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Famous

august 2007 | volume 8 | number 8

**MATT
DAMON**
ON THE BOURNE
ULTIMATUM

**DANIEL
CRAIG**
PREPARES FOR
THE INVASION

On the fly
**STUDENT
style**
PG. 38

Claire
Danes

The enigmatic actor shines as a living, breathing shooting star in the lavish fantasy **Stardust**

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contents

Famous | volume 8 | number 8



30



26



20

FEATURES

20 BOURNE AGAIN

Matt Damon plays amnesiac spy Jason Bourne in the series' third film, *The Bourne Ultimatum*. Will Bourne really, truly, regain his memory this time around? Only Damon knows for sure | BY EARL DITTMAN

26 PAGING DOCTOR CRAIG

Daniel Craig is a doctor fending off an alien virus in *The Invasion*. Here, he chats about his love of sci-fi, that other gig (you know, James Bond) and saving co-star Nicole Kidman's life (well, sorta) | BY EARL DITTMAN

COVER STORY

30 THE RELUCTANT STAR

Claire Danes has been hovering on the edges of Hollywood ever since opting to go to college seven years ago. But the maturing actor is expected to burn bright this month as a shooting star in the fairy tale *Stardust* | BY EARL DITTMAN

DEPARTMENTS

6 EDITORIAL

8 SNAPS

Whoopi and Spike stand in line

10 SHORTS

Recreating *Ben-Hur's* epic chariot race

12 SPOTLIGHT

Superbad's Martha Maclsaac

14 THE BIG PICTURE

Spend *2 Days in Paris*, then go to *War*

35 TRIVIA

Which *American Idol* judge appears in *Bratz: The Movie*?

36 ON THE SLATE

38 STYLE

Quick 'n' easy grooming tips for late-rising students

40 LINER NOTES

Justin Hines's sensitive *Sides*

style
38



42 NAME OF THE GAME

Beware *BioShock's* creepy little girls

44 ON DVD

48 HOROSCOPE

Hey Leo, you've had enough attention

50 FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Celebrities reveal their tattoo screw-ups

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DOWN TO EARTH



For the past seven years, **Claire Danes** has been just one lengthy vacation away from inspiring the question no actor wants to hear: “Whatever happened to...?”

It’s not that she’s been completely out of the public eye. For God’s sake, she’s made 10 movies in that time, including *The Hours* and *Terminator 3*.

It’s just that, after playing angst redheaded Angela Chase on TV’s pivotal series *My So-Called Life*, she became such a favourite for those who like their cute

young actors with brains and self-awareness. They expected such big things for their little Angela. She had so much potential.

In large part, the lower profile developed because, unlike most young actors, Danes decided to go to university — Yale, no less. That can put a crimp in your work life.

But school’s out, Danes is now 28 years old, and growing farther and farther from that breakthrough TV role.

This month she plays the central character — a falling star — in *Stardust*, a lavish fantasy à la *Princess Bride*. And her supporting cast? How about Robert De Niro, Michelle Pfeiffer, Peter O’Toole, Ian McKellen and Ricky Gervais. Not bad.

Check out “How to be a Star,” page 30, to find out how Danes prepared herself to play a celestial being.

Daniel Craig finds himself battling beings from outer space in *The Invasion*, more specifically, an alien virus that’s turning people into shells of their former selves. Sound familiar? Yup, it’s a loose remake of the 1956 classic *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*.

In “Playing Doctor,” page 26, we ask Craig about that on-set incident in which he reportedly saved Nicole Kidman from serious injury, and, of course, we find out what life is like after Bond.

Matt Damon swears that his character, Jason Bourne, will find out his true identity by the end of *The Bourne Ultimatum*, the third film based on Robert Ludlum’s books. Read “Total Recall,” page 20, to see whether this third Bourne movie will be the last.

And on page 12 you’ll find our interview with PEI native **Martha Maclsaac**. You may recognize her as the lead on TV’s rather earnest *Emily of New Moon*. Now she’s trying to be funny in *Superbad*, the latest movie from superhot writer (and fellow Canadian) Seth Rogen. —MARNI WEISZ



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CAUGHT ON FILM

KATIE HOLMES, IAN MCKELLEN, LEN WISEMAN, KATE BECKINSALE, SPIKE LEE, WHOOP! GOLDBERG, LIV TYLER



1



2



3



4



5

1 Naughty boy. Director Len Wiseman grabs his wife Kate Beckinsale's ass while the couple slow dance at the U.K. premiere of his latest effort, *Live Free or Die Hard*.

PHOTO BY DAVE M. BENETT/GETTY

2 Good for you! Rather than wait on their publicists to get them free iPhones, Spike Lee and Whoopi Goldberg stood in line with everyone else and were among the first through the door of the Apple Store in Soho, New York, when the much-hyped gadgets went on sale.

PHOTO BY BRIAN PRAHL/SPLASH-KEYSTONE

3 A moment of self-reflection. Katie Holmes' image bounces off the glass entrance of the Eden Rock Hotel at Antibes in the South of France. She and her family were there for a friend's wedding.

PHOTO BY SPLASH-KEYSTONE

4 Yes, okay, we see the resemblance. Movie Gandalf, Ian McKellen, stands next to theatre Gandalf, Malcolm Storry, backstage at London's Theatre Royal, where the stage version of *The Lord of the Rings* recently opened to mixed reviews, much as it did in Toronto.

PHOTO BY DAVE M. BENETT/GETTY

5 "If you just put a clip in it here, it would really open up your face." Liv Tyler gets some hair advice from her two-year-old son Milo near their New York City home.

PHOTO BY MARCEL THOMAS/FILMMAGIC

YOUR CHARIOT AWAITS

Extreme sports enthusiasts and movie buffs have joined forces to recreate one of cinema's most famous moments — *Ben-Hur's* edge-of-your-seat chariot race.

Last September, close to 300,000 people jammed into the Stade de France outside Paris to witness *Ben-Hur: Bigger than the Legend*, a five-night extravaganza starring 500 actors and extras that climaxed with the recreation of the 1959 film's epic race, complete with six chariots and dozens of horses.

But don't think that spectacle was an anomaly — chariot racing has gone global:

- Swede Stellan Lind is

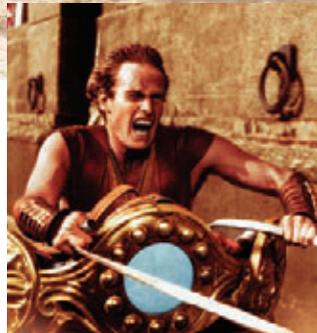
obsessed with *Ben-Hur*, to the point where he convinced the Jordan Tourism Board to fund races twice a day for tourists visiting an ancient Roman hippodrome near the town of Jerash. Lind even tracked down a prop man who worked on *Ben-Hur* (and who had a few of the chariots from the film stored away in Rome) to help design the new chariots.

- From Leeds to Shropshire to Northumberland, you'll find countless English summer festivals featuring chariot racing (that's of course if it's not raining in Britannia).

- While recovering from an injury, Brazilian farmer Luiz Augusto Alves de Oliveira



A chariot race in Jordan. Inset: Charlton Heston does his thing in *Ben-Hur*



repeatedly watched *Ben-Hur* and swore he would race chariots when he recovered — and he does, every few weeks in the fall and winter on his ranch. He's planning to expand his racing circuit across Brazil. —IR

JORDAN RACE PHOTO BY JERASH HERITAGE CO. LTD.



the dining hall — they kind of turned it into a room in a Harry Potter movie and he's going to be driving his motorcycle through there," says Hallock over his cellphone while watching Ford's stunt double ride his motorcycle up and down Chapel Street. The real Ford is reportedly inside Yale shooting a classroom scene.

So what clues can we gather from these storefronts? "Well, Brody was the name of his friend, played by [the late] Denholm Elliott," says Hallock, "so maybe he gave up being a professor and became a barber."

Hallock also noticed a bridal theme running through several of the storefronts — wedding gowns in one, a wedding cake in another. The plot thickens.

"Karen Allen, who played Indiana Jones's love interest in the first movie is supposed to have been spotted in town, little rumours are popping up on local radio stations," says Hallock. "She lives up in Massachusetts I guess, which isn't too far.... So I thought maybe they're going to be walking down the street and thinking about getting married, 'cause I guess Shia LaBeouf's playing his illegitimate son, and she's the mom."

Maybe. The way Spielberg likes to keep a lid on things it'll be May 2008 — when the film is released — before we know for sure. —MW

lot, you can't keep everything a secret.

These shots of the film's New Haven, Connecticut, set were taken by fan Mitchell Hallock, who actively campaigned to be an extra in the film via his MySpace page. Unfortunately it didn't work, but Hallock has been visiting the set — College and Chapel Streets, which border Yale University, have been dressed to look like the 1950s — and reporting about it on MySpace.

"The actual Yale campus is sectioned off too because they're going into some historical places like the rare books library,

Artifact

This month's objet de film:
The *Indiana Jones 4* set

Steven Spielberg's up to his old tricks, keeping the plot details of the fourth *Indiana Jones* movie entirely under wraps. As we go to press, one carefully orchestrated pic of Harrison Ford as an elder Indy is all that's officially been released.

But unless you're shooting on a private

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Is there something funny about

MARTHA MacISAAC?

She had never appeared in a feature film, never attempted comedy, nor set foot in L.A. But that all changed when Martha MacIsaac walked on to the set of this month's teen comedy *Superbad*.

The 22-year-old Prince Edward Island native, who got her start as a child actor playing Emily in the CBC TV series *Emily of New Moon*, knew the chance to work with *Superbad*'s superhot comedic tandem — producer Judd Apatow, writer Seth Rogen — would usher in the next phase of her career. The question was, could she be funny?

"I had never done a comedy before so this was a whole new bag of tricks for me," says the bubbly actor on the line from her home in Toronto. "They do so much improv on all of Judd Apatow's movies. They hire people who they think are funny because they want their input, they want it to be a team effort, and that was very intimidating to me because I've never done comedy. And to improvise with Jonah Hill and Michael Cera, who are both hilarious, that was exciting."

Superbad focuses on high school seniors and best friends Seth (Hill) and Evan (Cera), two geeky guys who plan a final blowout party to try and score with chicks. MacIsaac plays the sweet-natured Becca, the object of Evan's affections, and poor Evan is so nervous around her that he doesn't clue into the fact that she returns his feelings.

So, back to the question, could MacIsaac make people laugh?

"I don't know that the stuff I did was funny," she says lightly, "but it wasn't as hard as I thought it would be. Doing improv made me nervous at first, but the things [Cera and Hill] throw at you are so funny that you need to react — and maybe your reaction to what they're saying is really funny and you laugh, or you might think



it's really awkward and show that."

MacIsaac moved to Toronto from PEI after graduating from high school and immediately found work in TV and theatre. She's presently garnering rave reviews for her parts in two Soulpepper Theatre Company productions, *Our Town* and *The Time of Your Life*, and when those productions close this month MacIsaac will take the biggest step in her acting journey so far — packing her bags and moving to L.A.

"I'm going to give it a shot in the States," she says. "[*Superbad*] is coming out in August, I've got a lot of friends there now and I've got my papers to work

there so I think now is the best time.

"I was sort of hesitating going down when I initially got *Superbad*, I sort of had a picture of Hollywood in my mind and I didn't think I was going to like it. I thought everyone was going to be superficial and full of themselves, and that wasn't at all what I got when I arrived.

"And I'm used to working in Canada where we don't have a whole lot of money or time to work with," adds MacIsaac, "but going down there you could actually do a scene until you felt you got everything out of it rather than, 'Well, we're out of time, we've got to keep going.'" —INGRID RANDOJA

PHOTO BY ODESSY BARBU

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BY INGRID RANDOJA



EL CANTANTE

WHO'S IN IT? Jennifer Lopez, Marc Anthony
WHO DIRECTED? Leon Ichaso (*Piñero*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Anthony plays real-life Salsa pioneer Héctor Lavoe, who moved to New York from his native Puerto Rico in the early '70s and became a musical superstar. However, his quick rise to fame led to a nasty drug addiction, which took its toll on both him and his wife Puchi (Lopez).

