

Famous

Peter Mansbridge, Mike Bullard
and other Canucks pick their favourite Canadian films

canada's entertainment lifestyle magazine
july 2000 | volume 1 number 7 |

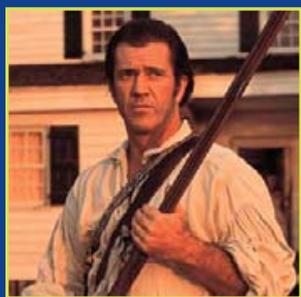
Larry Miller talks
*Nutty Professor II:
The Klumps*

Spotlight on:
**Mark Wahlberg,
Keenen Ivory Wayans
& Michelle Pfeiffer**

Woody Harrelson
dines in Montreal

**Alicia Silverstone,
Meg Ryan** and other
stars reveal feelings
on fashion

Mel Gibson
discusses *The Patriot*



\$3.00



Director Bryan Singer
(right) with his *X-Men*
stars, Ian McKellen (left)
and Patrick Stewart

X-Men's Real Superhero

Director **Bryan Singer** takes us
behind the scenes

plus NEW VIDEO RELEASES, HOROSCOPE, MUSIC, VIDEOGAMES, WEB, TRAVEL

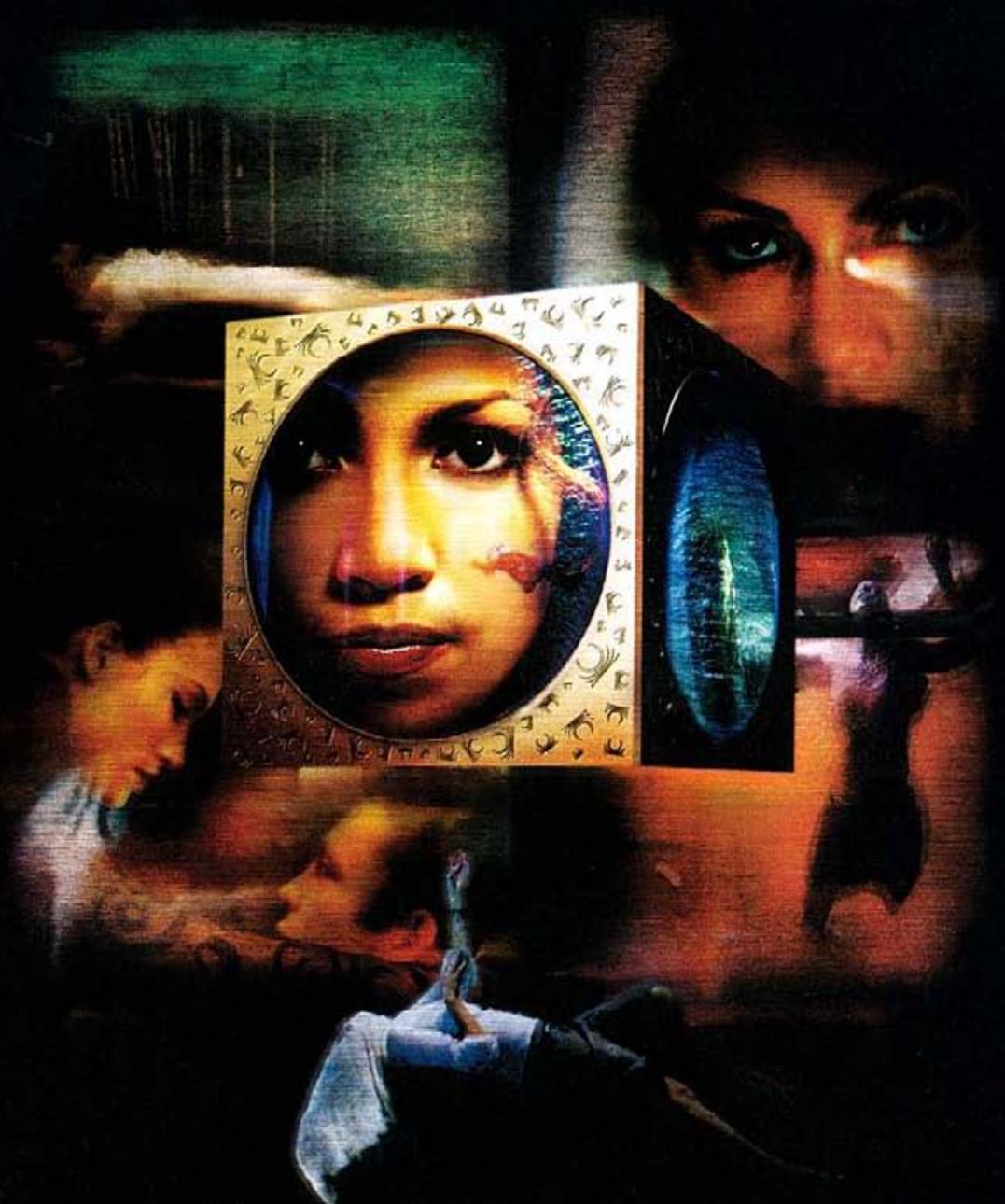


'NICE ALTOIDS'

THE CURIOUSLY STRONG MINTS®

MADE IN GREAT BRITAIN

THIS SUMMER...ENTER THE MIND OF A KILLER



JENNIFER LOPEZ VINCE VAUGHN VINCENT D'ONOFRIO

THE CELL

AN ALLIANCE ATLANTIS PRESENTATION A NEW LINE CINEMA RELEASE A CARO M. LEOD/RADICAL MEDIA PRODUCTION JENNIFER LOPEZ VINCE VAUGHN VINCENT D'ONOFRIO "THE CELL"
MARIANNE JEAN-BAPTISTE JAKE WEBER DYLAN BAKER PRODUCED BY RONNA KRESS COSTUME DESIGNER EIKO ISHIOKA EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS APRIL NAPIER PRODUCED BY HOWARD SHORE EDITOR PAUL RUBELL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ROBERT DUFFY PRODUCED BY TOM FODEN
SCREENPLAY BY PAUL LAUFER DIRECTED BY MARK PROTOSEVICH EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DONNA LANGLEY CAROLYN MANETTI PRODUCED BY JULIO CARO ERIC M. LEOD EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS MARK PROTOSEVICH EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TARSEM

NEW LINE CINEMA

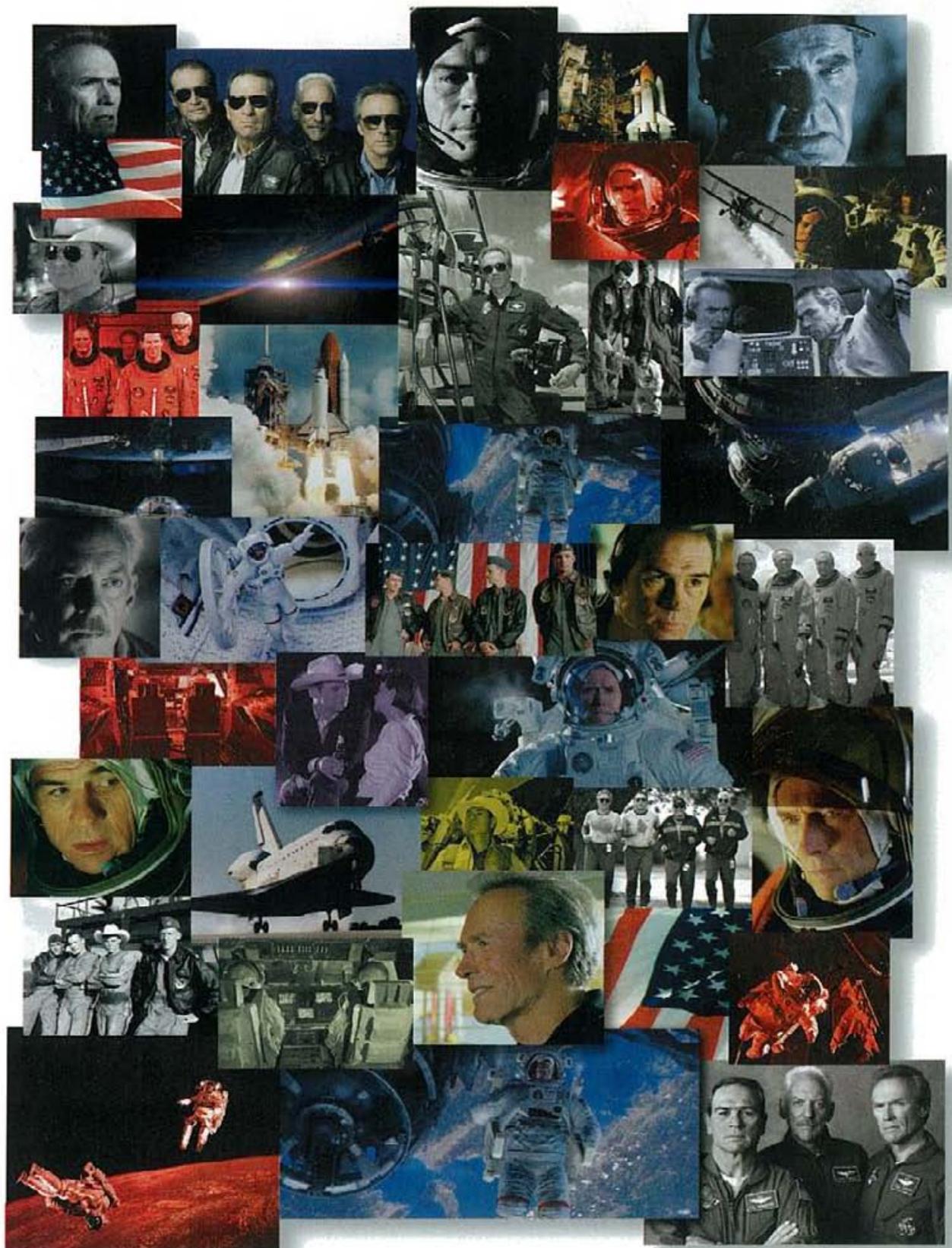
ALLIANCE ATLANTIS

8 18 2000

FOCUS

ALLIANCE ATLANTIS

ALLIANCEATLANTISFILMS.COM



SPACE COWBOYS

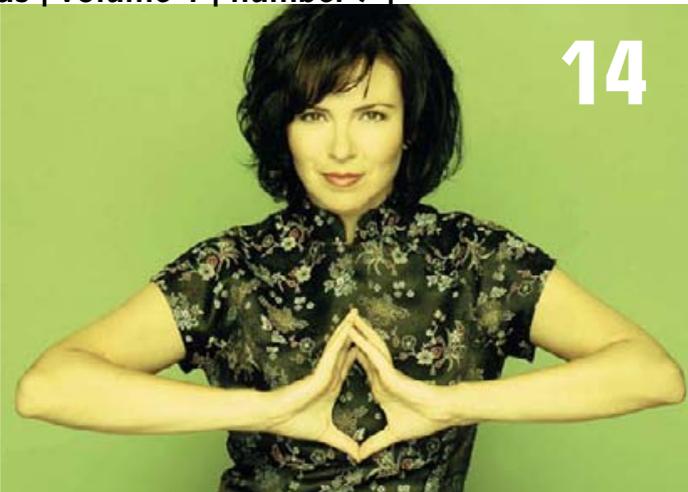
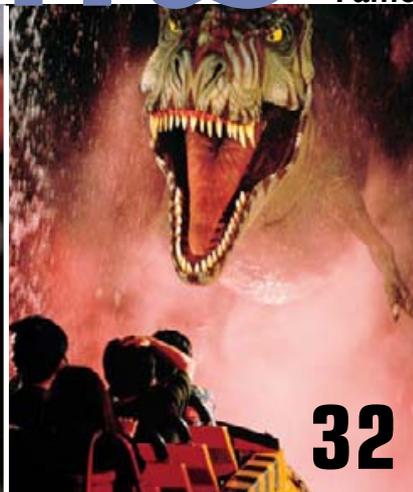
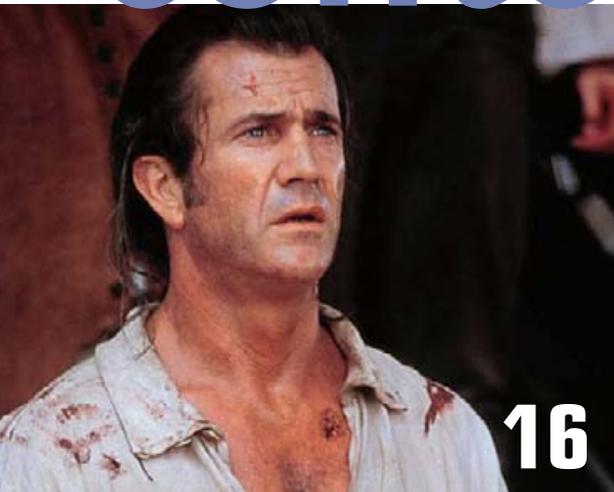
www.spacecowboys.net

