

The Untouchables (1987)

Written by David Mamet

Directed by Brian De Palma

Cast

Kevin Costner (Eliot Ness)

Sean Connery (Jim Malone)

Charles Martin Smith (Agent Wallace)

Andy Garcia (Agent Stone)

Robert De Niro (Al Capone)

Awards

Oscar Win: Best Supporting Actor: Sean Connery

Nominations:

Best Music/ Score – Enio Marichone

Best Costume Design & Best Set Direction/
Design

Plot Synopsis

Young Treasury Agent Elliot Ness arrives in Chicago and is determined to take down Al Capone but he learns that it's not going to be easy, because Capone has the police in his pocket. But Ness meets Jimmy Malone a veteran patrolman and probably the most honourable one in the force. He asks Malone to help him get Capone but Malone warns him that if he goes after Capone, he is going to war. They recruit academy cadet, George Stone and Treasury agent Oscar Wallace, who is also an accountant, who wants to prosecute Capone for tax evasion. When they make headway, Capone tries to get them but they are untouchable. Capone eventually does strike back, killing two of Ness's team. In the end, Capone is arrested for tax evasion, and not the countless murders and bootlegging he was notoriously known for.

Tidbits and Trivia

Robert De Niro insisted on wearing the same style of silk underwear that Al Capone wore, even though it would never be seen on camera. The producers, knowing DeNiro's reputation as a Method actor, gave in.

Despite the final courtroom scene in this movie, the real Al Capone and Eliot Ness never came face to face during their battles.

Kevin Costner, Sean Connery and Andy Garcia engaged in police tactic and weapons training for the film - from the 1950s.

The train station scene was parodied in Naked Gun 33 1/3: The Final Insult (1994).

De Palma also talked to Jeff Bridges and Gene Hackman about playing Ness and Malone.