→ HITS THEATRES AUGUST 3

Best friends Cloe, Sasha, Jade and Yasmin split up to join various school cliques only to realize they've sacrificed their individuality, and must band together to oust the school's reigning mean girl, Meredith Baxter Dimly.

BECOMING JANE

WHO'S IN IT? Anne Hathaway, James McAvoy
WHO DIRECTED? Julian Jarrold (*Kinky Boots*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Poor Jane Austen (Hathaway), her family wants her to marry a wealthy man, but the 20-year-old aspiring writer has her eye on a novice Irish lawyer by the name of Tom Lefroy (McAvoy). Heavens, what shall she do? This bio-pic deals with the late-18th-century novelist's brief love affair with Lefroy and how it affected her life and her future writing.

UNDERDOG

WHO'S IN IT? Alex Neuberger, Patrick Warburton
WHO DIRECTED? Frederik Du Chau (*Racing Stripes*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The '60s cartoon becomes a live-action family flick featuring the voice of Jason Lee as the crime-fighting canine Underdog. Our hero spends most of his time battling mad scientist Simon Barsinister and saving his true love Polly Purebred (voice of Amy Adams) from imminent danger.

HOT ROD

WHO'S IN IT? Andy Samberg, Isla Fisher
WHO DIRECTED? Akiva Schaffer (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Accident-prone stuntman Rod Kimble (Samberg) goes from hopping speed bumps to attempting to jump ▶▶

AUGUST 3

BRATZ: THE MOVIE

WHO'S IN IT? Malese Jow, Skyler Shaye
WHO DIRECTED? Sean McNamara

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The Bratz dolls initially made their mark by stepping all over Barbie's plastic toes and taking a chunk out of her market share. Now the figurines come to life in this live-action movie that charts their freshman year at Carry Nation High.

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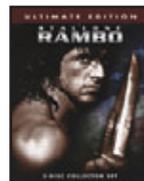
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▶▶ 15 buses in order to earn enough money to pay for his abusive stepdad's (McShane) heart operation. Check out the hilarious faux website www.stuntmanforever.com to see Rod in action!

THE BOURNE ULTIMATUM

WHO'S IN IT? Matt Damon, Joan Allen
WHO DIRECTED? Paul Greengrass
(*The Bourne Supremacy*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Highly trained secret agent Jason Bourne (Damon) can remember where he parked his car, but that's about it since the CIA wiped away his long-term memory. The perturbed spy has spent the last two *Bourne* movies beating the crap out of people while trying to reconstruct his identity, but in this final installment in the series (that's according to Damon himself), Bourne manages to unlock the key to his memory, which makes the CIA and other nefarious types very nervous. **See Matt Damon interview, page 20.**

CHARLIE BARTLETT

WHO'S IN IT? Anton Yelchin, Robert Downey Jr.

WHO DIRECTED? Jon Poll (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Rich kid Charlie Bartlett is kicked out of his posh private school and forced to enroll in a public high school where he discovers other kids have problems worse than his own. So with tips (and pills) scored from his own psychiatrist, Charlie opens a counselling office in the boys' washroom where he dispenses sage advice and fills prescriptions.

ARCTIC TALE

NARRATOR: Queen Latifah

WHO DIRECTED? Sarah Robertson (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Queen Latifah narrates this documentary recounting the adventures of a mother polar bear and her cubs, and mother walrus and her calf, in the frozen Arctic.

AUGUST 8

DADDY DAY CAMP

WHO'S IN IT? Cuba Gooding Jr., Paul Rae
WHO DIRECTED? Fred Savage (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Two incompetent dads (Rae, Gooding Jr.) take over a rundown summer day camp in order to spend more time with their sons. This sequel to *Daddy Day Care* sees Gooding replacing Eddie Murphy and Rae replacing Jeff Garlin.



RUSH HOUR 3

WHO'S IN IT? Jackie Chan, Chris Tucker
WHO DIRECTED? Brett Ratner
(*X-Men: The Last Stand*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? This third film of the buddy/cop series sees Carter (Tucker) and Lee (Chan) reunite and head to Paris to take down powerful Chinese Triads operating out of the City of Lights.

→ **HITS THEATRES AUGUST 10**

AUGUST 10

STARDUST

WHO'S IN IT? Charlie Cox, Claire Danes
WHO DIRECTED? Matthew Vaughn
(*Layer Cake*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The lovesick Tristan (Cox) crosses into the magical land of Faerie to retrieve a fallen star for the beautiful Victoria (Sienna Miller). To his surprise he discovers the star is actually a mysterious woman (Danes) who is being hunted by the inhabitants of the realm, including a pirate (Robert De Niro) and a witch (Michelle Pfeiffer). Based on British author Neil Gaiman's fantasy novel.

See Claire Danes interview, page 30.

AUGUST 17

SUPERBAD

WHO'S IN IT? Jonah Hill, Michael Cera
WHO DIRECTED? Greg Mottola
(*The Daytrippers*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Canuck writer/actor Seth Rogen (*Knocked Up*) looks to continue his Hollywood hot streak with this teen flick he co-wrote with pal Evan Goldberg. The comedy focuses on nerdy pals Seth (Hill) and Evan (Cera), who plan one final party before graduation, where Evan hopes to hook up with his secret crush Becca (Martha Maclsaac), and Seth hopes to score with, well, anyone. **See Martha Maclsaac interview, page 12.**



2 DAYS IN PARIS

WHO'S IN IT? Julie Delpy, Adam Goldberg
WHO DIRECTED? Julie Delpy
(*Looking For Jimmy*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Marion (Delpy) and Jack (Goldberg) live in New York City but travel to her hometown of Paris during a so-far disastrous trip to Europe. However, any chance of getting their relationship back on track is derailed when Jack meets a string of Marion's ex-beaus and her overbearing parents.

→ **HITS THEATRES AUGUST 10**

THE INVASION

WHO'S IN IT? Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig
WHO DIRECTED? Oliver Hirschbiegel
(*The Downfall*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The sci-fi chestnut *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (filmed in 1956 and again in 1978) returns once more, re-imagined for 21st-century audiences. Kidman stars as a psychiatrist who believes an alien virus is turning people into robotic creatures, while Craig plays a doctor enlisted by Kidman to help find a cure for the pandemic before it's too late. **See Daniel Craig interview, page 26.**

THE HUNTING PARTY

WHO'S IN IT? Richard Gere, Terrence Howard
WHO DIRECTED? Richard Shepard (*The Matador*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Based on an *Esquire* article this film was originally titled ▶▶

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►► *Spring Break in Bosnia*, which should give you some idea of the tone. Gere and Howard play a couple of journalists trying to track down a Bosnian war criminal.

AUGUST 24

THE LAST LEGION

WHO'S IN IT? Colin Firth, Ben Kingsley
WHO DIRECTED? Doug Lefler (debut)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Set in 480 A.D., this swords and sandals pic stars Firth as Aurelius, a Roman legionnaire left with the task of protecting the child emperor Romulus.

RESURRECTING THE CHAMP

WHO'S IN IT? Samuel L. Jackson, Josh Hartnett
WHO DIRECTED? Rod Lurie (*The Last Castle*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? A sportswriter (Hartnett) discovers a homeless man (Jackson) who calls himself "Champ" is actually boxing legend Bob "Bombardier" Satterfield, who everyone thought had died years ago.

WAR

WHO'S IN IT? Jet Li, Jason Statham
WHO DIRECTED? Phillip G. Atwell (debut)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? F.B.I. agent Jack Crawford (Statham) searches for the reclusive assassin Rogue (Li), the man responsible for killing his partner.

MR. BEAN'S HOLIDAY

WHO'S IN IT? Rowan Atkinson, Willem Dafoe
WHO DIRECTED? Steve Bendelack (*The League Gentleman's Apocalypse*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? In his second feature film, Mr. Bean wins a trip to Cannes where he manages to disrupt the renowned film festival with his usual antics.

AUGUST 26

**WWE-PAY-PER-VIEW
SUMMERSLAM**

Tempers are sure to flare inside New Jersey's

Continental Airlines Arena when WWE stars take to the mat for their annual August bout. Watch as Jackass challenges the Samoan Bulldozer, Umaga, and prepare for the return of the legendary Triple H. Check www.cineplex.com for a list of theatres where you can watch it live, and to buy tickets.

AUGUST 31

HALLOWEEN

WHO'S IN IT? Scout Taylor-Compton, Malcolm McDowell
WHO DIRECTED? Rob Zombie (*The Devil's Rejects*)
WHAT'S IT'S ABOUT? Rob Zombie treads on hallowed horror ground with his remake of the 1978 classic *Halloween*. Zombie will likely bring a heightened sense of gruesome sadism to the story of masked serial killer Michael Myers, who escapes from a psychiatric hospital and heads home to see his sister (Taylor-Compton), the only member of his family he didn't murder.

DEATH SENTENCE

WHO'S IN IT? Kevin Bacon, Kelly Preston
WHO DIRECTED? James Wan (*Saw II*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? After his son is killed by a gang member, a mourning father (Bacon) is disgusted to learn the murderer will only serve six months in prison, so daddy dearest metes out his own brand of justice.

BALLS OF FURY

WHO'S IN IT? Dan Fogler, Christopher Walken
WHO DIRECTED? Phillip G. Atwell (debut)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The sports comedy genre is officially entering its "What the..." stage with this unlikely pic about a ping-pong whiz (Fogler) sent to infiltrate Mr. Feng's (Walken) deadly ping-pong tournament. As usual, Walken shows no on-screen shame, seemingly taking delight in the fact he's dressed like Sonia Braga in *Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Gotta love the guy.

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TOTAL RECALL

Matt Damon promises that by the end of *The Bourne Ultimatum* Jason Bourne will remember his past. Will he like what he discovers? | BY EARL DITTMAN

If Matt Damon had decided to take the lead role in Tim Burton's remake of *Planet of the Apes*, this month's *The Bourne Ultimatum* may never have been made.

"I wouldn't be presumptuous enough to say that the *Bourne* films wouldn't have been as successful without me," says 36-year-old Damon as he plops himself down on a chair at a New York hotel, "but who knows if they could have found another fool like me to make three of them?"

The Bourne Ultimatum is indeed the third installment in the blockbuster franchise based on Robert Ludlum's books about amnesia-plagued, rogue CIA agent Jason Bourne (Damon).

"I had absolutely no great desire to play an action hero, even as I got older," says Damon, decked out in a stylish suit and crisp, white button-down shirt, minus a tie. "Before I got into acting, I really wanted to be a baseball player. I went to my first baseball game when I was about eight years old, and it was like the thrill of my lifetime. My father and I even got to go on the field after the game, and it was such an adrenaline rush for me. I still think that there is a chance that I'm going to pitch for the Red Sox one day."

But Damon's dreams of playing for the major leagues disappeared when a starring role in a high school play convinced him that acting was his true calling. After making dozens of commercials and scoring minor roles in such films as *Mystic Pizza* and *School Ties*, he and his good friend

Ben Affleck decided to write their own screenplay and cast themselves in the starring roles.

Their effort, *Good Will Hunting*, would earn the boys from Boston the Best Original Screenplay Oscar in 1998, instantly transforming them into leading men. For Damon, the film roles and the big paydays started to roll in, including prime parts in *The Rainmaker*, *All the Pretty Horses*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *Ocean's Eleven*. But with the exception of the ensemble piece *Ocean's Eleven*, none of Damon's movies were big hits. That would soon change.

Due to a previous commitment, Affleck had passed on *The Bourne Identity*, but encouraged his friend to give the screenplay a serious read. Although Damon was a signature away from reporting to the set of the *Planet of the Apes* redux, he reluctantly gave the script a read.