AUGUST 4

©2001 Warner Bros. All Rights Reserved.

contents

Famous | volume 1 | number 7 |



FEATURES

- 14 CANADA DAY AT THE MOVIES**
Thirteen well-known Canadians pick their favourite Canuck film in honour of our nation's day
- 16 MEET MEL GIBSON**
The rather private actor talks about why his new American Revolution pic, *The Patriot*, should strike a chord with viewers, and how he's survived the Hollywood game for two decades
By David Giammarco
- 20 ALEC'S ON BOARD**
Thomas the Tank Engine, megastar to six-year-olds, has his own movie — *Thomas and the Magic Railroad*, and Alec Baldwin has jumped aboard as Mr. Conductor. Writer/director/producer Britt Allcroft talks about the inspired casting
By Marni Weisz
- 22 FAMOUS FOCUS: LARRY MILLER**
Comedian Larry Miller talks about *Nutty Professor II: The Klumps* and his return as the stingy Dean Richmond

COVER STORY

- 26 SINGER TALKS X-MEN**
Director Bryan Singer, who gave us *The Usual Suspects* and *Apt Pupil*, had never seen an *X-Men* comic book until three years ago. Still, he was anxious to helm the superheroes' jump from the printed page to celluloid. Writer **Bob Thompson** met the 33-year-old on set to find out why

DEPARTMENTS

- 06 EDITORIAL**
- 08 THE BIG PICTURE**
A peek at current flicks, including *Scary Movie* and *The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle*
- 12 THE PLAYERS**
Vital bio info about Mark Wahlberg, Keenen Ivory Wayans and Michelle Pfeiffer
- 18 FAMOUS TRIVIA**
- 28 COMING SOON**
- 30 ON THE SLATE**
- 32 SCOUTING LOCATIONS**
Going to L.A.? Take a studio tour
- 38 CUISEEN**
Woody Harrelson finds something fishy at Montreal's Soto
- 42 FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS**
MuchMusic vet Master T makes his picks
- 43 ON VIDEO**
New releases, including *The Talented Mr. Ripley* and *Scream 3*
- 44 FAMOUS LAST WORDS**
Brooke Shields, Meg Ryan and others offer fashion philosophies
- 46 HOROSCOPE**

COLUMNS

- 34 THINGS**
Hot summer hair
- 36 LINER NOTES**
Karaoke turns 20. Quick, someone sing "Happy Birthday"
- 39 BIT STREAMING**
Stars reach out to fans via the web
- 40 NAME OF THE GAME**
What's that smell? It may soon be your videogame



An X-cellent Choice



Patrick Stewart (left) and Bryan Singer on the set of *X-Men*

So, I've never read an *X-Men* comic book (in fact, I don't think I've ever read *any* comic book) — but I'm dying to see the movie. Full credit for that has to go to the producers. They knew they had the diehard comic fans before the deal to bring *X-Men* to the silver screen was even signed. But to get me — and ignorant comic book novices like me — they had to make a few surprising choices. Signing the brilliant Ian McKellen, nominated for a Best Actor Oscar for his work in *Gods and Monsters*, was a good start. Bringing in Patrick Stewart, best-known as Captain Picard from *Star Trek: TNG*, was even better.

Because despite the fact that I don't know *X-Men's* good mutants from the bad, I am a huge Trekkie. (Or is it Trekker?) But my fate as a ticket-buyer was sealed when they asked Bryan Singer to direct. The 33-year-old's intricately crafted 1995 crime thriller, *The Usual Suspects*, is, in my opinion, one of the best movies ever made.

But why did Singer want to get involved with this big-budget action movie that seems so different than the stuff he's done in the past? Bob Thompson finds out with an on-set interview in "X-Men's Main Man," page 26.

It's hard to believe that Mel Gibson was just 25 years old when he carved up the screen in 1979's apocalyptic Aussie film, *Mad Max*. The now-44-year-old always seemed to have a mature swagger about him, even when he was covered in dirt, tearing down the road in a makeshift jalopy. But the years *have* fine-tuned him. His 1995 Scottish epic, *Braveheart*, earned the blue-eyed sex symbol Oscars for Best Picture and Best Director (the movie won a total of five statuettes) and more power than any one man could possibly need. He then used that power to nurture Icon Films, the production company he founded in 1989, and to get picky about which movies he'd let tear him away from his wife of 20 years, Robyn, and their seven kids. In "Getting to Know Mel," page 16, writer David Giammarco finds out why the American Revolution drama, *The Patriot*, became the latest to capture Gibson's attention, and how he's managed to survive the filmmaking biz for all these years.

Larry Miller. If you don't know the name, you certainly know the face. He was in the same "graduating class" as Jerry Seinfeld, Bill Maher and Paul Reiser at New York's Comic Strip in the late Seventies. And although he hasn't been given his own sitcom or talk show (yet), Miller has imprinted himself on the public psyche as a grating pest — a role he's played with skillful zest in a variety of films, most notably 1990's *Pretty Woman*. (He was the snotty sales attendant in the posh Rodeo Drive boutique.) Now Miller reprises his role as the difficult Dean Richmond in the sequel to Eddie Murphy's *The Nutty Professor* — this one called *Nutty Professor II: The Klumps*. In "Larry Miller: Annoying Guy," page 22, Miller talks about the new movie and the old days at The Comic Strip.

If only CN could muster the marketing genius of a little train named Thomas the Tank Engine, the national rail company would never have to worry about funding or budgets again. But, of course, CN doesn't exist in the magical town of Shining Time or on the Island of Sodor where toys live and breathe and talk like the rest of us. That's the world created by Britt Allcroft, who took a series of sketchy children's books about a talking train and turned them into a multi-million-dollar industry. There's the TV show, books, toys — and now a big budget movie, *Thomas and the Magic Railroad*, starring Alec Baldwin no less. Allcroft, who wrote, directed and produced the movie, discusses Alec and her other stars in "All Aboard," page 20.

And, finally, in honour of Canada Day, we asked 13 well-known Canadians — from hockey player Luc Robitaille to director Patricia Rozema — to name their all-time favourite Canadian films. Read what they had to say in "O Canada, We Sit and Eat Popcorn for Thee," page 14.

— Marni Weisz

Famous

july 2000

volume 1 number 7

PUBLISHER
Salah Bachir

EDITOR
Marni Weisz

DEPUTY EDITOR
Neil Morton

ART DIRECTOR
Vadim Moscotin

CONTRIBUTORS
Trent Ernst, David Giammarco,
Susan Granger, Ellen Himelfarb,
Dan Liebman, Lezlie Lowe,
Marc Saltzman, Bob Thompson

FAMOUS MAGAZINE IS REPRESENTED BY
FAMOUS PLAYERS MEDIA INC.

ADVERTISING AND SALES

NATIONAL OFFICE
905.564.1033

VICE PRESIDENT
Wayne Carter (ext. 232)
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
Jamie Cruver (ext. 224)
Sarah Toth (ext. 233)

WESTERN OFFICE
604.904.8622
ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Diane Rajh

SPECIAL THANKS

John Bailey, Roger Harris,
Carla Horwitz, Rob John,
Stuart Pollock, Cathy Prowse,
David Rusk, Laurie Zaborski

Famous™ magazine is published 12 times a year by Famous magazine Inc. Subscriptions are \$32.50 (\$30 + GST) a year in Canada, \$45 a year in the US and \$55 a year overseas. Single copies are \$3. All subscription inquiries should be directed to *Famous* magazine at 1314 Britannia Rd. E., Mississauga, Ont., L4W 1C8; or 905.564.1033; or famous@interlog.com

Canada Post Publication Agreement:
No. 1716344

500,000 copies of *Famous* magazine are distributed through Famous Players theatres and other outlets. *Famous* magazine is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, artwork or other materials. No material in this magazine may be reprinted without the express written consent of the publisher.

Famous wants your feedback. Write to us.

- **by email:** famous@interlog.com
- **by regular mail:** Letters to the Editor, Famous magazine, 1314 Britannia Rd. E., Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 1C8
- **by fax:** 905.564.3398

Letters may be edited for length and clarity. Please include your full name, city of residence and a contact number (email or phone).

● No Way.

● Way.



The PT Cruiser is here.

CHRYSLER



Starting at \$23,200. Fully loaded under \$30,000. For details, visit www.daimlerchrysler.ca And let the debate begin.

JULY'S SLATE OF COMEDIES, THRILLERS AND DRAMAS



From left: Rene Russo, Jason Alexander, Robert De Niro, Rocky and Bullwinkle in *The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle*

Chicken Run (June 25)

Voices of: Mel Gibson, Julia Sawahla, Miranda Richardson

Who Directed? Nick Park (*Wallace & Gromit*)

What's It About? An American rooster, Rocky (Gibson), goes koo-koo-koochu for a British hen, Ginger (Sawahla), at Tweedy's Chicken Farm, and the two plot a grand escape from the clutches of Mrs. Tweedy (Richardson) — an evil chicken farmer who'll roast them if they don't meet their egg quota. The characters are created through claymation, and the story mimics the Steve McQueen WWII classic, *The Great Escape*.

The Perfect Storm (June 30)

Who's In It? George Clooney, Mark Wahlberg, Mary Elizabeth Mastrantonio

Who Directed? Wolfgang Petersen (*Air Force One*)

What's It About? This big-budget thriller captures the wrenching true story of the *Andrea Gail*, a swordfishing boat stranded in the North Atlantic during a massive 1991 storm. Clooney and Wahlberg, who co-starred in *Three Kings*, are reunited as members of the doomed boat's crew.

The Patriot (June 30)

Who's In It? Mel Gibson, Heath Ledger, Joely Richardson

Who Directed? Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day*)

What's It About? After having fought in the nasty French/Indian conflict, South Carolina farmer

Benjamin Martin (Gibson) has renounced war. But then comes the American Revolution and the Brits are threatening his family, so off he goes to lead a rebel militia in battle. Filmmakers worked closely with the Smithsonian Institute to ensure accuracy. **See Mel Gibson interview, page 16.**

The Adventures of Rocky and Bullwinkle (June 30)

Who's In It? Robert De Niro, Rene Russo, Jason Alexander

Who Directed? Des McAnuff (*Cousin Bette*)

What's It About? In this cartoon/live-action comedy based on the popular animated TV series of the Sixties, Pottsylvania villains Boris (Alexander) and Natasha (Russo) escape from their pen-and-ink existence to become flesh and blood, and hatch a plan to take over the world with the help of The Fearless Leader (De Niro, who also produced). Rocky (the flying squirrel) and Bullwinkle (the talking moose) — still just cartoon characters — have to save the planet.

