow played on cattle pastures in front of collapsing, mostly empty bleachers. In this era college ball is where is

excitement is at. No one cares about pro football, just because all it is a bunch of farmers, miners, and steel-mill workers. Along comes aging player Dodge Connelly (George Clooney), who has an idea.

He approaches sports promoter C.C. Frazier (Jonathan Pryce) with his proposal. He wants to recruit star Princeton university player Carter Rutherford (John Krasinski), a decorated war hero and pin-up boy, to play for the Duluth Bulldogs (Connelly's team) for a guaranteed \$10,000 per game. The deal is quickly accepted and pro football is now in the books, and ready to go.

Dodge is an old-timer, one who's out there to ignore the rules and enjoy himself. Carter, the well-groomed, serious professional, represents the future. What is better than two opposites on the same team? It is definitely worth the time and money; don't wait until it comes out on DVD, GO TO THE THEATER!



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