"Even though I didn't see myself as an action hero, I was always a big fan of movies in that genre," he says. "The problem was that I was constantly disappointed by them, because they never seemed smart enough. The action seemed contrived, because you could set your watch to the next explosion — four minutes goes by, so more stuff is going to blow up, and it does. I was constantly disappointed."

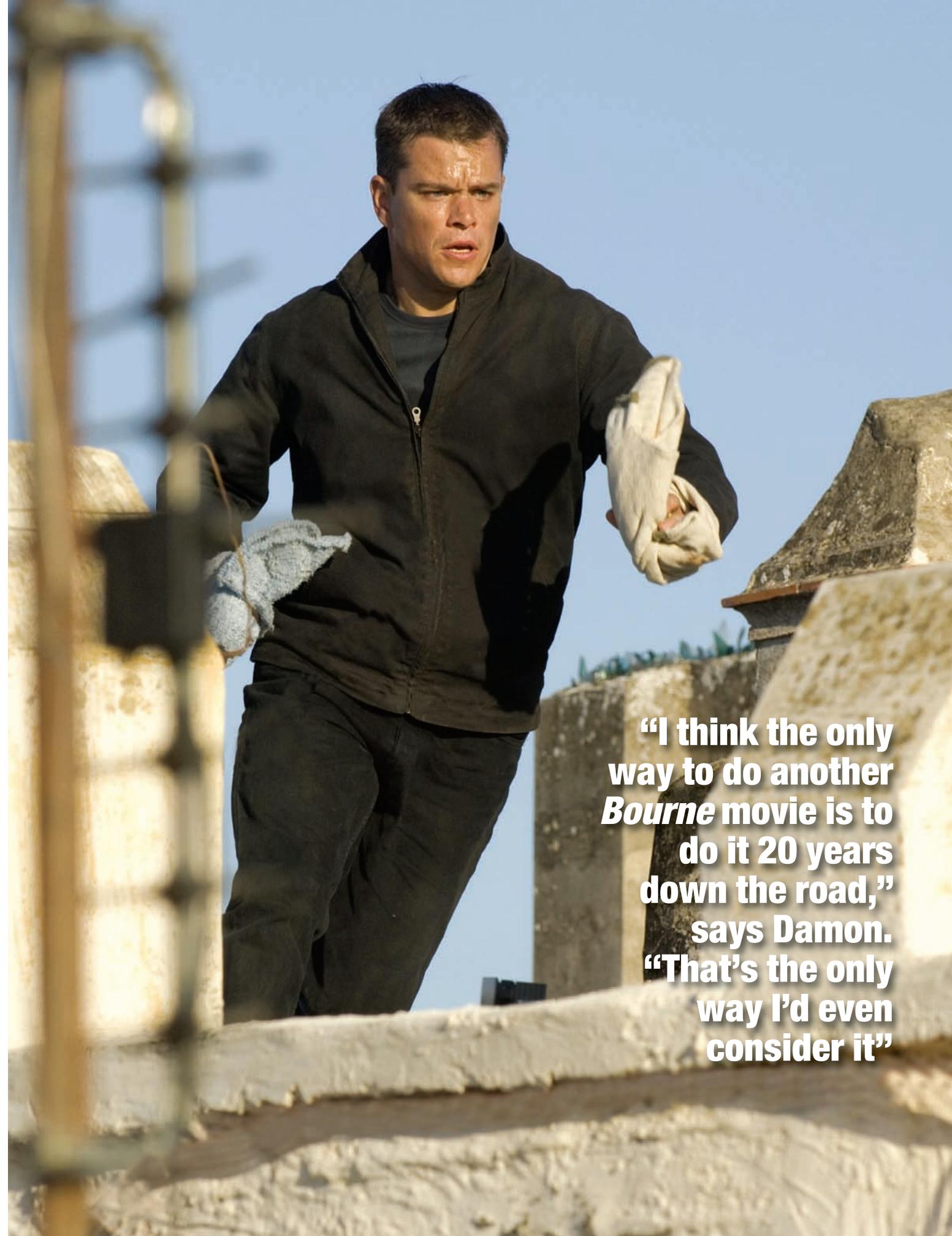
"But I really liked the script for *Bourne Identity* and the fact that Doug Liman [*Swingers*] was directing it, because he tends to think outside the box a little bit,"

Damon continues. "So he gave me hope that the movie was going to be unique for the action movie genre.... I mean, the mere fact that the lead character was the kind of guy that gets out of a building using a map and a radio instead of a gun was kind of interesting and a little bit different."

Not only did *The Bourne Identity* become one of the biggest hits of the year, but the film raised the bar for other action films. And its success elevated Damon's status.

The film's 2004 sequel, *The Bourne Supremacy*, did even better at the box office than its predecessor. Damon, however, is most proud of the second film for other reasons.

"There are three major tent-pole ideas in that one that I really liked," he says. "In the first act, the woman he cares about dies in a really brutal way. This character that we went to great lengths for...did all this work to establish their relationship and create this one, kind of, ray of hope in this guy's life — and she's basically murdered. In the second act, I shoot a woman in the face, just completely in cold blood, and as an audience you sit there and see your central character do this horrible, horrible thing. Then, in the third act, I go to apologize to this young woman after having learned about loss in my own life. Usually, in a mainstream movie, when something terribly wrong happens to you, your first instinct is to go get revenge." ▶▶



"I think the only way to do another *Bourne* movie is to do it 20 years down the road," says Damon. "That's the only way I'd even consider it"



Matt Damon and Julia Stiles in *The Bourne Ultimatum*

►► Of all the young actors in Hollywood, Damon is one of the few who doesn't attract round-the-clock coverage. He comes off as a simple guy, living a relatively normal life, and he says there's a reason for that.

"When I think about fame and remaining grounded, there's this famous story that I heard that I always remember," he explains. "It was in the '80s, when Bruce Springsteen and Michael Jackson were like at the height of their celebrity. Michael Jackson couldn't leave his house and Bruce Springsteen you might see at a bar around the corner. Someone told me that, and I believe it. My experience makes me believe it, because I think celebrity is what you make of it. If you walk around with 10 bodyguards, then you are going to get treated in that way.... I have no problems at all. If I have to go to a premiere, I say, 'Okay. I'm going to my premiere, so it's going to be 10 minutes of madness and then I'm out the back door, and then I'm back to my normal life. You're a celebrity if you want to be one, that's the bottom line.'"

After dating actors Winona Ryder and Minnie Driver, these days the woman walking down the red carpet with Damon is Argentina-born Luciana Barroso, whom he married in December 2005, two years after meeting the interior designer on the Florida set of *Stuck on You*.

"It feels great to be married, because there is always someone you love to come home to," beams Damon. "I knew she was

the one from the moment we met, and I knew it was about time for me to settle down. We've bought a house in Florida, and I'm learning how to speak Spanish. So we're off to a great start."

Damon's family includes his young stepdaughter Alexia (Barroso's daughter from a previous relationship) and Isabella, Matt and Luciana's daughter born in Miami a year ago. "She's the smartest baby in the world," boasts Damon. "I never knew that fatherhood could be such an incredibly fulfilling experience. I feel so blessed. I feel like I've been made a member of a club that I didn't know existed. Ben and I are constantly saying to each other, 'How did we do without this for so long?' If I had known being a father would feel so great, I would have gotten married years ago. It's just tough to leave home to make a movie, that's all."

Luckily, the better part of *The Bourne Ultimatum* was filmed in the States and the film was halfway finished by the time Isabella was born. Like the second film, *Ultimatum* is directed by Paul Greengrass, and Damon is once again joined by former *Bourne* castmates Julia Stiles, Joan Allen and Brian Cox.

In what is being touted as the end of a trilogy, *The Bourne Ultimatum* finds Jason Bourne being pursued by a foreign agent with whom he had a gun battle in Moscow. While trying to keep himself out of the Russian's scope, Bourne thinks he is close to putting together the final pieces of the puzzle that will reveal all about his past. And Damon says that by the end of this film, Bourne has remembered everything.

"We said to each other, 'I think this should be the last one,'" Damon recalls of a talk with Greengrass. "I mean, I'm half-joking, but how long can you do this? Jason's search for his identity is definitely going to have to come to an end one day."

However, in the next breath, Damon doesn't dismiss the possibility of doing another *Bourne* film 20 years from now. "I would love that — if I was like a hundred pounds heavier, and it'd be like, 'They pulled me back in! They won't let me go!' and they're like, 'No. They don't give a crap about you. What are you talking about?'" Damon jokes. "Actually, I think the only way to do another *Bourne* movie is to do it 20 years down the road. That's the only way I'd even consider it." **F**

Earl Dittman is a Houston-based entertainment writer.

Unforgettable Films

Jason Bourne's got a bad case of Hollywood amnesia. You know, the amnesia that afflicts good-looking secret agents with deadly fighting skills?

Amnesia is an established — albeit rare — medical condition, one that screenwriters love to exploit for movie plots. Here's a primer on two sorts of amnesia and how they've been used in recent movies.

Retrograde Amnesia:

Retrograde amnesia effects one's long-term memory, meaning you cannot recall events prior to the onset of amnesia, but can recall events that take place after the amnesia has occurred. This is what Jason Bourne suffers from in the *Bourne* films.

Movie Usage:

- **PAYCHECK:** Ben Affleck (Matt Damon's real-life best friend) plays another dangerous dude who can't remember his identity so follows clues he's left for himself to help remember who he is.
- **THE X-MEN TRILOGY:** Wolverine (Hugh Jackman) has had his memories wiped by government types and is searching for clues to his identity.
- **THE MAJESTIC:** Jim Carrey plays a 1950s screenwriter who loses his memory, winds up in a small town and is hailed as a hometown soldier thought killed in World War Two.

Anterograde Amnesia:

This amnesia effects one's short-term memory, meaning you can recall events prior to the onset of amnesia, but can't store new information after the amnesia has kicked in, thus leading a person to forget things they've just said and done.

Movie Usage:

- **MENTO:** The king of amnesia movies sees Guy Pearce playing a man surrounded by Post-it notes, Polaroids and even messages tattooed on his body to help him search for his wife's killer.
- **50 FIRST DATES:** Poor Drew Barrymore can't remember that she keeps dating Adam Sandler over and over again in this romantic comedy.
- **FINDING NEMO:** Ellen DeGeneres earned raves for her portrayal of Dory the blue tang fish whose short-term memory loss frustrates her fellow fish. —IR



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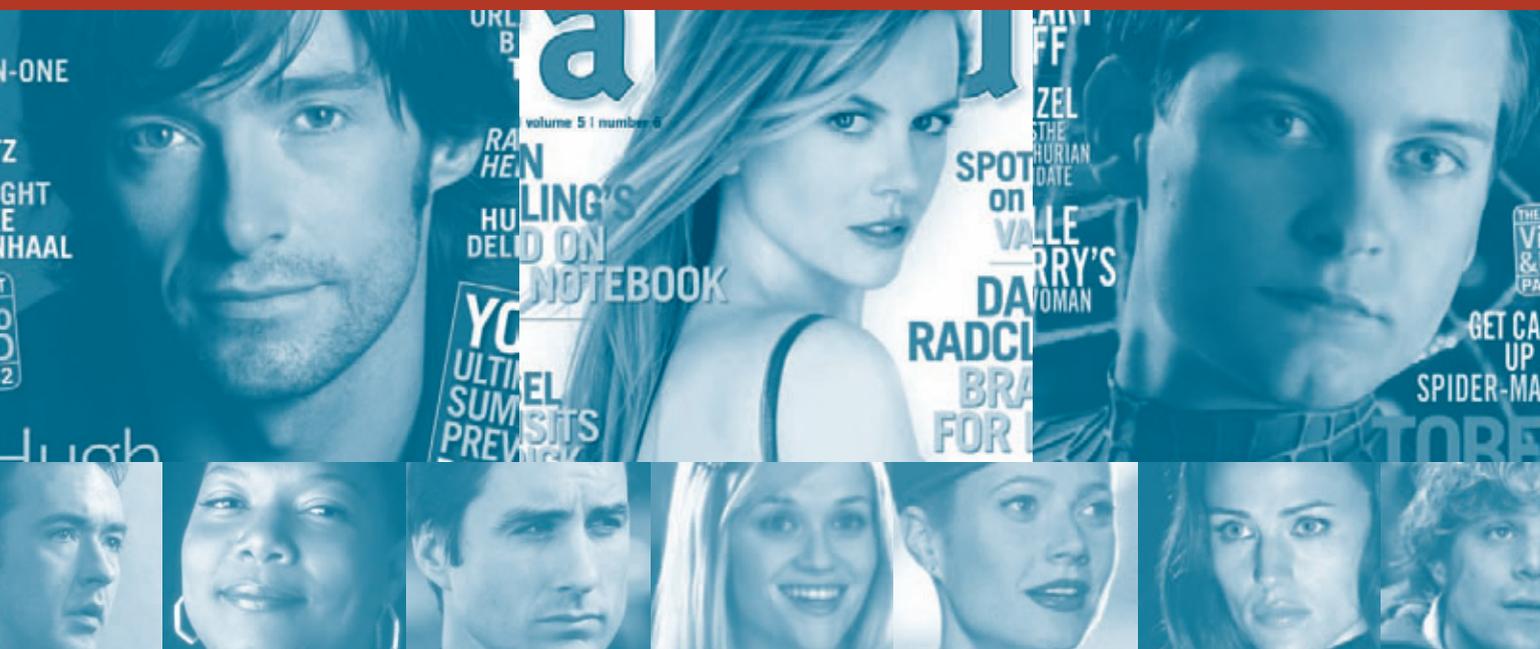
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Playing DOCTOR