Disney's The Kid (July 7)

Who's In It? Bruce Willis, Spencer Breslin, Emily Mortimer

Who Directed? Jon Turteltaub (*Instinct*)

What's It About? Willis plays Russ Duritz, a rich, successful "image consultant" whose life is turned upside down when he magically meets himself as an eight-year-old (Breslin), and discovers that his eight-year-old self is not happy with the way things turned out.

Scary Movie (July 7)

Who's In It? Anna Farris, Regina Hall, Shannon Elizabeth, Cheri Oteri

Who Directed? Keenen Ivory Wayans (*I'm Gonna Get You Sucka*)

What's It About? It's a spoof of a spoof, in effect. "Scary Movie" was the original title of the first *Scream* movie, which is appropriate since Wayans's film mimics that Wes Craven horror hit. Farris plays a parody of Neve Campbell's *Scream* character and *Saturday Night Live*'s Oteri is Gail Hailstorm, a take-off of the reporter played by Courtney Cox. The Wayans brothers, Marlon and Shawn, appear, and also helped out with the writing.



From left, Regina Hall, Shannon Elizabeth and Anna Farris in *Scary Movie*

X-Men (July 14)

Who's In It? Patrick Stewart, Ian McKellen, Halle Berry, Anna Paquin

Who Directed? Bryan Singer (*The Usual Suspects*)

What's It About? Based on the ultra-popular Marvel Comics series, this Toronto-filmed sci-fi flick tells of a team of outcasts, each of whom was born with a unique genetic mutation that gives them superhuman powers. Patrick Stewart (*Star Trek: TNG*) is the psychic Professor Xavier, who leads the X-Men, and Sir Ian McKellen (*Apt Pupil*) plays the evil Magneto. **See Bryan Singer interview, page 26.**

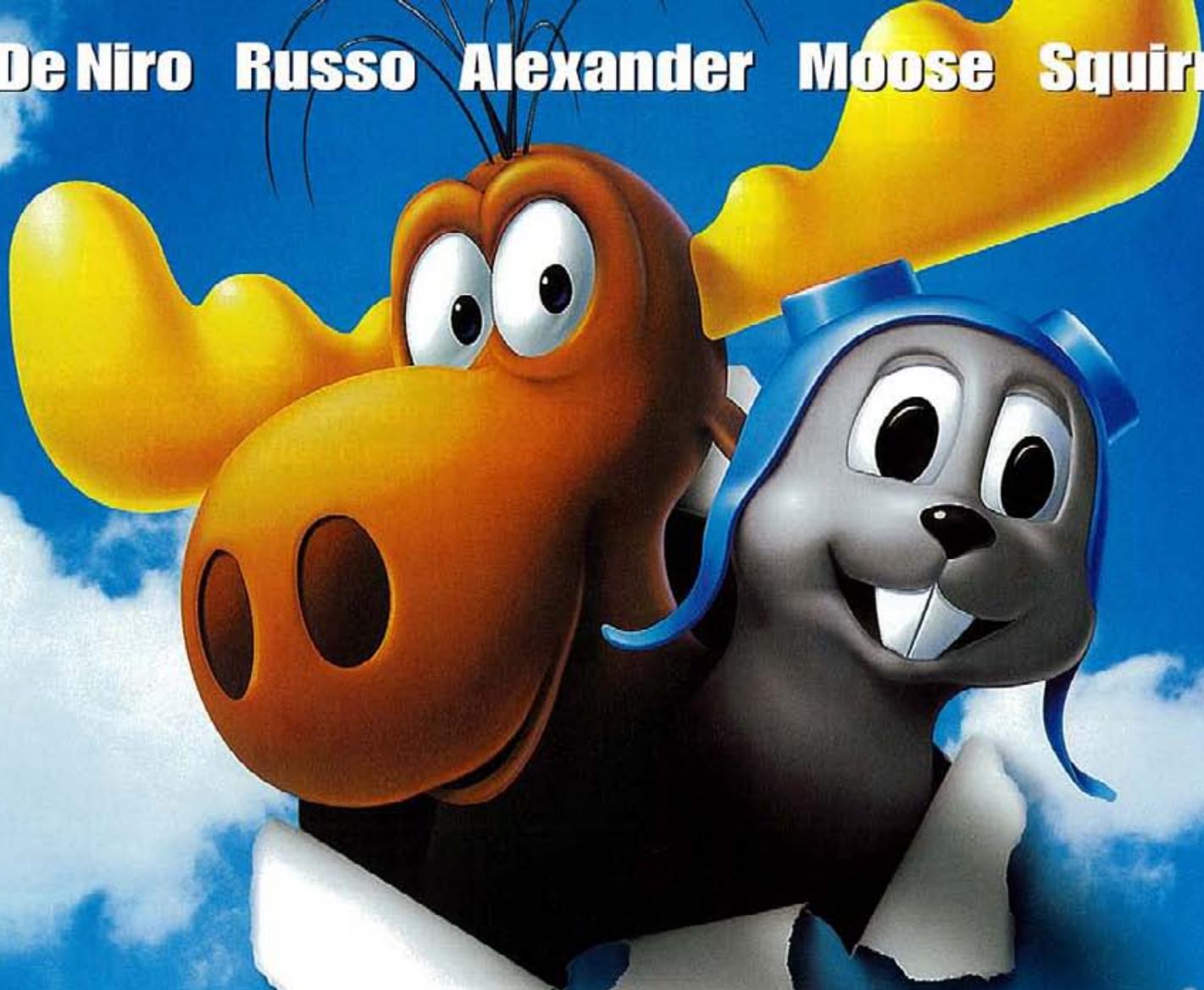
Pokémon 2 (July 21)

Voices of: Veronica Taylor, Rachel Lillis

Who Directed? Kunihiko Yuyama, Michael Haigney (*Pokémon: The First Movie*)

What's It About? Just when you thought the Pokémon craze — videogames, comic books, TV series — was dying down, along comes another Pokémon movie. In this one, a Pokémon collector named Jirarudan is trying to become the most powerful Pokémon trainer on the planet by capturing the sea-monster Pokémon, Lugia, but Ash and his friends have to stop him because his new-found power could destroy the world. A third Pokémon movie is, of course, already in the works. ►►

De Niro Russo Alexander Moose Squirrel

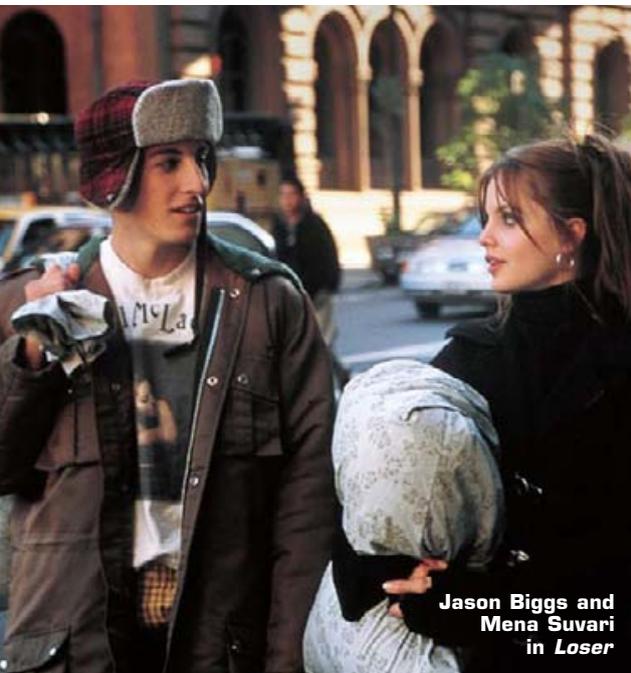


THE ADVENTURES OF ROCKY AND BULLWINKLE



This summer it's not the same old bull.

UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH CAPELLA/KC-MEDIEN A TRIBECA PRODUCTION RENE RUSSO JASON ALEXANDER 'THE ADVENTURES OF ROCKY AND BULLWINKLE' RANDY QUAID KEL MITCHELL KEVAN THOMPSON PIPER PERABO AND ROBERT DENIRO SIGISMA MARLENI STEWART MUSIC BY MARK MOTHERSBAUGH EXECUTIVE PRODUCER JOEL SILL WRITTEN BY DENNIS VIRKLER PRODUCED BY GAVIN BOQUET DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY THOMAS ACKERMAN A.S.C. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS TIFFANY WARD DAVID NICKSAY ANIMATION & SPECIAL VISUAL EFFECTS BASED ON CHARACTERS DEVELOPED BY JAY WARD PRODUCED BY JANE ROSENTHAL ROBERT DENIRO **IN THEATRES JUNE 30TH** WRITTEN BY KENNETH LOVERGAN DIRECTED BY DES MCANUFF PRESENTS A UNIVERSAL PICTURE 
www.rockyandbullwinkle.com AOL Keyword: Rocky and Bullwinkle



Jason Biggs and Mena Suvari in *Loser*

Loser (July 21)

Who's In It? Jason Biggs, Mena Suvari, Greg Kinnear

Who Directed? Amy Heckerling (*Clueless*)

What's It About? When Midwesterner Paul Tannek (Biggs) moves to the Big Apple to attend NYU, he's ridiculed by his roommates for being a loser. Paul then turns to another outcast, Dora (Suvari), for emotional support, and their friendship eventually grows into a romance. But not before Dora has an affair with a prof (Kinnear).

The In Crowd (July 21)

Who's In It? Susan Ward, Lori Heuring, Matthew Settle

Who Directed? Mary Lambert (*Pet Semetary*)

What's It About? A young woman who works at a country club (Heuring) is brought into an exclusive social circle and soon starts dating a tennis pro (Settle). But all is not iced tea and roses among this upper-class bunch. A darker side soon emerges.

Bless the Child (July 21)

Who's In It? Kim Basinger, Jimmy Smits

Who Directed? Chuck Russell (*The Mask*)

What's It About? Based on the novel by Cathy Cash Spellman, the story follows Maggie O'Connell (Basinger), a nurse who finds herself in the middle of a plot to carry out a biblical prophecy after her six-year-old niece is targeted by Satanists. Smits plays a cop who tries to help Maggie beat the bad guys.

What Lies Beneath (July 23)

Who's In It? Harrison Ford, Michelle Pfeiffer, Wendy Crewson

Who Directed? Robert Zemeckis (*Contact*)

What's It About? Billed as a supernatural thriller, the story features Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer as Norman and Claire, a happily married Vermont couple whose idyllic life is threatened when the ghost of a student who died under mysterious circumstances begins to haunt Claire.

Thomas and the Magic Railroad (July 26)

Who's In It? Alec Baldwin, Peter Fonda, Mara Wilson

Who Directed? Britt Allcroft (*Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends* TV series)

What's It About? Based on the popular children's TV series, the film follows Lily, an 11-year-old girl (Wilson) who is all set to visit her lonely grandfather (Fonda), but gets on the wrong train and ends up in the town of Shining Time. There, she meets a magical conductor (Baldwin) who takes her on an adventure to Thomas the Tank Engine's Island of Sodor.

Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (July 28)

Who's In It? Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson, Larry Miller

Who Directed? Peter Segal (*Tommy Boy*)

What's It About? Sherman Klump (Murphy) thought he had seen the last of his alter ego, Buddy Love, but Love is back and trying to make it on his own. Having done his best to keep Buddy buried in his subconscious, the portly and painfully shy professor is horrified to find him resurfacing in untimely outbursts and threatening his plans to marry colleague Denise Gains (Janet Jackson). Utilizing Denise's cutting-edge DNA research, Sherman decides to rid himself of his monstrous nemesis once and for all by extracting Buddy's DNA from his system. See Larry Miller interview, page 22.

Coyote Ugly (August 4)

Who's In It? Piper Perabo, Maria Bello, Tyra Banks, John Goodman

Who Directed? David McNally (debut)

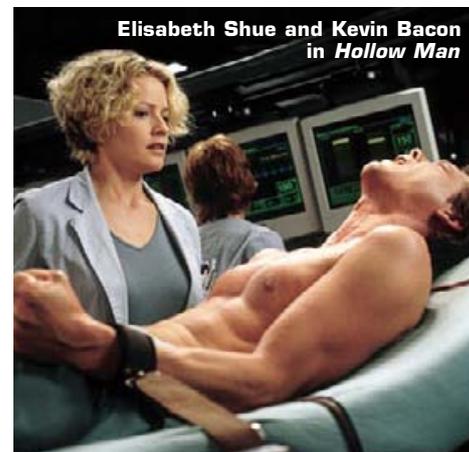
What's It About? Produced by Jerry Bruckheimer (*Gone in 60 Seconds*), and based on a GQ article, this romantic comedy tells the story of one girl's (Perabo) move to New York to make it as a singer. Instead, she finds fun and adventure in her "day" job as a barmaid at the Coyote Ugly — a rundown country bar where you get to dance on the tables and engage in other wild behaviour.

Space Cowboys (August 4)

Who's In It? Clint Eastwood, James Garner, Tommy Lee Jones, Donald Sutherland

Who Directed? Clint Eastwood (*Unforgiven*)

What's It About? A satellite launched in 1960 has malfunctioned, and to prevent it from crashing to Earth an older astronaut, who knows its inner workings, is asked to fix it. He agrees, but only if three of his old pilot buds (Jones, Garner and Sutherland) who were overlooked by the astronaut training program are allowed to come along. Some scenes were shot at NASA headquarters in Cape Canaveral, Florida and Houston, Texas.



Elisabeth Shue and Kevin Bacon in *Hollow Man*

Hollow Man (August 4)

Who's In It? Kevin Bacon, Elisabeth Shue, Josh Brolin

Who Directed? Paul Verhoeven (*Total Recall*)

What's It About? A sci-fi concept first proposed by H.G. Wells in *The Invisible Man* gets the modern treatment in this movie about a government scientist at a top secret military lab who devises a way to make people invisible. He tries it out on himself and it works. But his colleagues can't (or won't) reverse the effects, so he sets out to get revenge on them.

Autumn in New York (August 4)

Who's In It? Richard Gere, Winona Ryder

Who Directed? Joan Chen (*Xiu Xiu: The Sent Down Girl*)

What's It About? In this offbeat love story, Gere plays the playboy owner of one of New York's hottest restaurants. No woman can seem to nail him down, that is, until Charlotte Fielding (Ryder) comes along and changes his life forever.

Also playing in limited release: **The Butterfly** (June 30)

All release dates subject to change.

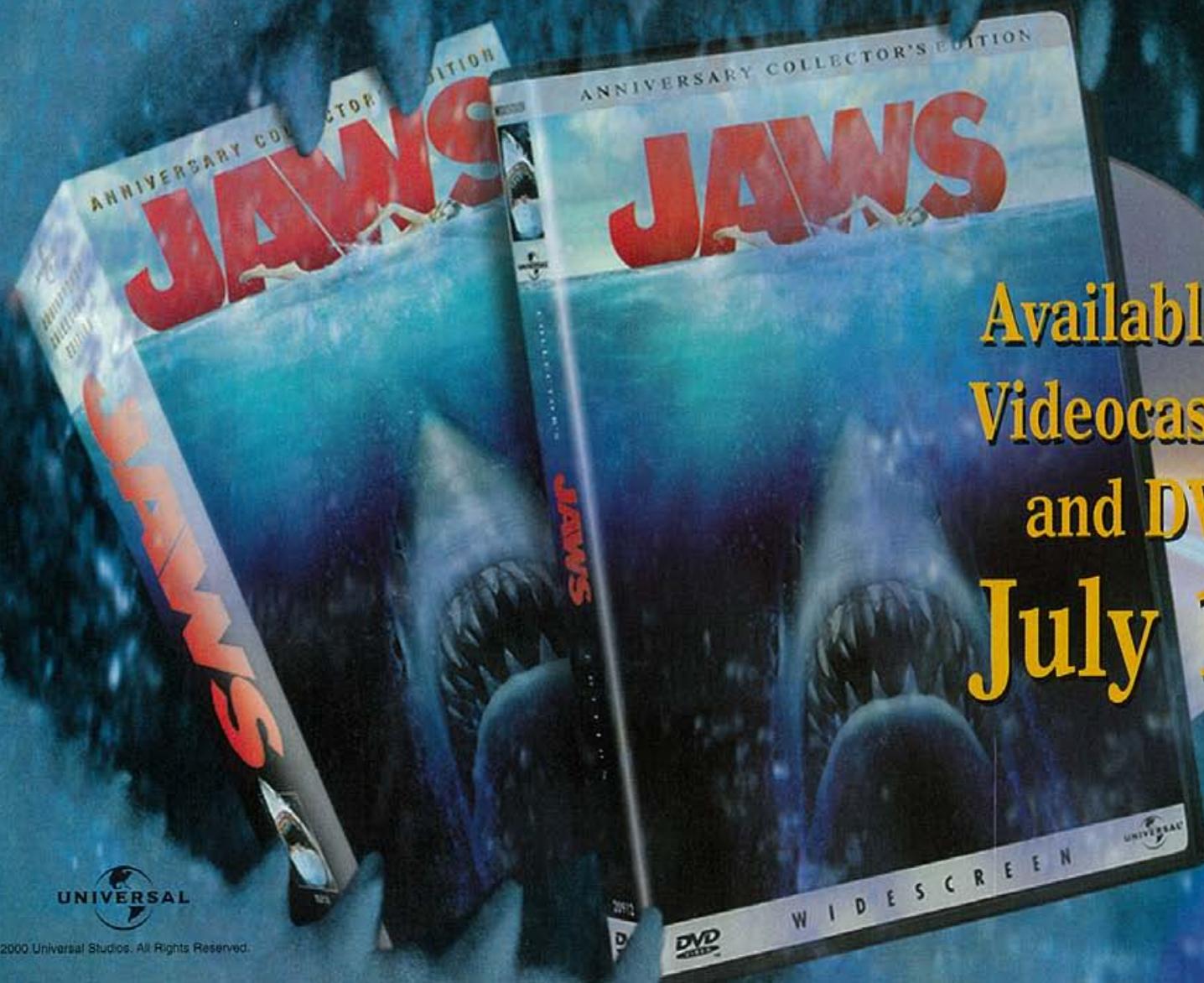
check www.famousplayers.com for showtimes and locations

25 YEARS LATER A LEGEND RESURFACES!

**The Original Summer Splash... Jaws!
Resurfacing as a new Anniversary Collector's Edition.
Available on Videocassette and for the first time ever on DVD.**

Relive the terror with over 75 minutes of Bonus Footage including...

- Steven Spielberg... on JAWS:
A retrospective on the making
of the film.
- Deleted Scenes & Outtakes.
- JAWS Archives: Photos, storyboards
and production drawings.



**Available on
Videocassette
and DVD
July 11.**



WHAT LIES BENEATH • THE PERFECT ST



Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer in *What Lies Beneath*

MICHELLE PFEIFFER

Now appearing in... *What Lies Beneath*, a supernatural thriller co-starring Harrison Ford and directed by Robert Zemeckis (*Forrest Gump*). Pfeiffer and Ford play a happy Vermont couple whose perfect life is turned upside down after a student dies under mysterious circumstances at the college where Ford teaches.

Bio bits: Born April 29, 1958, in Santa Ana, California, her family ended up in Fountain Valley, where Michelle graduated from high school in 1976. After high school, she spent a year studying court reporting at Golden West College before deciding that wasn't for her, and also had a stint as a check-out girl at a supermarket. It was at that grocery store that she made a decision — time to try acting. She thought she'd draw attention by entering the Miss Orange County beauty pageant, and it worked. She not only won the competition, but soon landed an agent. One of her first film roles was Stephanie in 1982's bomb, *Grease 2*. But she soon rebounded with the plum part of Al Pacino's drug-addicted wife in 1983's *Scarface*, and her career took off from there. Unfortunately, a marriage to *thirtysomething* actor Peter Horton fizzled in the late Eighties, but her career picked up further momentum in

the Nineties with movies like *Batman Returns*, *Dangerous Minds* and *One Fine Day*. In 1993, Pfeiffer decided to adopt a daughter, Claudia Rose, and late that year married TV writer/producer David E. Kelley (*Ally McBeal*, *The Practice*), whom she met on a blind date. Kelley adopted Claudia and, a year later, Pfeiffer gave birth to their son, John Henry.

Sample roles: Katie in *The Story of Us* (1999), Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (1999), Melanie in *One Fine Day* (1996), Gillian in *To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday* (1996), Tally in *Up Close & Personal* (1996), Louanne in *Dangerous Minds* (1995), Ellen in *The Age of Innocence* (1994), Catwoman in *Batman Returns* (1992), Susie in *The Fabulous Baker Boys* (1989), Angela in *Married to the Mob* (1988), Madame De Tourvel in *Dangerous Liaisons* (1988), Sukie in *The Witches of Eastwick* (1987), Elvira in *Scarface* (1983), Stephanie Zinone in *Grease 2* (1982)

Love life: Married to actor Peter Horton from 1981 to 1989. • Dated Michael Keaton and John Malkovich briefly. • Had a three-year relationship with actor Fisher Stevens. • Has been married to TV-wizard David E. Kelley since 1993

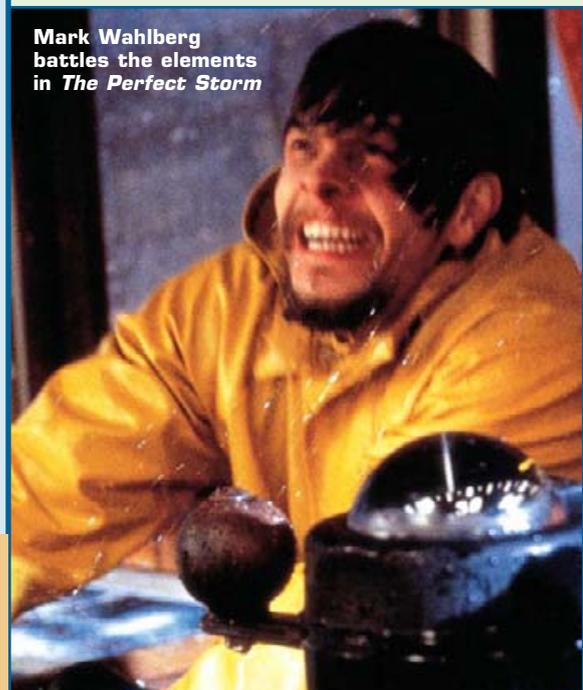
Awards: Nominated for a Best Actress Oscar in 1990 for *The Fabulous Baker Boys* and won the Golden Globe in that same category; nominated for Best Supporting Actress at the 1989 Oscars for *Dangerous Liaisons*; nominated for a Golden Globe in 1994 for Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture for *The Age of Innocence*; chosen by *People* magazine in 1999 as one of the 50 Most Beautiful People in the World.

