

The Great Brain

US : 1978 : dir. Sidney Levin : : 82 min
 prod: : scr: : dir.ph.:
[Jimmy Osmond](#)
 James Jarnigan; Len Birman; Pat Delaney; Fran Ryan; John Fredric Hart

Ref:	Pages	Sources	Stills	Words	Ω	8	€	M	⌘	Copy on VHS	Last Viewed
2580a	2.5	2	12	449	3	-	3	-	-	No	Unseen



Source for this fuzzy sequence of frame grabs: [The Movie and TV Spanking Page](#)

Leonard Maltin's TV Movies and Video Guide 1996 review:

"Ambling but enjoyable family film produced by The Osmonds from John D Fitzgerald's award-winning book. Young Jimmy plays a Tom Sawyerish con artist at the turn of the century. *** "

Speelfilm Encyclopedie review – identical to above

The Movie and TV Spanking Page comment:

"A truly awful movie starring a young Jimmy Osmond. Here, young Jimmy has refused to tell schoolmaster Mr Standish who is responsible for a prank. Threatened with a paddling if he does not tell, he declares that not only will he not tell, but he won't take a paddling either. "We'll see about that!" declares Mr Standish, who puts the boy over his knee and gives him ten resounding whacks with the paddle. Our hero is unrepentant afterwards."



The Great Behind – spanking little Jimmy required some heavy-duty lifting equipment. The expression “hitting a bull in the butt with a bass fiddle” springs to mind.

[no listing in "Halliwell's Film Guide", "The Critics' Film Guide", "The Good Film and Video Guide", "Movies on TV and Videocassette 1988-89", "Rating the Movies (1990)", "The Sunday Times Guide to Movies on Television", "The Time Out Film Guide", "TV Times Film & Video Guide 1995", "Variety Movie Guide 1993", "Video Movie Guide 1993" or "The Virgin Film Guide"]

No further information currently available. This one even slipped past *The Moving Picture Boy*. I do think we should be warned whether or not the lad was suffered to sing. I think the world is entitled to that information. "*Long-Haired Lover From Liverpool*" was worth a good sound paddling in anyone's book, so we have to reckon Jimmy had it coming – even with the butter-bat that was the instrument of choice in southern schools of the US.

This is Jimmy Osmond's only film appearance to my knowledge. Elder brother Donny was quite simply stunning at the same age – "photogenic" just doesn't cover it – but made no films at all that I'm aware of. Sister Marie did make several attempts to launch an acting career, but with indifferent success. Fans were best served by "**The Donnie and Marie Show**" on TV, and only had themselves to blame.

See subject index, for want of better information, under **CORPORAL PUNISHMENT, RASCALS & SCALAWAGS** and **SCHOOL**.