Dreamy **Daniel Craig**'s first post-Bond movie sees him donning a white coat and fighting to save the world in *The Invasion* | BY EARL DITTMAN

This month's *The Invasion* is being released nine months after the film that changed Daniel Craig's life forever. Yet, in a strange twist of moviemaking chronology, it was while filming the loose remake of *Invasion of the Body Snatchers* that the British actor got word he would be James Bond in last year's *Casino Royale*.

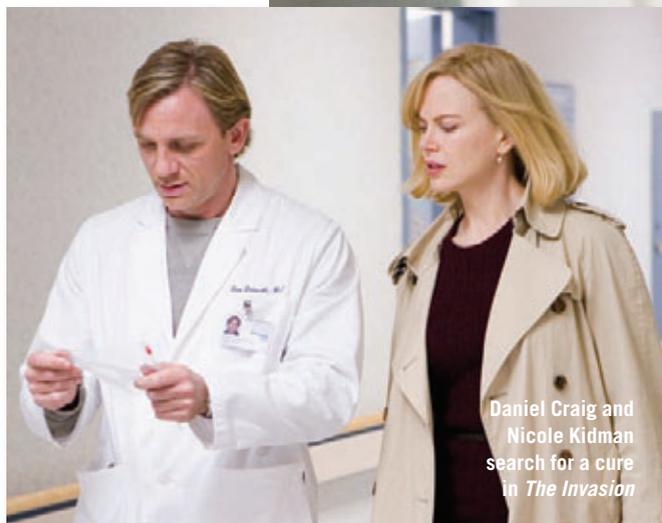
Craig says it was the intensive, 16-hour days on *The Invasion*'s Washington, D.C., set that spared him much of the anxiety over whether or not he'd snagged the role of the British secret agent.

"We were right in the midst of filming some of the most crucial sequences, so it was important that we focused on the work we were doing, not what we might be doing after we finished the film," remembers Craig, lounging in a Beverly Hills hotel, dressed in a finely tailored Brioni suit.

"I still hadn't decided if I wanted to commit that much of my life to playing the same character for an infinite number of films," says Craig, "so I just concentrated on my character I was playing then and trying to help Nicole find a cure to an alien disease. I was too busy trying to save her son in the film, and the rest of the planet, to drive myself crazy waiting for *the call*."

After a short break to fly off to London for a press conference announcing to the world that Bond had gone blonde, within a week Craig was back in the American capital battling extraterrestrials. "That was a really surreal time for me. One day I'm in London fighting off the global media, and the next day I'm back in Washington fighting off aliens for global domination. Actually, I don't know which group was harder to beat off."

As *The Invasion* begins, an unexplainable epidemic is quickly infecting populations all over the world, while the planet's top

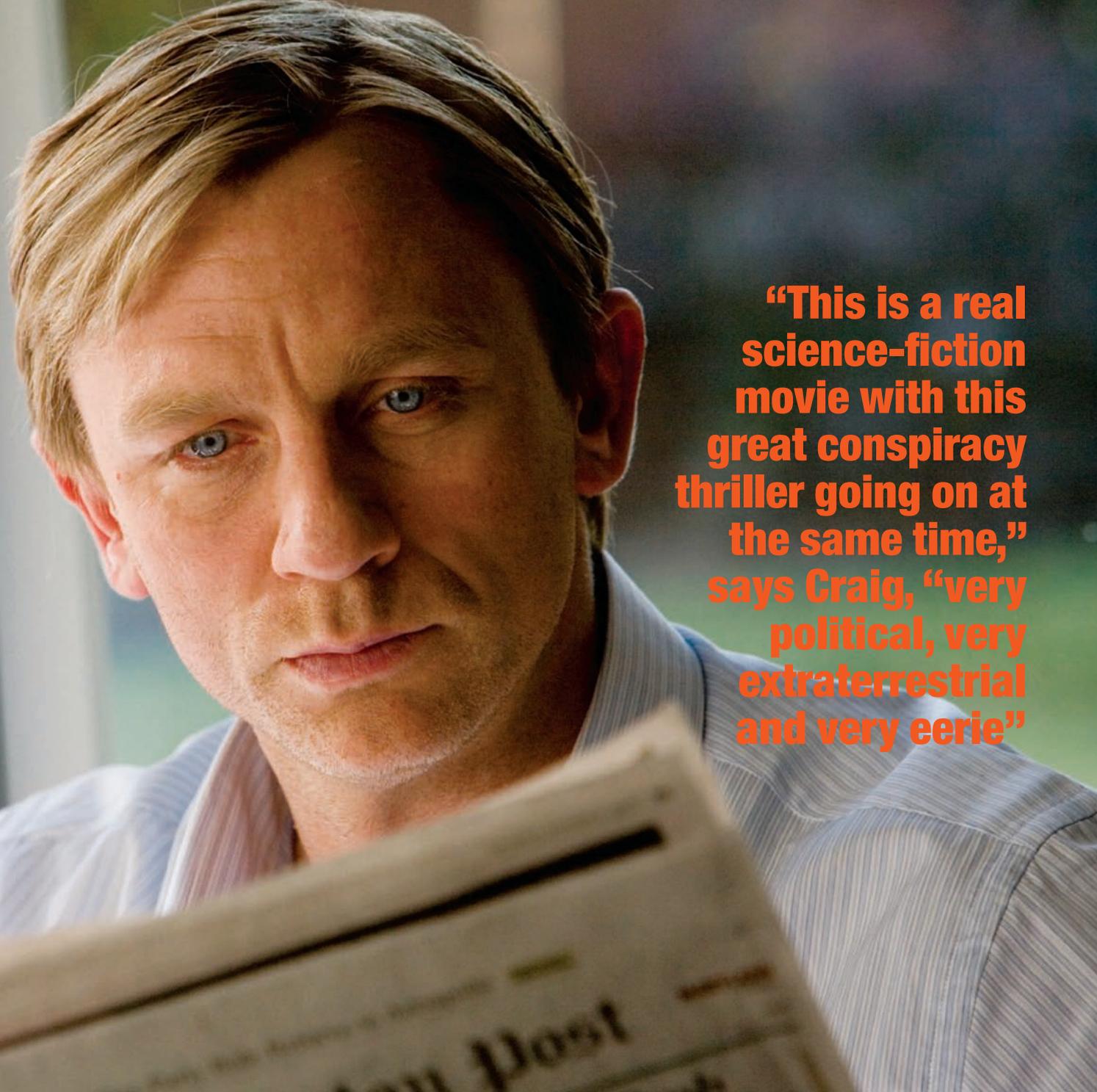


Daniel Craig and Nicole Kidman search for a cure in *The Invasion*

scientists are unable to locate the source of the disease or a way to fight it. Then Carol (Nicole Kidman), a Washington, D.C., psychiatrist, figures out that the disease did not originate on our planet. While her theory is shunned by most, Carol has to trust her instincts, especially when the disease infects her own son.

Determined to develop a vaccine, Carol enlists the help of her colleague Ben (Craig) and the duo realize their failure to find a cure could mean the end of the human race.

While most of *The Invasion* was directed by Oliver Hirschbiegel (*Downfall*), when the cast was reassembled in January of this year to shoot additional action sequences, Hirschbiegel was unavailable, so the Wachowski Brothers (*The Matrix* trilogy) were brought in to write new material and director James McTeigue (*VFor Vendetta*) came in to supervise the filming of the new scenes.



"This is a real science-fiction movie with this great conspiracy thriller going on at the same time," says Craig, "very political, very extraterrestrial and very eerie"

"Reshoots and filming additional scenes happen all the time when you're making a movie, it's nothing strange or out of the ordinary," insists Craig. "And if you have a cast that is committed to a lot of other projects — like becoming a secret agent — often, it can take a bit of time to get everybody back together. But we did. Look, reshoots are scheduled to make films better, and from what I've seen, it has — it's going to entertain and shock a lot of people."

What attracted you to *The Invasion*? "It wasn't one thing in particular, it was several things. I've always loved science-fiction movies, so it was a genre of film that I wanted to try out as an actor. I mean, I had done *Tomb Raider*, but that was more of an action film, and this is a real science-fiction movie with this great

conspiracy thriller going on at the same time — very political, very extraterrestrial and very eerie."

What did you learn about Nicole Kidman that you didn't know before working with her? "More than anything, I learned that she absolutely deserves that Oscar she won [for *The Hours*] because she is probably one of the most talented actresses in this business. She had some very tough scenes to do, and not just physically, but emotionally, and she did them with no problem at all."

Are you a fan of the original *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*? "Yes, I am. I love that original *Body Snatchers* and the Donald Sutherland remake. But I really don't consider this a remake or sequel or new installment, because the stories are really very ►►



Director Oliver Hirschbiegel directs Nicole Kidman and Daniel Craig

▶▶ different. I think that people are using the term ‘based on’ because there are certain plot points — which I have been sworn not to reveal — that the films share. Beyond that, though, I think we made a whole new science-fiction movie.”

You became something of a real-life hero while filming a scene at the Chilean embassy. Is it true that you saved Nicole Kidman’s life?

“Saving Nicole’s life, I think, is a bit of an exaggeration [laughs]. Certainly, any of us could have gotten hurt, but I don’t think I really rescued anyone from being seriously injured.”

What happened? “They had the rain machines on heavy, so the water was really coming down hard, so it was very difficult to see much outside of this SUV Nicole and I were in.... Nicole was driving, I’m in the passenger seat, and we were supposed to drive up to the entrance of the embassy and let the valet park the SUV. Everything seemed fine when Nicole and I got out, but then I noticed that the SUV was still moving — with no one in it!

Apparently, Nicole had forgotten to put it in park, so it just started rolling down this hill. Nicole was right next to it, people were in front of it and it was on its own. So, without even thinking, I jumped in to stop it. I hadn’t closed the passenger door when I got out, so I jumped in, eyed the emergency brake and immediately engaged it. It stopped.”

While you were filming *The Invasion* you were in meetings for *Bond*. But just weeks before your part was officially announced, you said you weren’t sure you wanted it. Why?

“Mainly that it was going to be a big leap for me. In those kind of situations I always feel you should do that list — the pros and cons list — and there were an awful lot of pros and an awful lot of cons, but I really didn’t get around to the cons list.... In the beginning, I realized it was a big commitment to make to something that I didn’t really have a huge amount of ambition about doing, to tell you the truth.”