On how having kids changed her: "I became less narcissistic, I think, and less obsessed with really trivial things and being alone or isolated. I tend to kind of isolate myself, so I can drive myself crazy with my own thoughts."
— *Mr. Showbiz*, December 1996

MARK WAHLBERG

Now appearing in... *The Perfect Storm*, in which he plays Bobby Shatford, a crew member of a swordfishing boat that gets stranded off the coast of Newfoundland. The movie was directed by Wolfgang Petersen (*Air Force One*) and also stars George Clooney, who appeared with Wahlberg in last year's *Three Kings*.

Bio bits: Born Mark Robert Michael Wahlberg on June 5, 1971, in Dorchester, Mass., a working-class suburb of Boston. His parents — Alma and Donald — were divorced by the time Mark was 11. The family's nine children had to cram into a three-bedroom apartment, and by 14 Mark had dropped out of high school and become involved with petty crime and drugs. At age 16, he was convicted of assaulting two Vietnamese men and spent 45 days in the Deer Island Penitentiary before being released for good behaviour. While in jail he began working out, and by the time he was released he was starting to look like the buff young man who would become rapper Marky Mark. Meanwhile, his older brother Donnie was becoming famous as part of the Eighties boy band, New Kids On The Block. Mark had been a member of the band early on, but quit because he was uncomfortable with their squeaky-clean image. Instead, he went off on his own and formed Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch. As the Calvin Klein undies-wearing Marky Mark, he released two successful albums — *Music for the People*



Mark Wahlberg battles the elements in *The Perfect Storm*

aring in...

FORM • SCARY MOVIE

and *You Gotta Believe* — but, plagued by rumours (which he denied) that he was a racist and a homophobe, Wahlberg's popularity declined. So he turned to acting. He got the role of Private Tommy Lee Hayward in Penny Marshall's *Renaissance Man* (1994), and then earned critical acclaim for playing Mickey in 1995's *The Basketball Diaries*. He now owns a house in the Hollywood Hills.

Breakthrough role: Sure he'd had a lead role in 1996's psychological thriller, *Fear*, but the only people who saw that movie were his left-over Marky Mark fans. It was as busboy turned porn star Dirk Diggler in Paul Thomas Anderson's *Boogie Nights* (1997) that Wahlberg earned the respect of critics and audience members alike. And then there was that one unforgettable part of his character — his 13-inch penis. Wahlberg says he had to drop his pants in front of about 25 makeup and special-effects people to be fitted for that famous prosthetic.

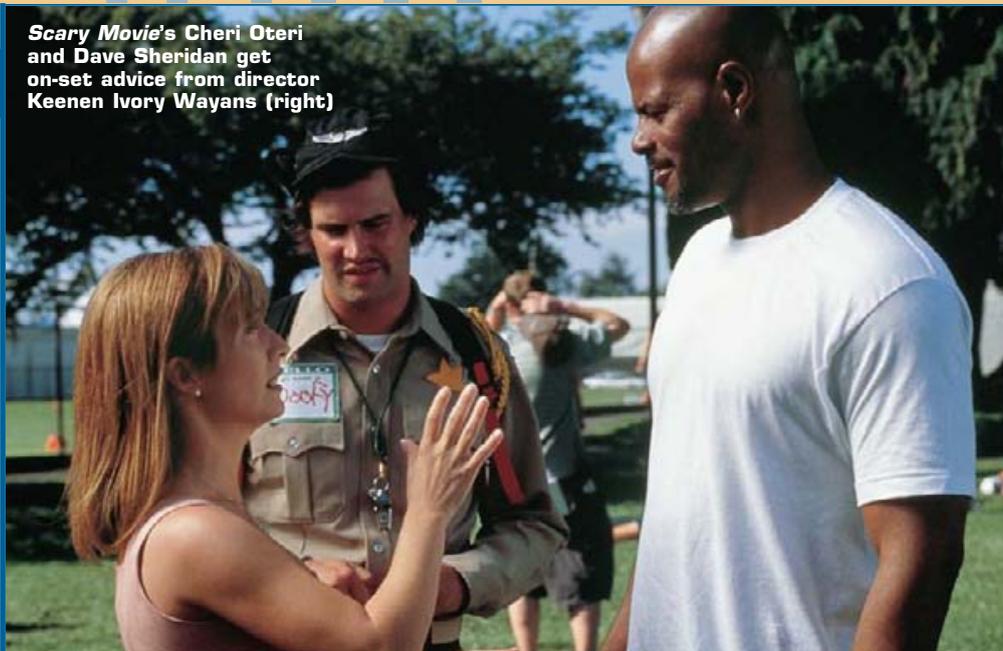
Sample roles: Troy Barlow in *Three Kings* (1999), Danny Wallace in *The Corruptor* (1999), Melvin Smiley in *The Big Hit* (1998), Eddie Adams/Dirk Diggler in *Boogie Nights* (1997), David McCall in *Fear* (1996), Mickey in *The Basketball Diaries* (1995), Private Hayward in *Renaissance Man* (1994)

Love life: Briefly dated actress China Chow, who appeared with him in *The Big Hit*. • Has been married to Jordanna Brewster since December 31, 1999

Interesting tidbits: He sometimes works out with actor Seth Green, but admits he's no longer in top shape since he abandoned music for acting. • There was a rumour that he once got into a fight with Madonna and her entourage. • Plans to return to rap music. • His hometown of Dorchester is only 64 kilometres from the town of Gloucester — the home of the character he plays in *Perfect Storm*.

On breaking a vow to himself: "When I decided I would give acting a try, I swore there were three things I'd never do in a film. I vowed I would never sing, dance or take my clothes off. In *Boogie Nights*, I did all three." — *The Calgary Sun*, September 1999

Scary Movie's Cheri Oteri and Dave Sheridan get on-set advice from director Keenen Ivory Wayans (right)



KEENEN IVORY WAYANS

Now appearing in... a cameo role in the horror-movie spoof *Scary Movie*. Although Wayans' role doesn't last more than 30 seconds, he also co-wrote and directed the hilarious slasher send-up. Keenen's acting brothers, Marlon and Shawn, appear in larger roles.

Bio bits: Born June 8, 1958, in New York, N.Y., Wayans attended Tuskegee Institute in Alabama, but — influenced by the likes of Richard Pryor — dropped out his senior year to pursue a career in comedy. He made guest appearances on shows like *Benson*, *Cheers*, *CHiPs* and *Hill Street Blues* in the Eighties. Then, in 1987, he did a sketch for Eddie Murphy's *Raw* and appeared in friend Robert Townsend's *Hollywood Shuffle*. The next year, he wrote and directed the hilarious satiric comedy *I'm Gonna Git You Sucka*, which starred his brothers Damon and Shawn. Soon after, the TV people at Fox came knocking. They were desperate to put together a quality "black show," and Keenen thought he had the perfect fit. He'd always wondered whether the sketches he and Townsend had written at Townsend's home 14 years earlier would translate well to TV. Fox liked the idea, so Keenen hipped it up by adding "The Fly Girls" (a team of very athletic dancers) and a DJ, and *In Living Color* was born. It lasted from 1990 to 1994 and had a cast that included Jim Carrey, Jamie Foxx, Chris Rock and Keenen's younger bros, Damon and Shawn Wayans.

Was in the news for: His late-night talk show, *The Keenen Ivory Wayans Show*, which he hosted and executive produced in 1997. It came out with a blast that August and was hyped as the next *Arsenio Hall Show*. But, plagued by competition from Magic Johnson's talk show, it never really got off the ground and was axed.

Sample roles: Sergeant James Dunn in *Most Wanted* (1997), Detective Jim Campbell in *The Glimmer Man* (1996), Shame in *A Low Down Dirty Shame* (1994), Jack in *I'm Gonna Git You Sucka* (1988), Donald/Jerry Curl in *Hollywood Shuffle*

Awards: In 1990, *In Living Color* won the Emmy Award for Outstanding Variety/Music/Comedy Series and the NAACP Image Award for Best Variety Show, while Keenen took home the American Black Achievement Award for Outstanding Creative Contribution to the Dramatic Arts. In 1991, the show won the People's Choice Award for Favorite New Television Comedy Series and tied with *The Simpsons* for the Nickelodeon Kid's Choice Award. That same year, Keenen took home the American Comedy Award for Funniest Lead Male Performer in a TV Series and won the Paul Miller Award for Directorial Achievement in a Musical/Variety Show at the Directors Guild Awards. At the 1992 PGA Golden Laurel Awards, Keenen won the Nova Award for Most Promising Producer in Television.



O Canada, WE SIT AND EAT POPCORN for Thee

In honour of Canada Day we asked 13 well-known Canadians to name their favourite home-grown film. Here's what they had to say



Laurie Brown

Host of Newsworld's *On the Arts*

Pick: *Hard Core Logo* (1996)

Director: Bruce McDonald

Stars: Callum Keith Rennie, Hugh Dillon

"*Hard Core Logo* is an extremely amusing and accurate portrayal of rock 'n' roll life. Director Bruce McDonald stylishly combines documentary and drama techniques to tell the story of a punk band that reunites for one last tour."

Ron MacLean

Host of CBC's *Hockey Night in Canada*

Pick: *Margaret's Museum* (1995)

Director: Mort Ransen

Stars: Helena Bonham Carter, Kenneth Welsh

"Why? It takes place in Glace Bay, Nova Scotia. My parents are Cape Bretoners and I spent time in Nova Scotia as a child. So, the scenery, photography and musical score [featuring The Rankins] all struck a familiar chord. The movie was big on soul, not big on glitz. And Kenneth Welsh [who plays Angus MacNeil, uncle to Bonham Carter's Margaret] is one of my favourite Canadian actors. Plus, there was that memorable ending!"

Evan Solomon

Host of Newsworld's *Hot Type*

Pick: *Thirty Two Short Films About Glenn Gould* (1993)

Director: François Girard

Stars: Colm Feore, Derek Keurvorst, Katya Ladan

"If originality, a compelling story, sophisticated writing and fine acting are any indication of a great film, this is a great film. Breaking the classic narrative structure, *Thirty Two Short Films* untangles the complex brilliance and mysterious life of one of Canada's greatest pianists, Glenn Gould, and it does so without talking down to the audience. Oh, and Colm Feore happens to be the most under-appreciated actor of his generation. Forget thumbs and stars, this is art."



Luc Robitaille

Left winger for the NHL's Los Angeles Kings

Pick: *Les Boys* (1997)

Director: Louis Saïa

Stars: Rémy Girard, Patrick Huard, Serge Thériault

"It's about hockey and a bunch of guys hanging out in a bar who played in a garage league. The hockey parts of the movie are the best. When they play against the toughest team in the league and they are scared and intimidated by them, it's pretty funny. But the whole movie is really, really funny. I guess that's why I liked it."



