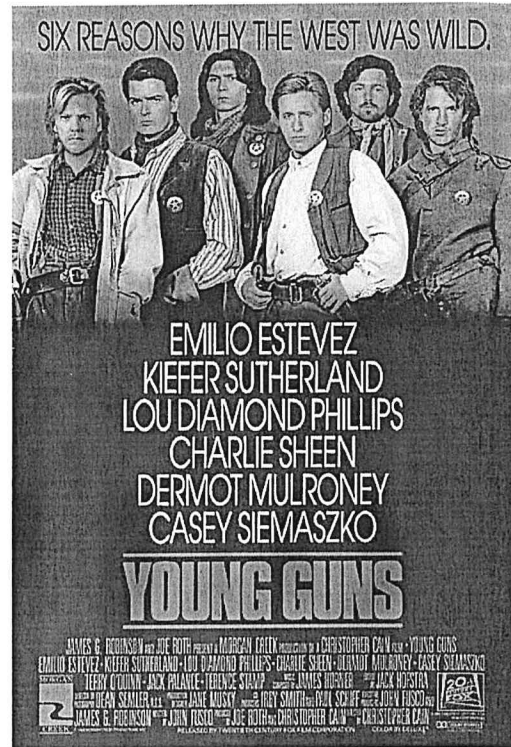


Young Guns (1988)

Director: Christopher Cain
Writers: John Fusco

Cast

Emilio Estevez (William H. Bonney)
Kiefer Sutherland (Doc)
Lou Diamond Phillips (Chavez)
Charlie Sheen (Dick)
Dermot Mulroney (Steve)
Casey Siemaszko (Charley)
Terence Stamp (John Tunstall)
Jack Palance (L.G. Murphy)



Plot Synopsis

1878 in New Mexico: John Tunstall picks up young gun men from the road to have them work on his ranch, but also to teach them reading and to civilize them. However he's a thorn in the side of the rich rancher Murphy, as he's a competitor in selling cattle. Murphy's men eventually shoot Tunstall down. Judge Wilson can't do anything, since Sheriff Brady is on Murphy's payroll. Attorney (and friend to the Tunstall clan) Alex McSween persuades the judge to constitute Tunstall's young friends to deputies, providing them with warrants of arrest for the murderers. Instead of arresting them, William Bonney shoots them down. Soon the five young men become famous and William gets the name "Billy the Kid" - but they're also chased by dozens of Murphy's men and the army. The people, however, honour him as fighter for justice.

Tidbits and Trivia

- It is widely believed that Billy the Kid's real name was William H. Bonney. However, the film is correct in listing that as only one of his aliases, and giving his real name as Henry McCarty. The name of the high school is Bates High, a reference to Norman Bates from Psycho (1960). In addition, the four note violin theme from Psycho is used over and over in the film. Although the score was arranged by Lennie Niehaus, the main theme was written by Eastwood himself.
- In the final battle, on a day he wasn't shooting, Emilio Estevez dressed as a bad guy and fought along with them. The pig's blood dumped on Sissy Spacek was karo syrup and food coloring, although she was willing to have real blood dumped on her.
- In the scene where the men are going through the Indian Village (Spirit World), Kiefer Sutherland's character "Doc" is shown in the front of the group with a cover on his face, but it is not Kiefer Sutherland. He left that morning before the scene was shot, due
- In the final battle preparations Kiefer Sutherland had to put on a "squib blood pack" vest underneath his clothes. It was supposed to be rigged to go off by Sutherland himself, to simulate when he gets shot, by pressing a hidden button; the whole rig took an hour to set up. When it came time to shoot the scene he got on to the horses and accidentally depressed the trigger and all the blood packs popped. Another hour had to be taken to re-do the pack.
- Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez are brothers. They are the sons of film actor Martin Sheen. "Sheen" is the stage name father Martin adopted as a young man. Charlie used his dad's stage name, while Emilio maintained the true family name. Emilio is three years older than his brother.