How did starring in *Casino Royale* change your life? “It’s certainly made me more recognizable on the street, and I’m getting handed a lot more scripts than ever before, but I’m trying not to let it change who I am, because it really hasn’t as far as I’m concerned. More people just know who I am, and I’m lucky to be part of this film legacy, but I’m still an actor looking for good material to do. It hasn’t made me special or given me superpowers.”

Was there ever any point where you let the tabloid or internet criticism get you down?

“Look, it did affect me. It affected me. I will not lie to you. I went, ‘You know what, what can I do? I can’t answer it. I can’t start getting onto internet sites and talking back. I get it.’ I got the passion that people felt for Bond, and I understand it. I make films, and normally when I make a film we wait until we get to the premiere and we get to the time when the press sees it and then I start getting reviews. I was like, ‘See the damn movie and then you can say what you like about it, but watch the movie!’ There was no point in getting in tit-for-tat arguments about the way that I looked.”

How does working on large North American films compare to small British productions?

“There’s not really an awful lot of difference. I know that sounds kind of crazy. I mean, if you’re doing something like *Tomb Raider* that’s a different deal. That’s an FX-driven movie and there’s a lot of waiting around, and it’s very dull. But if you’re on a movie like, let’s say we compare *Road to Perdition* with *Layer Cake*, once you’re on the set it’s the same deal. You’re trying to achieve the same thing. It’s just pared down. The food might be better and there might be bigger and better sets, but that’s just because it’s a money thing. Once the camera starts rolling, it’s about you and someone else or you and three other people. It’s the same thing and you apply the same rules.”

Do you consider this the best time of your life?

“I hope not. Not yet. God, I’ve got a few more years in me — God, I hope.”

So this isn’t the prime of Daniel Craig?

“I don’t know whether this is it. I feel very good about doing this now.... I don’t think that I could have done this five, six or seven years ago. And I have James Bond to thank for that. Bond came for me at a time when I went, ‘You know what, this is a huge challenge, but I really feel excited about doing it.’ If I hadn’t been able to have done that, then there was no need for me to try anything else. That was my test. And, it being successful, that was my ticket into making movies. I’m part of the show now, and I’ve got so many more movies I want to do, I’ll be doing this until I drop.”

Earl Dittman is a Houston-based entertainment writer.

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How to be a

STAR

Stardust's Claire Danes gives us a primer on being a celestial being and surviving life in Hollywood | BY EARL DITTMAN

“When people would ask me what kind of character I played in *Stardust*, and I'd tell them, they would go, 'You play a star? That should be easy, because you've been one most of your life.' I would just laugh,” says Claire Danes, discussing her role in the film adaptation of Neil Gaiman's best-selling novel.

“They would look perplexed until I finally said, 'I'm not a movie star, famous person, celebrity or anything like that. I play a celestial being, I'm literally a rock that crashes to Earth and finds herself in a huge crater.' That's when they go, 'Oh, that sounds tough to play.’”

Now 28, Danes—the former tween star of TV's *My So-Called Life*, and the leading lady in films as varied as *Romeo + Juliet* and *Terminator 3*—stars alongside Michelle Pfeiffer, Robert De Niro, Peter O'Toole, Sienna Miller and Ricky Gervais in the lavish fantasy that's being compared to *The Princess Bride*. “It has action, romance, comedy, the supernatural... even pirates,” exclaims Danes.

Stardust begins in an idyllic village in the English countryside, where lovesick Tristan (Charlie Cox) tries to win the affections of Victoria (Miller) by promising to give her a falling star. As he heads off to find the object, Tristan finds himself in a magical

and forbidden land where he is nearly hit by that meteor as it falls from the heavens.

Peering into the crater the meteor has created, Tristan realizes the fallen star is actually the celestial beauty Yvaine, played by Danes.

“She is not happy, because she's been hurt in the fall and she is immediately kidnapped by this young, naive mortal as a bridal gift,” explains Danes over lunch at a Beverly Hills hotel.

And returning to his quiet village is easier said than done for Tristan, since several power-hungry princes are out to capture Yvaine. It seems the only way any of them can inherit the thrown is to possess the star. Three evil witches, led by the murderous Lamia (Pfeiffer), also need the living, breathing star to become young again.

“Initially, she's very resentful about being kidnapped, but then she realizes the only way to escape the evil that's after her is to help Tristan get back home, because he seems to be the decent one of the bunch,” continues Danes.

Tristan and Yvaine enlist the help of Captain Shakespeare (De Niro), the gay, sword-fighting captain of a flying pirate ship, and Ferdy (Gervais), a backstabbing trader. Along the way, Tristan discovers true love and it's not with the maiden he

left back home. Sadly, though, Tristan's feelings may have come to him too late. “I don't want to give it away or anything, but they start to fall for one another at the worst time imaginable,” says Danes, who is reportedly dating Hugh Dancy, her co-star from the recent drama *Evening*.

Why do you think it's so hard for Hollywood to make great love stories?

“It seems like the most successful, iconic love stories are not so easy or escapist. I think the ones that stay with us, that resonate, are full of conflict and discord and misunderstanding, because that's what makes drama happen—or tension, even if it's a comedy. But I think people who make movies and who have invested a lot of money in them, get frightened thinking that if they challenge an audience that they're going to repel them. I think the opposite is really true, but it takes confidence and courage to know that, and then commit to it.”

I understand that the author of the *Stardust* novel, Neil Gaiman, was involved with the movie.

“Oh yeah, he was very much involved, and it was great. He was around sometimes to watch what was going on and to talk about anything, not just the book ▶▶



►► or its characters. He wasn't there to get in the way or push his opinions, he was just being a fan of the moviemaking process."

Did reading the novel help you?

"Oh yeah, very much so. As usually is the case, I think that the book is always a great resource for the actors because there is simply much more to discover about the story and the characters that has to be cut out because of the length of a movie."

How do you do background research on how to play a celestial being?

"You just use a lot of your childhood imagination [laughs].... I really couldn't do any type of research, just reading a lot about heroes, witches, pirates and unicorns, and doing a lot of daydreaming."

Stardust has been getting good buzz, particularly your performance. Do you think it will be a breakthrough role for you?

"I can never tell, because you never really know how the public will react. My opinion of movies is not necessarily reflected by public opinions or the critics' opinions. I really love the movie, and I just have to hope and trust that other people will, too. But, you know, it's impossible to say."

Have you finally gotten used to fame?

"Not really, I don't think you ever really can. I mean, the media has become so much more voracious in the last 10 years, and the proliferation of the tabloids has changed actors' lives pretty profoundly. It's a totally different game. I'm followed by the paparazzi almost every day, and I'm not even somebody who people really care that much about. I mean, I'm not that big of a deal! I'm a nobody!"

What film are you doing next?

"I don't know yet. I am working on it. I'm working on working."

Will we ever see you in Terminator 4 or the proposed Sarah Connor prequel?

"I don't think so."

What's your favourite memory of working with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger while filming Terminator 3?

"My fondest memory is that my former boyfriend, Ben Lee, had a nephew, Timothy, who lived in Sydney and he had a Bar Mitzvah that summer, but we were



Stardust's Charlie Cox and Claire Danes

shooting. Of course, I was meant to attend, but I couldn't because I found myself on this Terminator set. So I asked Arnold to make a little videotape to wish him a happy Bar Mitzvah, and he was so sweet about it. He taped it and said, 'Happy Birthday, Timothy. Happy Bar Mitzvah. I know you think that you're a man now, but you're not a man. You don't know what it is to be a man,' and then, he blew up his muscles. So that was cool."

Around 2000, you took a sabbatical from acting and the movie industry. Why?

"Well, I took three years off because I needed to differentiate myself from the industry and find an identity. And I wanted to go to school, so I went to Yale."

What was that like?

"I was very committed to being a student while I was there. So much so that I was in disbelief that I had ever acted before and that was confusing.... I was such a nerd. I was nerdier than most of the other students. My best friend would get so frustrated with me because I was quite anal and would get so obsessive over a paper and exams. I took it all so seriously. It was as if I was sustaining a \$100-million movie or something. It was difficult to

imagine that the consequences of my erring in some way would not be so dire."

How did you know that you wanted to come back to acting?

"Well, three years had passed since I had acted and I missed it terribly. I assumed when I started school, quite naively, that I could make a movie every summer, no problem, like clockwork, and I should've known better. Of course, the industry doesn't work that evenly, and I would sign on for projects that were meant to shoot in July and then they'd be postponed and they would bleed into the following semester and then I'd take a semester off, and then the movie would collapse."

With Stardust, Evening and The Flock (a thriller with Richard Gere) all hitting theatres before year's end, do you feel like you're at a turning point in your career?

"I've been very privileged lately. I've worked with people who I've admired deeply and have been very compatible with, so I kind of don't want to break my record. I'm a little spoiled and so I'm more discriminating now that I have been doing this a while." 

Earl Dittman is a Houston-based writer.



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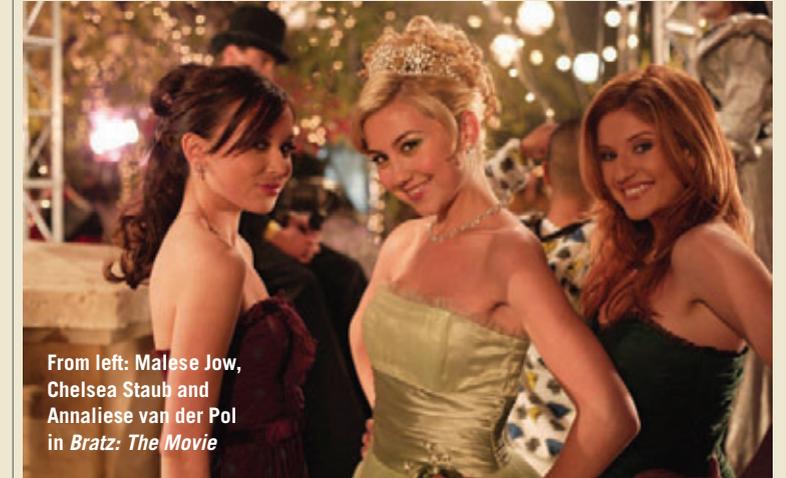
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trivia |

famous trivia

1 *Bratz: The Movie* features an *American Idol* personality as a cast member and executive producer. Who is it?



From left: Malese Jow, Chelsea Staub and Annaliese van der Pol in *Bratz: The Movie*

2 Which skit, starring *Hot Rod*'s Andy Samberg and fellow comedian Chris Parnell, was downloaded over a million times the day after it aired on *Saturday Night Live*?



Andy Samberg in *Hotrod*

3 *Hot Rod*'s Isla Fisher and *Superbad*'s Jonah Hill will both lend their voices to *Horton Hears a Who*, the 2008 adaptation of Dr. Seuss's classic story. In which other film did both actors appear?

4 Former *Wonder Years* star Fred Savage makes his big-screen directing debut with this month's *Daddy Day Camp*. But he has already helmed lots of TV shows, including episodes of his younger brother's show. Name that show.

5 Which star of *Daddy Day Camp* was once a background dancer for Paula Abdul?

6 Like Ben Affleck, *The Bourne Ultimatum*'s Matt Damon is a huge Boston Red Sox fan. In which baseball film did both appear as extras?



Christopher Mintz-Plasse (left) and Jonah Hill in *Superbad*

7 Paul Greengrass directed this month's *The Bourne Ultimatum*. Which film earned him an Oscar nomination for Best Director at the 2007 Academy Awards?

8 Which controversial Polish-born director appears in *Rush Hour 3*, his first role in an American film in 15 years?

answers

1. Paula Abdul 2. "Lazy Sunday (Chronicles of Narnia)" 3. *I Heart Huckabees* 4. *Boy Meets World* 5. Cuba Gooding Jr. 6. *Field of Dreams* 7. *United 93* 8. Roman Polanski

OWEN PLAYS A SINGLE DAD, BELLO INHERITS *MUMMY* ROLE AND HUDSON SURVIVES A SHOOTING | BY INGRID RANDOJA

Mummy adopts Bello

When Rachel Weisz opted out of *The Mummy 3*, Mario Bello (*A History of Violence*) stepped in to play the role of librarian/adventurer Evelyn Carnahan O'Connell, who fights undead creatures with her hunky hubby Rick (Brendan Fraser).