Mike Bullard

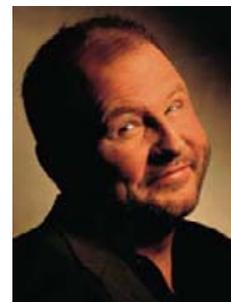
Host of The Comedy Network's *Open Mike*

Pick: *Dirty Harry* (1971) [ed.'s note: We know. You have to read his bit]

Director: Don Siegel

Stars: Clint Eastwood, Harry Guardino

"In order to choose a favourite amongst Canadian films, one must first pick criteria for determining what a Canadian film is. Is *Porky's* a Canadian film because it was written and directed by Canadian Bob Clark? Probably. How about *Meatballs*? Even though it starred Bill Murray, it was filmed in Northern Ontario and Canadian kids were cast as geeky campers. Harvey Atkin made an appearance as Morty, the head counsellor and, in my mind, if Harvey just walks into the neighbourhood where a film is being made that makes it Canadian. Well, last season on our [very Canadian] show we were treated to an appearance by Clint Eastwood's jazz musician son, Kyle. So, therefore, my favourite Canadian film is definitely *Dirty Harry*. And I know that you haven't asked but, using my methodology, my favourite Canadian television series would have to be *Bonanza*. Most of our camera and audio equipment comes from that set."



Hugh Dillon

Lead singer for the Headstones

Pick: *Hard Core Logo* (1996)

Director: Bruce McDonald

Stars: Callum Keith Rennie, Hugh Dillon

"Why: Because I'm in it. Plot: Rock 'n' roll and the human condition."





Carla Collins

Host of The Comedy Network's *Chez Carla* and CTV's *ENow!*

Pick: *Porky's*

Director: Bob Clark

Stars: Kim Cattrall, Dan Monahan

"This archetypal heartwarming and edgy coming-of-age dramedy revolves around a group of young men in their final year of high school who are on a quest to find true love. The deep and meaningful symbolism of every young man's struggle is simply, yet intelligently, represented by the alter ego characters of PeeWee, the meek and unpopular Christ-like figure, and Meat, the athletic angst-ridden Adonis. Also noteworthy is the commentary on gender division; cleverly depicted in the now-infamous "penis hanging through the shower wall" scene. Not since *Beowulf* have I discovered a better example of classic storytelling."

Peter Mansbridge

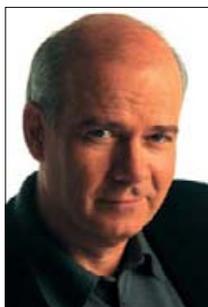
Chief Correspondent, CBC's National TV News

Pick: *The Sweet Hereafter*

Director: Atom Egoyan

Stars: Sarah Polley, Ian Holm, Maury Chaykin

"Well, of course, I love *Heavenly Bodies* [ed.'s note: He better — it stars his wife, Cynthia Dale], but my favourite is Atom Egoyan's *The Sweet Hereafter* — an astonishing adaptation of Russell Banks' extraordinary book. The subject matter — a bus accident that kills most of the children in a small village, heartache, incest — reads like a litany of horrors, but the film is actually filled with redemption, light and wonder."



Don Ferguson

Member of Air Farce comedy troupe

Pick: *Nobody Waved Goodbye* (1965)

Director: Don Owen

Stars: Peter Kastner, Julie Biggs

"Like its lead character, in 1964, I, too, was a confused teen alternately excited by and terrified of the adult world that I was on the brink of entering. I had never related to a film so strongly before. Shot in Toronto in 1964, in black and white with lots of ad-libbed scenes, it has a distinct guerilla feel. Using cinéma-vérité camera and lighting, the cast's improvised scenes absolutely breathe reality. *Nobody Waved Goodbye* was honest, rough at the edges and living proof that we could make good movies without spending a fortune."

Maria Topalovich

President and CEO of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television

Pick: *Les Bons Débarras* [aka *Good Riddance*] (1980)

Director: Francis Mankiewicz

Stars: Charlotte Laurier, Marie Tifo

"Personally, I have developed a long list of favourite Canadian films over the years. However, one hidden gem worth seeking out is *Les Bons Débarras*, Francis Mankiewicz's celebrated classic about a young girl who is obsessed with obtaining her mother's absolute love. It swept the 1981 Genie Awards, winning eight, including Best Film. A gothic tale of passion, jealousy and the ruthlessness of youthful love, the film transcends the daily lives of the people portrayed and the tragic events that befall them by presenting poetic and, at times, epic insights into human nature."



Jonathan Torrens

Host of CBC's *Jonovision*

Pick: *Meatballs* (1979)

Director: Ivan Reitman

Stars: Bill Murray, Chris Makepeace, Harvey Atkin

"Once in a lifetime, a motion picture so powerful enters the realm of public consciousness, it forever alters the standard for those who attempt to create films in its wake. From deliciously subtle dialogue, to performances so complex in nature they'll leave your head spinning, this work is truly a cinematic gem. Helmed by the visionary Ivan Reitman, and set against the backdrop of Canada's vast and breathtakingly beautiful wilderness, it also boasts an unforgettable star turn by a young Bill Murray. This film is a triumph of the human spirit! It'll make you stand up and cheer! Run, don't walk, to rent this movie. It's called *MEATBALLS*."

Patricia Rozema

Director of *I've Heard the Mermaids Singing* and *Mansfield Park*

Pick: *Les Bons Débarras* [aka *Good Riddance*] (1980)

Director: Francis Mankiewicz

Stars: Charlotte Laurier, Marie Tifo

"*Les Bons Débarras* is still my favourite film because of Charlotte Laurier's shockingly intense performance. The relationships couldn't be farther from cliché and yet no one is treated as a freak. Subtle, beautiful and strange."



John Greyson

Director of *Uncut*, *Zero Patience* and the Genie-winning *Lilies*

Pick: *Nô* (1998)

Director: Robert Lepage

Stars: Anne-Marie Cadieux, Alexis Martin

"Usually, the more clever the film, the more cool and distanced. *Nô* is the opposite: I can't think of a cleverer film that's also so warm, so wryly passionate. This partial adaptation of Lepage's play, *The Seven Streams of the River Ota*, is his evocative response to the enduring question of Quebec separatism. A brilliant marriage of radical form and heartfelt content, it's bursting with his trademark visual puns and sly theatrical sensibility. Our hapless hero is part of an FLQ underground sect who's preparing for a bombing. At the same time, she's an actress in a French bedroom farce, representing Canada at the Osaka World Fair. *Nô* is an exquisitely crafted cabinet of wonders, where clocks become bombs, 'non' becomes 'oui' and the flash of a photo-booth becomes the bomb that obliterated Hiroshima."

GENIE WINNERS

HERE ARE THE CANADIAN FILMS THE GENIES CHOSE AS THE BEST OF THE PAST TWO DECADES

- 1999 *The Five Senses*
- 1998 *The Red Violin*
- 1997 *The Sweet Hereafter*
- 1996 *Lilies*
- 1995 *Le Confessionnal*
- 1994 *Exotica*
- 1993 *Thirty Two Short Films About Glenn Gould*
- 1992 *Naked Lunch*
- 1991 *Black Robe*
- 1990 *Jésus de Montréal*
- 1989 *Dead Ringers*
- 1988 *Un Zoo la Nuit*
- 1987 *Le Déclin de l'Empire Américain*
- 1986 *My American Cousin*
- 1985 *The Bay Boy*
- 1984 *The Terry Fox Story*
- 1983 *The Grey Fox*
- 1982 *Ticket to Heaven*
- 1981 *Les Bons Débarras*
- 1980 *The Changeling*

getting to know MEL

Mel Gibson has flourished in Hollywood for 20 years, in part, because he's so good at keeping his public and private lives separate. David Giammarco attempts to delve behind Gibson's gregarious public persona, and discover why he was so compelled to do *The Patriot*

It isn't easy for Mel Gibson to talk about himself. In fact, it's downright painful. Having his wisdom teeth extracted sans anesthesia would probably be more pleasurable, for him, than having to bare his soul. He fidgets, squirms and deflects from any self-revelation with relentless puns and double entendres straight out of a Friars Club Roast handbook.

In a profession overrun with babbling egos and pompous dissertations, Gibson clams up like a mobster on trial. This canary don't sing. Instead, he prefers the tune of court jester, welcoming you to his world with juvenile jokes and schoolboy shenanigans. It isn't always enlightening, but it's one helluva show.

Of course, you can't fault the guy for bobbing and weaving in interviews. The 44-year-old actor has reluctantly reigned as El Presidente of Hollywood Hunks for 20 years now, with his every move hyped, dissected, scrutinized and photographed under the white-hot media spotlight. Many actors eventually crumble under the weight of megastardom and, early on, Gibson certainly did have bouts with alcohol and anger — problems which peaked with his 1984 arrest for drunk driving while in Toronto shooting *Mrs. Soffel*. But to endure the lifestyle pretty much unscathed for two decades, with a family of seven kids and marriage of 20 years still intact, is a trick that would stump even Houdini.

"I just think you get to a stage where you've done just as many dumb things as you can get caught for, and it's just a question of, Why

bother? It's like more trouble than it's worth," Gibson says, stretching his five-foot-ten frame out on a Los Angeles hotel suite sofa.

For Gibson, the only way to maintain some semblance of a personal life is simply to stay as far as possible from the Hollywood publicity machine. Although they have a beach house in Malibu, the Gibson family spends most of the year at their isolated 800-acre ranch in Australia or their 77-acre property in Connecticut. And the actor rarely discusses his wife, Robyn, and kids (ranging in age from one to 18), explaining that "just because I'm in this business doesn't mean my family has to be. I have to protect them. They didn't choose this life..."

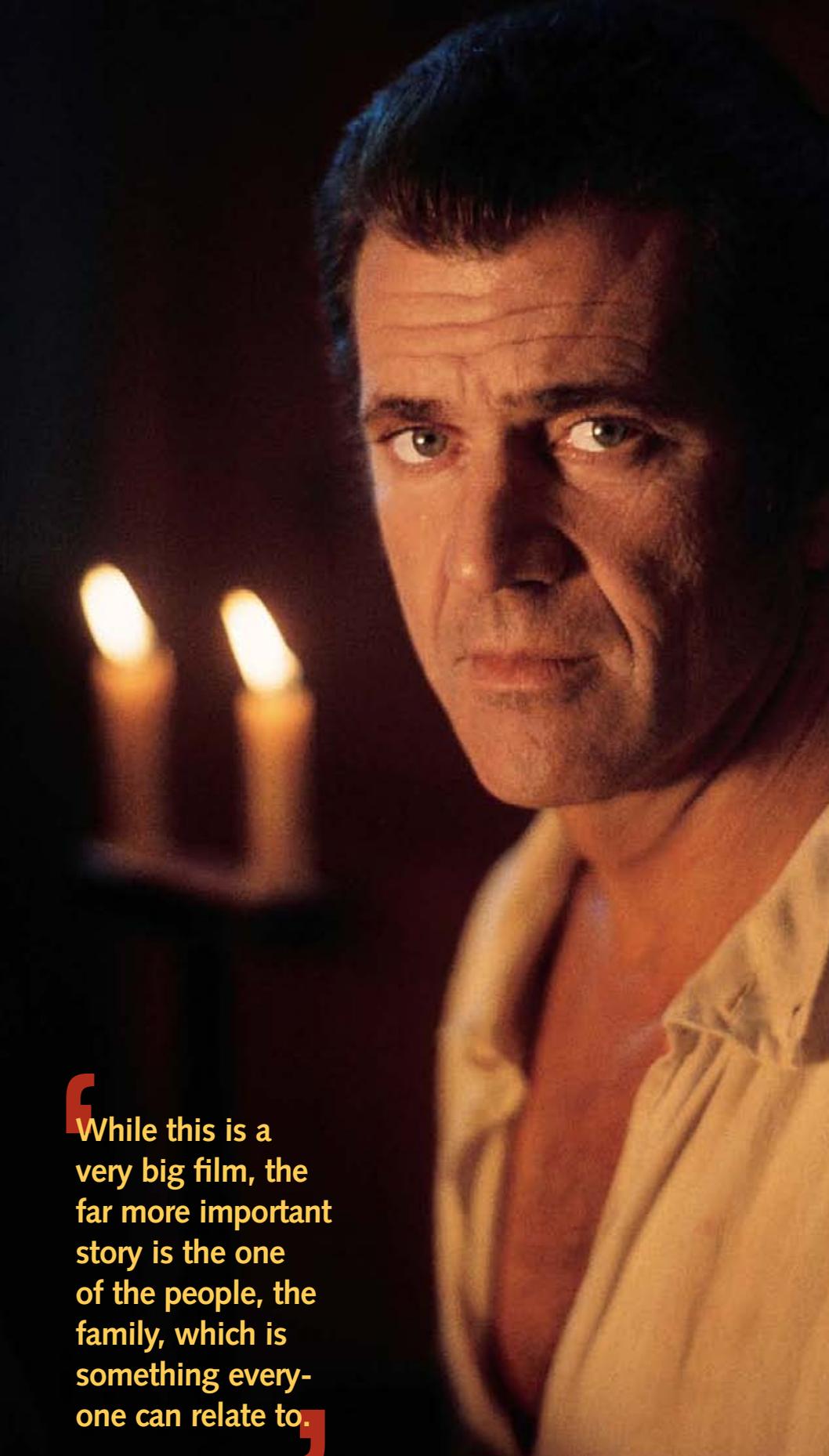
"I mean, for me, anonymity left a long time ago. That's something you have to live with. It kinda sounds like I have lupus or something," he adds with a deep, guttural laugh.