It's interesting that the first *Mummy* pic was a decidedly feminist adventure flick, with Evelyn getting the chance to flex her muscles and throw her fair share of punches.

However, it seems like Evelyn's best fighting days are behind her as the third feature focuses on Rick (Fraser) teaming with their son Alex (Luke Ford) to take on the mummy of an evil Chinese Emperor (Jet Li).

The Mummy 3, directed by Rob Cohen, is currently filming in Montreal and will unspool next summer.



Roles roll in for Owen

Let's get over the fact that stubble-faced Clive Owen signed on to shill Lancôme's line of male cosmetics — just can't picture Clive applying anti-aging cream before bedtime — and focus on his talent as an actor and the list of "can't wait for" films he's lined up.

In next month's *Shoot 'Em Up* he plays a homeless guy protecting a newborn baby from assassin Paul Giamatti, and in October he portrays the dashing Sir Walter Raleigh opposite Cate Blanchett's Queen Elizabeth in *Elizabeth: The Golden Age*. He'll reprise his role as Dwight McCarthy in *Sin City 2*, due out in 2008, and in January he starts shooting the Aussie pic *The Boys Are Back in Town* with director Scott Hicks (*Shine*). The drama focuses on a newspaper columnist (Owen) forced to raise his two sons after his wife's death. And to wind things up, he's agreed to star in German director Tom Tykwer's 2009 release, *The International*, which casts him as an Interpol agent investigating an arms-dealing ring.

Hudson ducks for cover

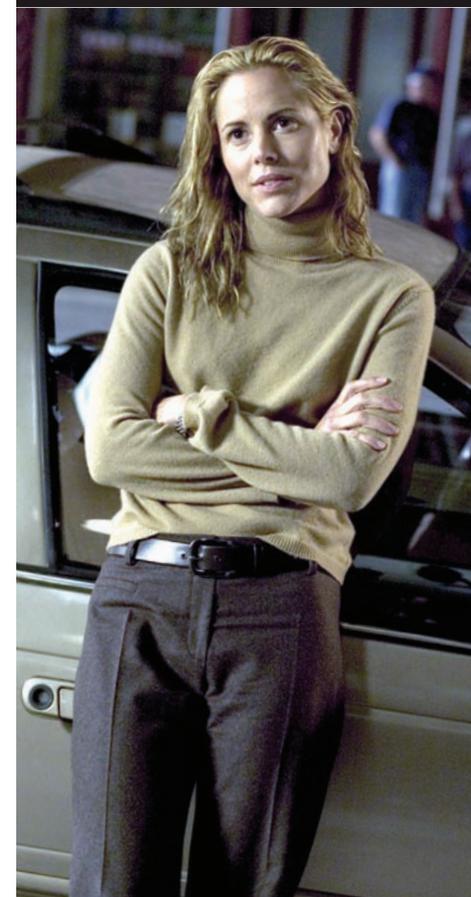


What's Jennifer Hudson been up to since nabbing the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her turn in *Dreamgirls*?

The singer/actor recently finished shooting the ensemble drama *Winged Creatures*, about a group of strangers who are brought together after they survive a shooting inside a diner. The cast includes Kate Beckinsale, Guy Pearce, Forest Whitaker, Dakota Fanning, Josh Hutcherson and Jackie Earle Haley. The drama, directed by Aussie filmmaker Rowan Woods, hits theatres in 2008.

BRIEFLY

- Brett Ratner is set to direct the Hugh Hefner bio-pic, *Playboy*.
- The comedy *Man-Witch* finds Jack Black attending magic school with a gaggle of girl witches.
- Kate Hudson joins the cast of the Dane Cook comedy *Bachelor No. 2*.
- Look for Amy Adams alongside Meryl Streep and Philip Seymour Hoffman in the adaptation of the Broadway play *Doubt*, which focuses on a school principal (Streep) who accuses a priest (Hoffman) of pedophilia, leaving a young nun (Adams) to question his innocence.



"The voice of 2007"
MOJO

"Destined for superstardom"
THE GLOBE AND MAIL



"Back To Black is a snarling success"
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"A disc that gets better with every listen"
PEOPLE MAGAZINE

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Amy Winehouse delivers a masterpiece on her sophomore album **Back To Black**.

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Beat the CLOCK



Nine simple ways to make going back to school a little easier | BY LIZA HERZ



Oh great. The alarm didn't go off and now you've overslept. Brilliant. How are you supposed to live the life of a student (staying up late, eating junk) and still look respectable in the morning?

Well it's obvious. What you need is a speedy morning regimen courtesy of some nifty, double-duty items that can get you clean and looking presentable in record time — and with a minimum of fuss.

Things you'll need to have: A cool jacket you can wash in the bathroom

sink that dries superfast. A razor that makes shaving cream obsolete by providing its own lubricant. And don't forget a dry shampoo that gets the grease out without you having to actually wet your scalp with water. Towelling off can be such a time waster when you're late for first-period Psych.

I recently chatted with celebrity makeup artist Carmindy, best known for her handiwork on TV's *What Not to Wear* and she wholeheartedly endorsed the concept of a morning routine that saves

precious minutes. "If you want to cut out steps in the morning, use a tinted moisturizer with SPF," says the L.A. makeup maven and author of *The 5 Minute Face*.

So remember: Whether you spent the night at the pub or studying late at the library, try to be at peace with the fact there will be mornings when getting out of bed is a slow-to-impossible task. With your new arsenal of "clock beaters" at the ready, at least you can afford to punch that snooze button for a few extra zzzs.

1 Ear candy that is real eye candy — **Sony Ericsson's new W580i Walkman Phone** (from \$300 to \$350 without a contract) is also a music player accented with vivid orange detailing.

2 Plug your mp3 player into the **Hilroy Five Star Sound Gear Backpack** (\$60, www.meadfivestars.com for retailers), which features built-in lightweight speakers, and blast your favorite tunes during your panicked morning sprint to class.

3 This **Soft Shell** from **Columbia Sportswear** (\$200, Columbia.com for retailers) combines cozy fleece on the inside with a waterproof, breathable shell on the outside for perfect late-summer-to-fall wear.

4 Are they a summer pant or a fall pant? **White Levis** (\$65, www.levi.ca for retailers) are a fashion classic that effortlessly bridge the seasons. The Capri cut is summery with sandals and will go effortlessly into fall with boots.

5 Double up makeup duty with **Clinique's Moisture Sheer Tint SPF 15** (\$35, The Bay) for sheer coverage and sun protection in one speedy step.

6 **Purell Moisture Therapy** (\$7, drugstores) is both an effective hand sanitizer and a moisturizing hand lotion, so you can be a vicious killer of germs and bacteria, but one with really soft, protected hands.

7 The triple-blade cartridge on the **Intuition Plus Milk and Honey Razor** (\$12, drugstores) is surrounded by a moisturizing solid, so you get a close shave without mucking about with shaving cream.

8 **Sally Hansen Natural Shine Instant Nail Finish** (\$8, Shoppers Drug Mart) instantly, easily creates buffed, groomed nails so even certified manicure klutzes can look pulled together.

9 **Rene Furterer Naturia Dry Shampoo Spray** (\$27, 1.877.441.2011 for retailers) volumizes bedhead-flattened hair when there's no time to shampoo. The herbal scent freshens while micronised silica and kaolin absorb excess oil.



JUSTIN HINES IS GOOD FOLK

BY SEAN FITZGERALD

Sometimes, Justin Hines's performances leave audiences taken aback. The reaction doesn't just come from his voice — but also from his appearance.

"Once, I was playing at an awards show, and you could actually hear a collective gasp," says the wheelchair-bound singer-songwriter over the phone from his Newmarket,

Ontario, home. "But, after a while, it turned into applause."

The 25-year-old performer has had Larsen's Syndrome, a rare disease that occurs in one out of every 100,000 people, since he was born.

"The major joints in my body dislocate regularly," he explains. "It sounds intense, but it's actually not so bad because it stabilizes as you get older."

While his appearance is an attention-grabber, he says that his job as a musician is to maintain that attention.

Sides, his new album on the Orange Record Label, is filled with honest folk songs, soulful melodies and stories of hope.

Aside from his physical challenges, such as maneuvering on stages with inclines, he also realizes that the music industry hasn't embraced his style of introspective songwriting since the heyday of James Taylor and Cat Stevens. Still, he maintains the same positive attitude in this interview that he conveys in his lyrics.

"I'm excited about getting it out there...it's the album that I always wanted to make," says Hines, who stresses the importance of songwriting over the onslaught of production found in modern pop music.

"It was important to me that the songs became the focus," he adds, "like how it was years ago — when production was there to support the song, rather than be the identity of it."

His two singles from *Sides*, "April on the Ground" and "Wish You Well," have generated positive responses from across the country, and Wal-Mart used the latter song to promote its Walk For Miracles.

Hines updates his Myspace page frequently, where fans cheer him on and thank him for being their inspiration. This month, Hines and his band will travel across Canada for a week-

and-a-half-long promotional tour to support the album.

Before embarking on the tour, he plans to visit his family's cottage in Haliburton, Ontario. He tries to spend a lot of time there, and wrote the song "Window View" on an early cottage morning. He mentions that tubing (basically waterskiing with inner-tubes) is his family's current obsession.

"The best is when you put two together," he says with enthusiasm. "You create these waves, and when the tubes hit them, they collide. It's good times."

Out this MONTH

NEW PORNOGRAPHERS

Challengers >> August 21

The Vancouver indie rockers play musical chairs with microphones — four different band members take the lead vocals on their new album — and blend sweeping epics with sunny pop songs on their fourth release.

M.I.A.

Kala >> August 21

For *Kala*, singer/rapper M.I.A. travelled to five continents, collaborated with renowned producers like Timbaland, and then named the album — filled with her innovative reggae-meets-electro style — after her mother.

BEN HARPER

Lifeline — August 28

Harper likes to stay busy — he worked 17-hour days to complete this album in just a week, right after arriving in Paris from a nine-month tour with the Innocent Criminals.