Spend enough time with Gibson and he'll eventually drop the self-effacing humour for some brief, fleeting glimpses into what makes him tick. "There's a lot of laughs and a lot of joy in having a large family," offers Gibson, who himself is the sixth child in a family of 11 kids. "I do my damndest to be a good dad. I don't always know what the hell I'm doing, but I figure somewhere between number one and number seven I must have learned a few things."

Preservation of family is also the dominant theme in Gibson's new movie, *The Patriot*. Once again he plays an intensely manic character, not unlike the kind he perfected in *Mad Max* (1979), *Ransom* (1996), *Payback* (1999) and, of course, the *Lethal Weapon* franchise. This time, he's



Mel Gibson makes a stand in *The Patriot*



While this is a very big film, the far more important story is the one of the people, the family, which is something everyone can relate to.

Benjamin Martin, a hero of the fierce French and Indian Wars, who has renounced fighting forever and simply wants to raise his family in peace. But his eldest son (played by Heath Ledger of *10 Things I Hate About You*) has other ideas. It's South Carolina, circa 1776, and the brewing American Revolution sucks in the naive and idealistic young soldier — against the adamant protests of his father. When his son gets captured, Benjamin is forced to come to his rescue and, rather reluctantly, takes up arms against the English army as the leader of a rebel militia.

"You can draw comparisons to other characters Mel's played," admits director Roland Emmerich (*Independence Day*, *Godzilla*), "but this one is a lot more layered because he's someone who's constantly trying to run away from what he has to do. It's the struggle of a family man, and family is so important to Mel... he was able to tap into some very deep places."

Gibson says Benjamin Martin is exactly the type of conflicted and reluctant screen hero that moves him. "This kind of story has been told since people have been dwelling in caves and painting pictures. I think it's that combination of the ordinary and the divine that inspires us and makes something really hit home.

"I mean, I've seen the epics, and some of them don't touch you on an emotional or human level at all," he adds, "and while this is a very big film, the far more important story is the one of the people, the family, which is something everyone can relate to. If that works, you can have as many cannon blasts as you like because then they mean something."

With more than \$1-billion worth of box office receipts to his name and Best Director and Best Picture Oscars for his 13th century Scottish epic *Braveheart* (1995), Gibson's career has been as successful as it has been diverse, which is amazing considering he entered show business quite by accident. He had jobs bagging groceries at a supermarket, frying poultry at Kentucky Fried Chicken and promoting a fast-food hamburger joint by dressing up in a giant bunny costume before his sister secretly sent an application, in his name, to the National Institute of Dramatic Arts in Sydney. Gibson reluctantly auditioned, never having considered an acting career while growing up in Australia — he figured he'd become either a chef or a journalist. He was highly skeptical of these serious drama purists. "They made me do all these silly things — improvise, sing, dance. And I got in," he recalls with a laugh. "I guess they saw something raw in me." When the auditioning committee asked him why he wanted to become an actor, he replied, "I've been goofing off all my life. I thought I might as well get paid for that." ▶▶

►► Gibson made his film debut in a forgettable 1977 Australian surfing movie called *Summer City*, but it would be by battling post-apocalyptic pirates two years later in George Miller's gritty, low-budget cult film, *Mad Max*, that he would get his big break. He had arrived at the audition with a badly cut and bruised face after being involved in a barroom brawl the night before, and the casting director took one look at him and knew they had found their embattled hero. *Mad Max* became the highest grossing Australian film to that point, pulling in more than \$100-million worldwide.

Two *Mad Max* sequels, *The Year Of Living Dangerously* (1982), *The Bounty* (1984), *The River* (1984) and *Mrs. Soffel* (1984), followed in quick succession. Then, after a year-long break, Gibson did *Lethal Weapon* (1987) which earned \$175-million at the box office and put him in Hollywood's highest earning bracket. The three *Lethal Weapon* sequels that followed became the highest-grossing franchise in history and afforded Gibson the chance to do smaller, more personal films like *Tequila Sunrise* (1988), *Forever Young* (1992) and *Hamlet* (1990).

In 1989, Gibson formed his own production company, Icon Films, which has produced *Braveheart*, *Maverick*, *Immortal Beloved*, *Payback* and Atom Egoyan's acclaimed *Felicia's Journey*. Icon currently has a dozen projects in development, some of which Gibson will star in, some of which he'll direct. "But I won't star in many movies I direct because doing both literally kills you. It's too hard," says Gibson, who did exactly that for *The Man Without A Face* (1993) and *Braveheart*.

Gibson is pining to direct his vision of *Fahrenheit 451*, Ray Bradbury's sci-fi tale

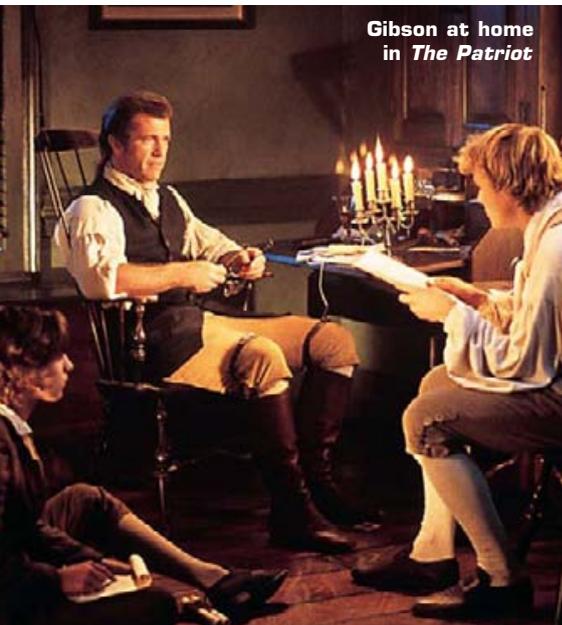
about a book-burning society. "The Truffaut version [released in 1967 with Julie Christie and Oskar Werner] was pretty dull," Gibson says. "And I don't think that it should be. It should be really frightening and paranoid and funny. We've adapted it with this really cool screenwriter, Terry Hayes, who did *Road Warrior*. We departed from the book a long way and went to the year 2035."

Gibson plans *Fahrenheit 451* to be an epic on the scale of *Braveheart*, but says he doesn't feel any pressure to top himself, despite his Oscar wins. "That kind of expectation is something that can get you into trouble," he explains, "because you're emphasizing the wrong aspect of what you should be doing. You should just do the best you can with it, without trying to one-up yourself. You've got to be prepared to fail."

Gibson pauses, and then adds, "I remember being in an acting class years ago, and the guy was saying, 'I want you to do this particular exercise.' I told him I wasn't going to do it because it's not going to work. And he chided me for being cowardly. And I never forgot that, 'cause he was right. I was just scared to do it because I thought it wasn't going to work. But that's not the purpose. The purpose is to try it. To try and make it work. And, if it fails, well, okay, you learned something from it."

Fortunately, Gibson's failures have been few and far between. **F**

David Giammarco is an entertainment journalist based in Toronto.



Gibson at home in *The Patriot*

famous trivia

1

Jimmy Smits, star of *Bless the Child*, is best-known as Detective Bobby Simone from *NYPD Blue*. But in the Eighties, he starred in another acclaimed TV drama. Name it.

2

Halle Berry who appears in *X-Men* opposite Patrick Stewart, was once married to a well-known major league baseball player. Name him, and the team he plays for.

3

Mena Suvari, who co-stars in this month's *Loser* with Jason Biggs and Greg Kinnear, appeared in two movies last year with "American" in the title. Name them.



4

Canadian actress Wendy Crewson appears with Harrison Ford and Michelle Pfeiffer in this month's *What Lies Beneath*. In which other movie did she share the screen with Ford? Clue: It involved a plane and a president.

5

Keenen Ivory Wayans, who directed this month's *Scary Movie*, was the creator of *In Living Color*, a sketch comedy show that starred which now-famous Canadian?

6

Chris Rock, who stars in the upcoming *I Was Made to Love Her*, had a bit part as a rib joint customer in which 1988 flick by Keenen Ivory Wayans?

7

Josh Brolin appears in the thriller *The Hollow Man* with Kevin Bacon and Elisabeth Shue. Who is his famous father, and the even more famous woman Dad is married to?