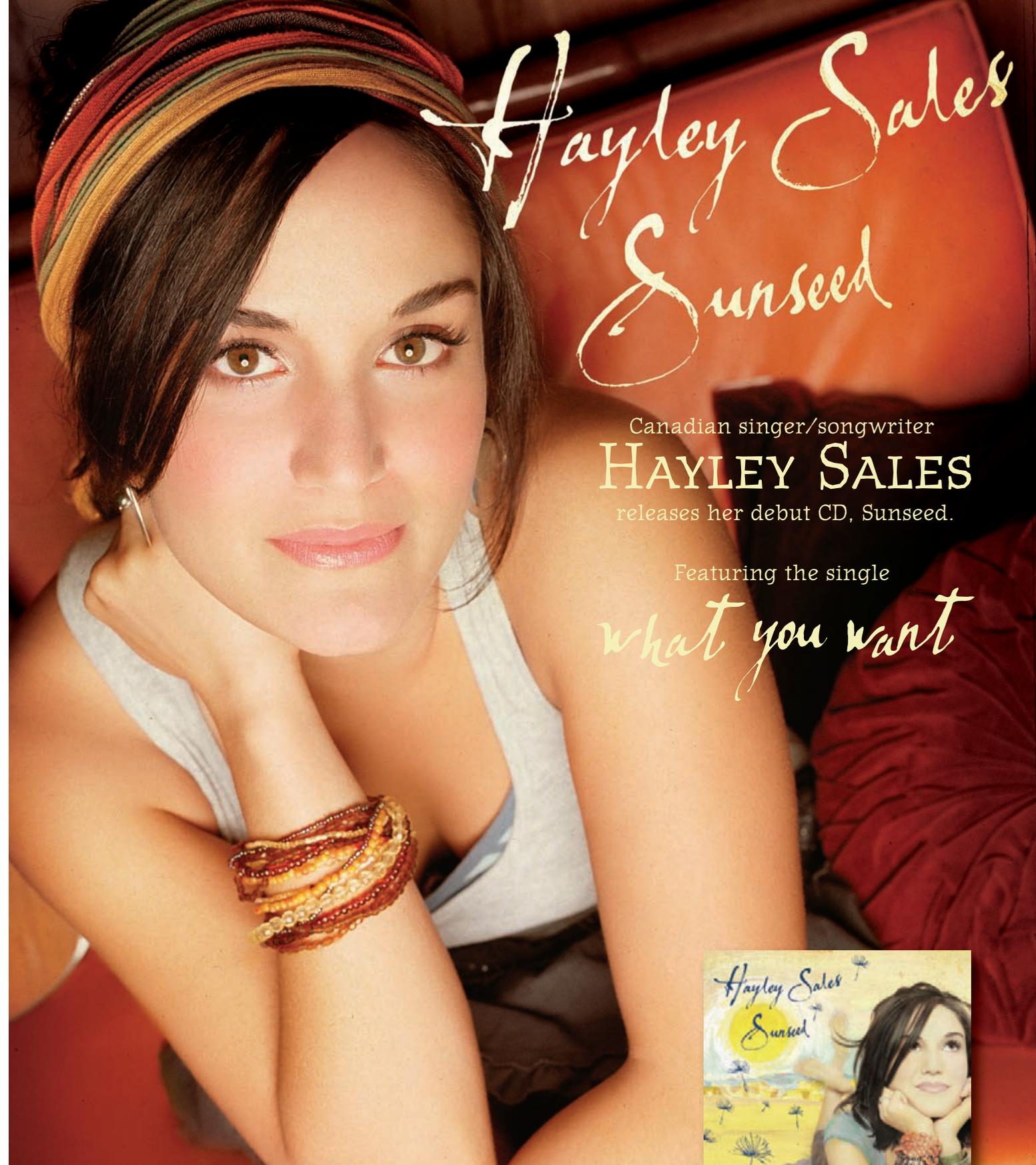
MAE DIGS DEEP

It sounds like Mae has been performing some major excavations these days. For their third full-length release, the band members dug through their record collections, dusted off their alternative rock albums and rediscovered what they loved about music in the '90s.

On *Singularity*, the Virginia-based quintet combine these alt-rock sounds with emo-inspired power-pop from recent years. In the ridiculously catchy

"Crazy 8s," they start with a Death Cab For Cutie verse, throw in a Yellowcard chorus, and then surround it all with big guitar riffs that sound like they came from a Smashing Pumpkins album.

Ear-friendly songs like "Just Let Go" make *Singularity* a great end-of-summer record. This is the kind of stuff that makes you feel good. Just like a decade ago.



Hayley Sales

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GOING INTO *BIOSHOCK*

Beware the creepy girls in this underwater nightmare | BY SCOTT GARDNER



BIOSHOCK PC, X360

1960. The Pacific. Your plane has just crashed into the ocean, but incredibly, even though you're thousands of kilometres from land, there's a lighthouse nearby. You pry open the hatch and descend into a vast underwater metropolis of leaking, rusted laboratories and

moldy Art Deco apartments. Flickering lights reveal decaying corpses everywhere, many looking not quite human.

You've found Rapture. After WWII, Andrew Ryan built this undersea colony as a capitalist paradise for select scientists and industrialists; a place where society's elite

could enrich themselves without the burden of caring for their inferiors. Then things went terribly wrong in Ayn Rand's — er, make that Andrew Ryan's — utopia.

Rapture's researchers, you slowly learn, discovered "Adam," a substance allowing instant, controllable genetic mutations. Soon civil war broke out over the stuff, with factions mutating their forces in increasingly powerful and disagreeable ways.

Today Adam is harvested from the dead by — take a deep breath — pigtailed eight-year-old waifs with glowing eyes, wielding veterinary-sized syringes. These are the Little Sisters. They giggle and scamper. They are deeply, viscerally unsettling. Worse, Little Sisters are shadowed by Big Daddys — nearly undefeatable bodyguards, faceless under diving helmets.

Good thing you're handy with a gun. Despite survival-horror and adventure elements,

BioShock is a first-person shooter, but one so ambitious some are calling it an "FPS 2.0." In recent games like *Gears of War*, computer-controlled enemies have become very good at searching, attacking and defending, but here they can assess threats and make targeting and tactical choices. With their symbiotic devotion to their Little Sisters, this makes Big Daddys more vulnerable to guile than grenades.

While shooters follow a very linear path, this story is fluid, like a role-playing game. Everything that happens results from your actions, and encounters rarely play out according to a set script. There are still creepy corridors, gory visuals and an array of imaginative weaponry, but instead of wasting every mutant you see, *BioShock* asks you to consider the morality of taking one life to save your own. Can you really kill an enemy with the face of a little girl just for a power boost?



LAIR PS3

Humankind has a long and bloody history of riding animals into combat. Medieval knights on horseback were pretty effective, and Hannibal's elephants formed a force to be reckoned with, but any military mind (or Tom Clancy reader) can tell you what you really need is air superiority. And the most glorious way to do that? Dragons!

Lair takes the aerial challenges of a flight

simulator, but with bloody talons and fire breath instead of guns and missiles; then sticks it in a grim, grey, Tolkien-esque world of swords and steel.

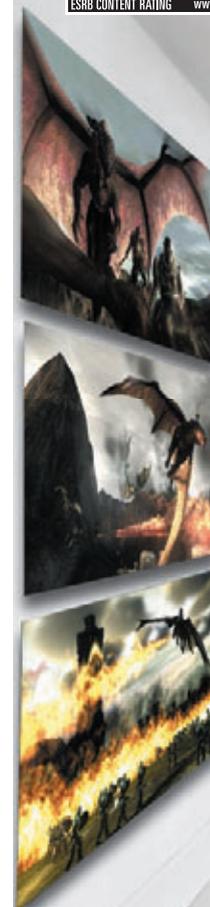
Musclled, scarred, scaly and screaming, these are the best-looking dragons ever seen in a videogame, and you'll ride them in desperate mid-air combat and in epic battles against invading ground forces.

DEAD HEAD FRED PSP

When hard-boiled P.I. Fred Neuman literally loses his head in a murderous mishap, he's resurrected by a mad scientist, but without his memory...or his cranium. Understandably irritable, Fred begins a quest for revenge, gaining supernatural power by wearing the severed noggins of defeated foes as his own.

The third-person action is set in an expansive world straight out of a 1940s film, but with bizarro touches, like

ghoulish gangsters using mutants and zombies to control the grimy, nameless city. And while solving his own murder, Fred — voiced by John C. McGinley, the cranky Dr. Cox on TV's *Scrubs* — will become quite the expert decapitator himself, using his various heads for both nifty combat moves and mini-games like "Dirty Pool," "Head 2 Head Pinball" and "Consensual Sax."



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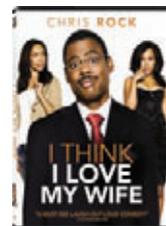
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new releases

GO HOME WITH **THE LOOKOUT**, **WILD HOGS** OR **TMNT** | BY MARNI WEISZ

AUGUST 7



I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE

STARS: Chris Rock, Kerry Washington
DIRECTOR: Chris Rock (*Head of State*)

STORY: This remake of the French film *Chloe in the Afternoon* stars Rock as a happily married man who's getting everything he wants from his wife (Gina Torres) but sex. When he runs into the alluring ex-girlfriend (Washington) of an old friend, he has to deal with some pretty hard-to-resist temptations.

DVD EXTRAS: deleted scenes, bloopers, director commentary, casting session



TMNT

VOICES: Mitchell Whitfield, James Arnold Taylor
DIRECTOR: Kevin Munroe (debut)

STORY: Lest ye think this is a film about dynamite or The Movie Network

take a closer look at those letters, it's the hip new acronym for the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, those pizza-eating cartoon reptiles that were so popular back in the 1980s. Now CGI-animated, the turtles have grown apart, with all but Leonardo having lost interest in fighting crime. And that's a problem, since a new villain with ancient roots (Patrick Stewart) has arrived in NYC (um, that stands for New York City).

AUGUST 14

FRACTURE

STARS: Anthony Hopkins, Ryan Gosling
DIRECTOR: Gregory Hoblit (*Hart's War*)

STORY: Comparisons to Hopkins' most famous character, Hannibal Lecter, are inevitable as the Oscar-winner plays a genius psychopath who shoots his wife in the head and then uses his impressive smarts to take on a hotshot prosecutor

(Gosling) at trial. Still, the film got largely good reviews, with most people eager for one more helping of Hopkins' cold, calculating malevolence.

INLAND EMPIRE

STARS: Laura Dern, Justin Theroux
DIRECTOR: David Lynch (*Mulholland Dr.*)

STORY: Lynch fanatics will be excited to finally see this film that's been making its way around the festival circuit for the past year. The movie never did pick up a major distributor, so it didn't play in theatres for more than a few days here and there. It's another mind-messer from Lynch, the king of confusion. Dern and Theroux play actors making a movie in which their characters have an affair. But when the actors start an affair of their own their real and on-screen identities become entwined.

THE LOOKOUT

STARS: Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Jeff Daniels
DIRECTOR: Scott Frank (debut)

STORY: The buzz was all about Gordon-Levitt's performance when this thriller came out last March. The former child actor from TV's *3rd Rock From the Sun* was hailed as the next Marlon Brando, among other things. He plays Chris Pratt, a former athlete whose life is changed when an accident leaves him mentally challenged. Now a janitor at a bank, he's targeted by a group of criminals who want his help robbing that bank.



WILD HOGS

STARS: Tim Allen, John Travolta
DIRECTOR: Walt Becker (*Van Wilder*)

STORY: Four middle-aged friends (Allen, Travolta, Martin Lawrence, William H. Macy) who like to tool around on motorcycles in their spare time don tough-looking leathers and hit the road.

Spotlight

AUGUST 7
DISTURBIA \$37

The bulk of the moviegoers who made this teen thriller the spring's surprise hit have never heard of *Rear Window*, let alone seen it. Which, we guess, means the bulk of people reading this blurb have probably never heard of it either.

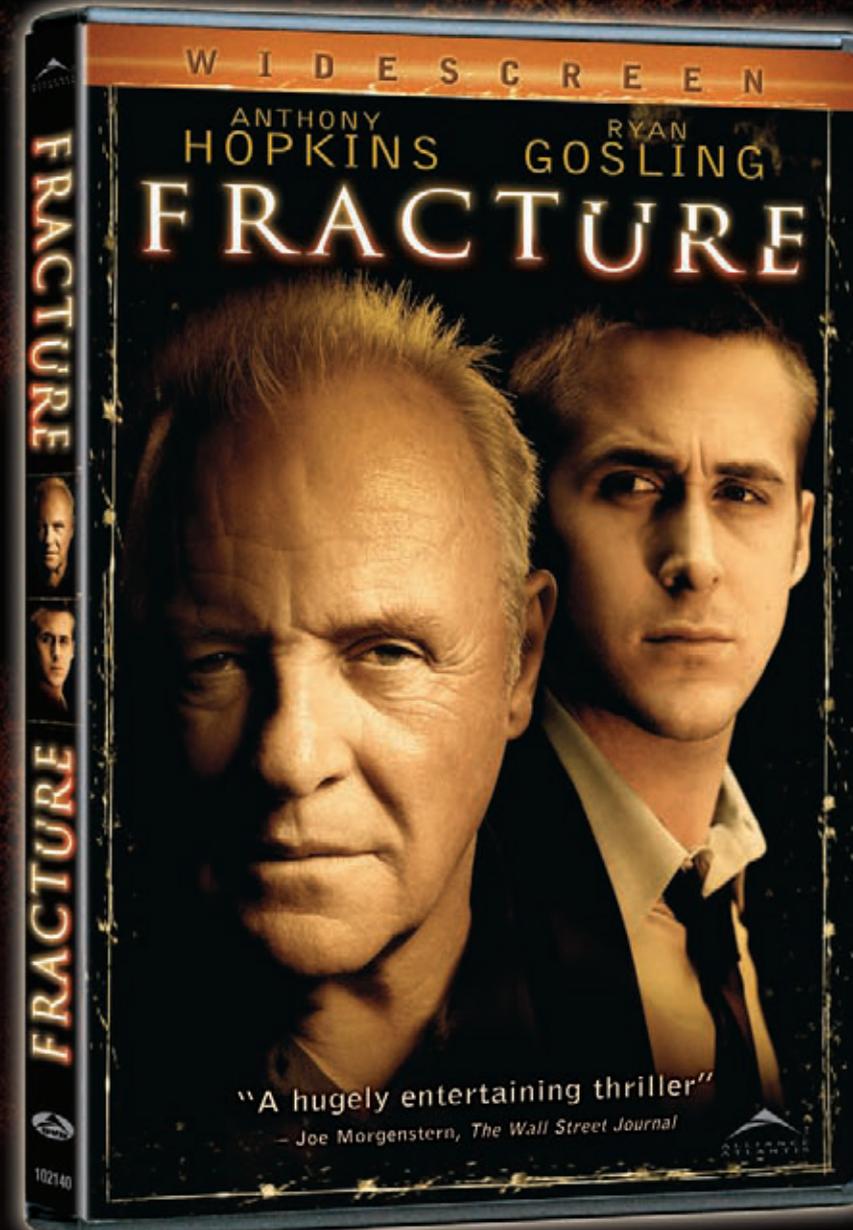
So a little lesson: The 1954 thriller was directed by Alfred Hitchcock and starred Jimmy Stewart as a chap with a broken leg who's confined to his apartment where he becomes obsessed with watching neighbourhood melodramas through his window. Then he starts to suspect that one of his neighbours has killed his wife.

Sound familiar?

Although not a literal remake, the story gets a slick update here as rising star Shia LaBeouf plays Kale, a high school student who gets house arrest as a punishment for punching out his condescending Spanish teacher.

Trying to make the best of the situation Kale becomes fascinated by the lives of his neighbours, until he sees something weird over at Mr. Turner's (David Morse) house. Mr. Turner brings home lots of dates, but they never seem to leave. Sexy newcomer Sarah Roemer steps in as Kale's neighbour Ashley, while the film is directed by D.J. Caruso (*Two for the Money*).

The DVD features four deleted scenes, a "Serial Pursuit Trivia Pop-Up Quiz," photo gallery, music video for The World Fair's "Don't Make Me Wait" and a commentary track featuring Caruso, LaBeouf and Roemer.



DVD FEATURES INCLUDE:

- ▶ TWO ALTERNATE ENDINGS
- ▶ DELETED SCENES



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Spotlight

AUGUST 21
REEL TALENT: FIRST FILMS
BY LEGENDARY
DIRECTORS \$26

Film students and cinephiles will be interested in this nifty collection of 12 short films created by students at the University of Southern California's School of Cinematic Arts.

Why should such an anthology of callow class assignments be worth watching?

Those students went on to become Hollywood heavyweights, including George Lucas (*Star Wars*), Robert Zemeckis (*Back to the Future*), Shawn Levy (*Night at the Museum*), James Foley (*Glengarry Glen Ross*) and Richard Kelly (*Donnie Darko*).

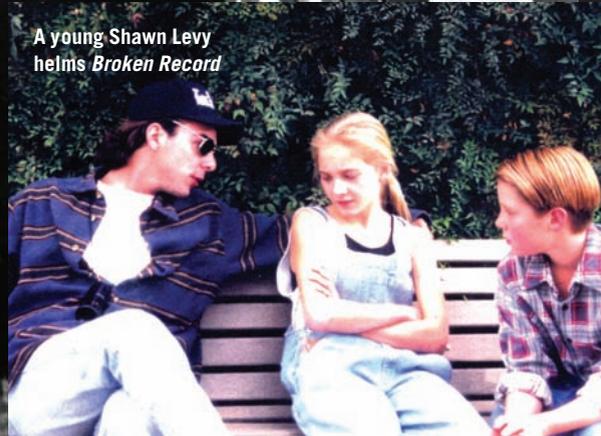
The collection includes some fairly well-known shorts, like Lucas's *Electronic Labyrinth THX 1138 4EB*, a sci-fi about a futuristic dystopia which the director went on to convert into a feature film. But there are lots of lesser-known pics, too, like Zemeckis's *Field of Honor* — a drama about a Vietnam vet released from a mental institution — which won the Student Academy Award in 1975.

And *Star Wars* fanatics will be happy with a never-before-seen interview in which George Lucas recalls his days as a USC student.

USC film student George Lucas (left) directs *Electronic Labyrinth THX 1138 4EB*



A young Shawn Levy helms *Broken Record*



▶▶ **AUGUST 21**

THE LIVES OF OTHERS

STARS: Ulrich Mühe, Sebastian Koch
DIRECTOR: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck (debut)

STORY: The Oscar winner for Best Foreign Language Film, this German drama takes place in 1984 East Berlin, a time when the government kept a close eye on all of its citizens via the Stasi, or secret police. Captain Gerd Wiesler (Mühe) is a Stasi officer assigned to dig up dirt on the playwright Georg Dreyman (Koch), but when he can't find anything he becomes entranced by Dreyman himself.

DVD EXTRAS: deleted scenes, making-of featurette, interview with the director

AUGUST 28

BLADES OF GLORY

STARS: Will Ferrell, Jon Heder
DIRECTORS: Josh Gordon, Will Speck
STORY: Men's figure skating rivals Chazz Michael Michaels (Ferrell) and Jimmy MacElroy (Heder) think their careers are over when they're banned from their event after getting into a brawl. Then their coach (Craig T. Nelson) realizes that if they compete together in the pairs' competition they can circumvent the ban.

YEAR OF THE DOG

STARS: Molly Shannon, Laura Dern
DIRECTOR: Mike White (debut)
STORY: White, the writer behind such quirky faves as *Chuck & Buck*, *The Good Girl* and *Nacho Libre*, makes his directorial debut with this touching little drama about Peggy (Shannon), an office assistant who really, really loves her beagle, Pencil. When Pencil dies unexpectedly, Peggy looks for meaning in her life, and finds it primarily in the company of animals. White also wrote the script for this film that debuted at Sundance earlier this year. **DVD EXTRAS:** animal unit featurette, Molly Shannon profile, deleted scenes, gag reel



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AUGUST 2007

HOROSCOPE | BY DAN LIEBMAN

Leo

July 23 ☆ August 22

You remain in the limelight, but by the end of the month it's time to step aside for someone else. A family member is less touchy, but still needy. Map out educational plans for the fall. Some gifts you receive now are interesting — to say the least.

Virgo

August 23 ☆ September 22

You find out the results of a recent interview. Check the next steps carefully. Follow up on vague messages, too. If you're having second thoughts, it's not too late to reverse a decision. You gain confidence and by the 31st are finally out of a rut.

Libra

September 23 ☆ October 22

You click with a new acquaintance, bringing out each other's strengths. A shake-up at the workplace has an unexpected upside. Sharpen your skills in the areas of marketing, advertising and writing. But if renovating or decorating, stick with the professionals.

Scorpio

October 23 ☆ November 21

You're in a nesting mood, tempted to get a pet or spend a lot on your home. Gather opinions before making a big commitment or investment. Work seems less demanding, but don't lose your competitive edge. There are signs that a romantic slump is ending.

Sagittarius

November 22 ☆ December 22

You handle major decisions far better than minor, everyday ones. After a less-than-ideal start, a challenging project shows huge potential. Whether at home or away, take fewer risks. A book, play or movie has an impact that will last well beyond this month.

Capricorn

December 23 ☆ January 20

You navigate around a number of small obstacles, but your willingness to persevere

brings good results in the areas of career and romance. The arts play an important role now, providing an outlet for expression and an opportunity to meet others.

Aquarius

January 21 ☆ February 19

The month ends on an upbeat note thanks to your willingness to learn from mistakes. Nothing you do now is subtle. You'll make a lasting impression on those you deal with and inspire youngsters to do their best. Your hospitality is showcased after the 15th.

Pisces

February 20 ☆ March 20

Continue to explore new areas of interest. Consider activities that involve the past, such as genealogy or archaeology. Your critics don't mince words, but you can learn from their advice. Take the initiative if you're trying to breathe life into a relationship.

Aries

March 21 ☆ April 20

Your planet, Mars, rules initiative. Your ideas — and your drive — can now benefit the environment or another important cause. Devote time to your own needs, too, with the focus on finance and health. Late August is an excellent time to call in favours.

Taurus

April 21 ☆ May 22

Your current standards are impossibly high. Try to ignore the annoying foibles of friends, and be more forgiving. Entrepreneurial spirit is strong. It's an excellent time to launch a sideline. Your interest in health issues proves helpful.

Gemini

May 23 ☆ June 21

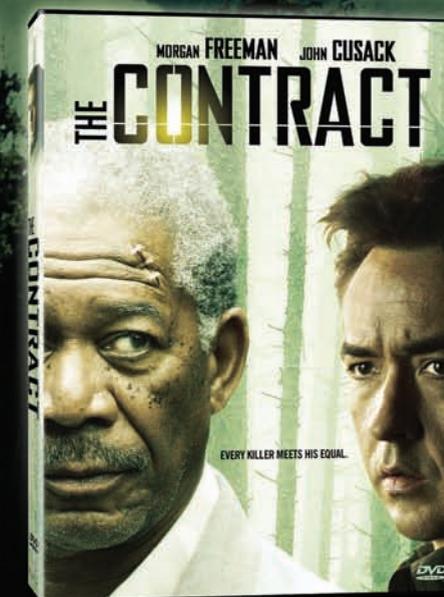
Creative thinking is your strong point. Try a new approach if angling for a job, handling a confrontation, or sending invitations. It's still not too late to start a summer fitness regime. Clearing out clutter is therapeutic — and leads to a valuable discovery.

Cancer

June 22 ☆ July 22

Weigh pros and cons before deciding whether to join or quit a team. Your involvement in politics or other controversial activities stirs up criticism, which only deepens your commitment. Be sure to seize opportunities coinciding with the full moon of the 28th.

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10

STARS REGRET THEIR TATTOOS

BY SUSAN GRANGER



COLIN FARRELL

"I had my wife's name, Milly, tattooed around my wedding ring finger on my left hand. Bad move. I'm not married anymore."

MICHAEL VARTAN

"One of the stupidest things I ever did was having my ex-fiancée's initials tattooed on my arm. I needed the best laser surgeon in town."

CHARLIE SHEEN

"At one time, I had 13 tats on my chest and I've been lasering them off."

JOHNNY DEPP

"Many years ago, when I was going with Winona Ryder, I had 'Winona Forever' put on my upper right arm. I later changed it to 'Wino Forever.'"

JUDE LAW

"I had 'Sexy Sadie' tattooed on my arm. That was when I was married to Sadie Frost. We are no longer married."

DREW BARRYMORE

"I got a 'Jamie' tattoo when I was going with Jamie Walters and then covered it with a cross held by an angel."

HALLE BERRY

"I had David Justice's name tattooed on my rear when we were married. After the divorce I had it covered up with a large blue circle. It was a huge mistake."

ALYSSA MILANO

"I have this crucifix on my ankle with the initials SRW because I was engaged to Scott Wolf at the time. Now I tell people the tattoo stands for 'Some Rad Woman.'"

GEENA DAVIS

"I put my ex-husband's [director Renny Harlin] name on my ankle, but now it's just a design. I would not make that mistake again."

TONY DANZA

"I had a 'Keep on Truckin' tattoo but it bothered me, so I had it removed with laser treatments. It takes a long time, but it does go away."

PHOTO BY VERA ANDERSON/WIREIMAGE



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