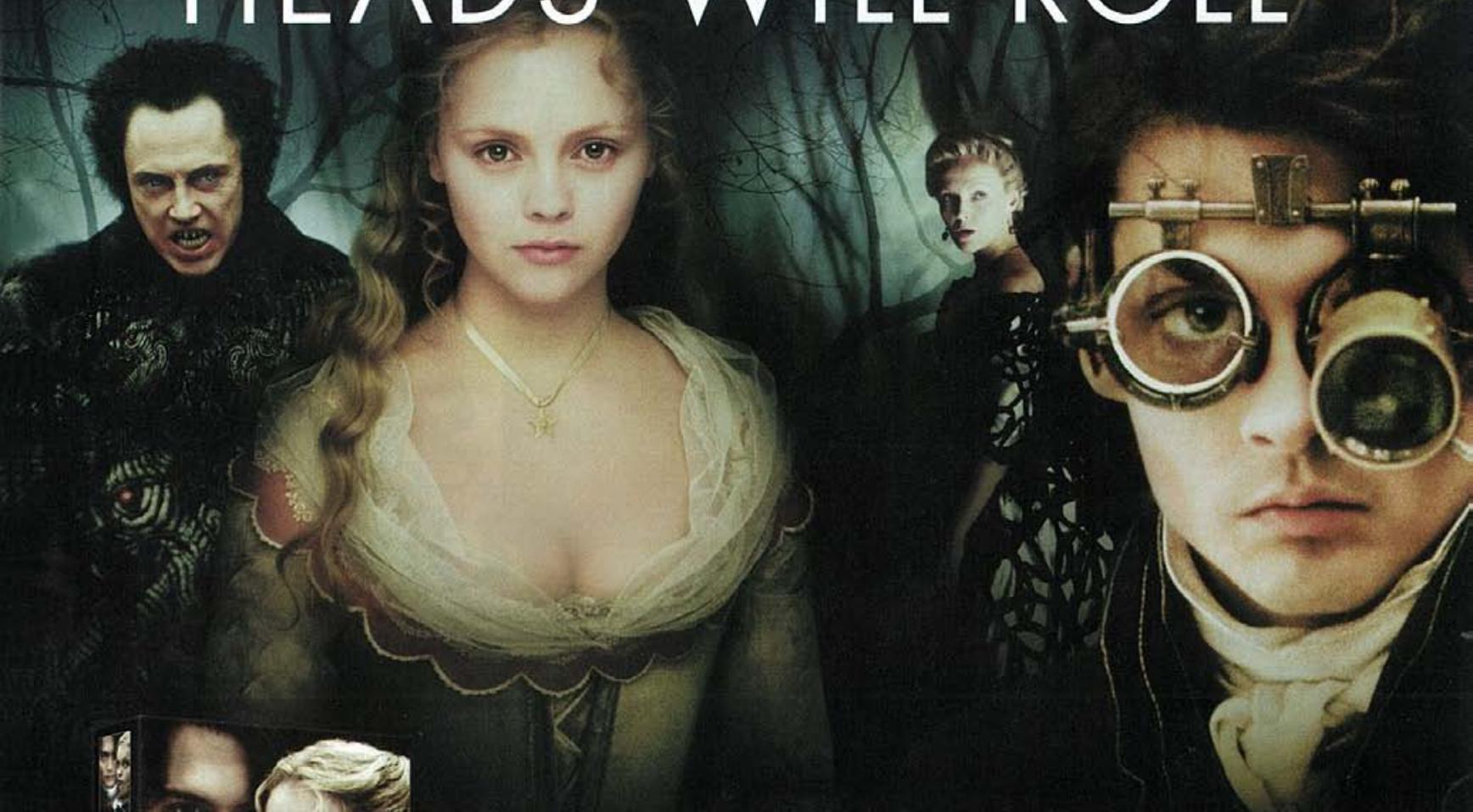
8

Matt Damon will soon appear in *Legend of Bagger Vance* with Charlize Theron, who recently starred with his best bud Ben Affleck in a crime caper. Name that caper.

ANSWERS

- 1) L.A. Law
2) David Justice, Cleveland
3) American Pie, American Beauty
4) Air Force One
5) Jim Carrey
6) I'm Gonna Get You Sucka
7) James Brolin and Barbara Streisand
8) Reindeer Games

HEADS WILL ROLL

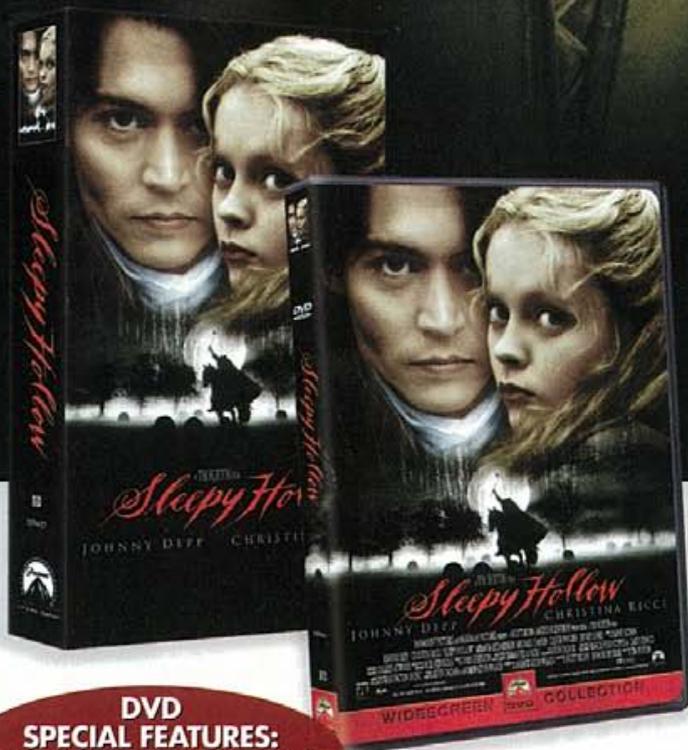


"'Sleepy Hollow' is a marvel:
bold, exciting and full of visions."

Jeff Giles, NEWSWEEK

"...An American Classic."

Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA



**DVD
SPECIAL FEATURES:**

- Director's Commentary with Tim Burton
- Behind-The-Scenes Featurette
- Cast & Crew Interviews

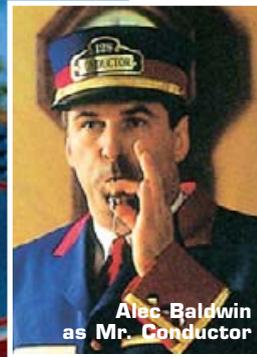
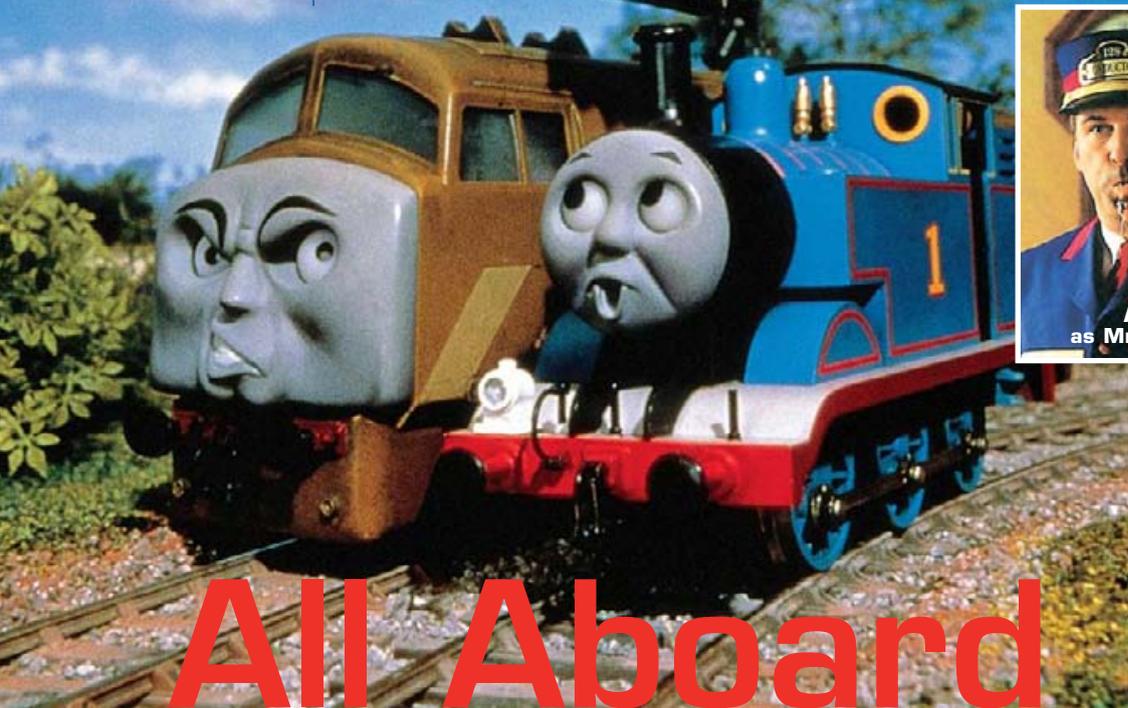
SLEEPY HOLLOW
RENT IT TODAY. ALSO AVAILABLE ON DVD.

GUARANTEED
For Rent at 

www.paramount.com/homevideo

Availability subject to change without notice. Guarantee applies to VHS format only. Available at all BLOCKBUSTER® locations across Canada. Selection may vary. BLOCKBUSTER name, design and related marks are trademarks of Blockbuster Inc. © 2000 Blockbuster Inc. All rights reserved. Copyright © 1999 by Paramount Pictures and Mandaly Pictures LLC. Paramount Logo ® is a registered trademark of Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved.





October and *Ghosts of Mississippi*, is not the first celebrity to don Mr. Conductor's uniform. Former-Beatle Ringo Starr first played him on TV, and was later replaced by comedian George Carlin. "But I think that Alec, in particular, was a choice that was sort of thought-provoking because people have seen him in so many Hollywood

hunk roles and as macho figures," Allcroft says. "But he's a brilliant actor and there's a whole other side to him which is playful, extremely intelligent and can be very vulnerable too.

"And I'd always seen the character of Burnett Stone as someone who's not the typical grandfather figure, but very active and glamorous and a hero, too. And Peter fits the bill," she says.

Committing this fantastical journey to film was a journey in itself. Shooting started last summer on the Isle of Man in the middle of the Irish Sea — a locale that stood in as the town of Shining Time. "We had a location that was halfway up a mountain and the only way we could get there was by walking down the mountain and carting all the camera equipment," Allcroft recalls. Then the operation moved to Pennsylvania to shoot more scenes in Shining Time. And, finally, the cast and crew landed in Toronto where they built the Island of Sodor on a couple of soundstages and took advantage of Toronto's downtown core to create The Big City, where one of the most magical scenes was shot on Front St., just beside the historic Flat Iron Building.

"I was really happy because when we were filming the scene in The Big City it rained, which lent a certain look to the scene that I wouldn't have had if folks hadn't had umbrellas up," Allcroft explains. "The car headlights were giving these wonderful reflections on the rainy street and I wanted to make the most of that. So the storyteller says, 'Lily lives in the big city and sees magical things that no one else has time to.' The idea is that for a kid who doesn't get to go to the countryside, there are things around all the time that can be magical. In this case, it was just because of a combination of cars and nature."

Allcroft loves the fact that, for many kids, this movie will mark their first trip to the theatre. "In television, however good you make it, the reality is people can switch channels, go into the other room or turn it off. But with a movie, they go into that cinema, the lights go down, and there is this incredible world to go into — this wonderful illusion. And they're going to have that experience for one hour and 20 minutes so you've just got to transport them because you don't want them to leave," Allcroft says. "Hopefully, nature won't call them out."

—Marni Weisz

Britt Allcroft brings Thomas to the big screen. Alec Baldwin and Peter Fonda come along for the ride

a kids' movie about a talking train, a little girl and a magical conductor who lives in a wall and travels around in a puff of gold dust? It doesn't sound like a project that would attract the likes of Alec Baldwin and Peter Fonda. But, then, this is Thomas the Tank Engine, a talking train who is the star of his own wildly successful TV show, and who, to a six-year-old, is a far bigger star than Julia Roberts, Mel Gibson or even Jim Carrey.

"Certainly, Alec's little girl, Ireland, introduced him to Thomas," says Britt Allcroft who wrote, directed and produced the new \$20-million big screen adventure, *Thomas and the Magic Railroad*. "Basically, at one point in time, it was all she wanted to watch." Allcroft, a native of Sussex, England, who now calls Santa Monica home, is sitting in the Toronto production office where her celluloid baby's special effects are being tweaked, dialogue and music are being added and the rough edges are being sanded down. "I know both Alec and Peter had been interested in being in a film for young audiences," she adds, "and I think when they read the script, they felt the story had substance."

That story revolves around a little girl from The Big City named Lily (Mara Wilson from *Matilda*) who sets off to visit her lonely grandfather, Burnett Stone, played by *Easy Rider*'s Fonda. But Lily gets on the wrong train and ends up in the town of Shining Time where she meets Mr. Conductor (Baldwin) and embarks

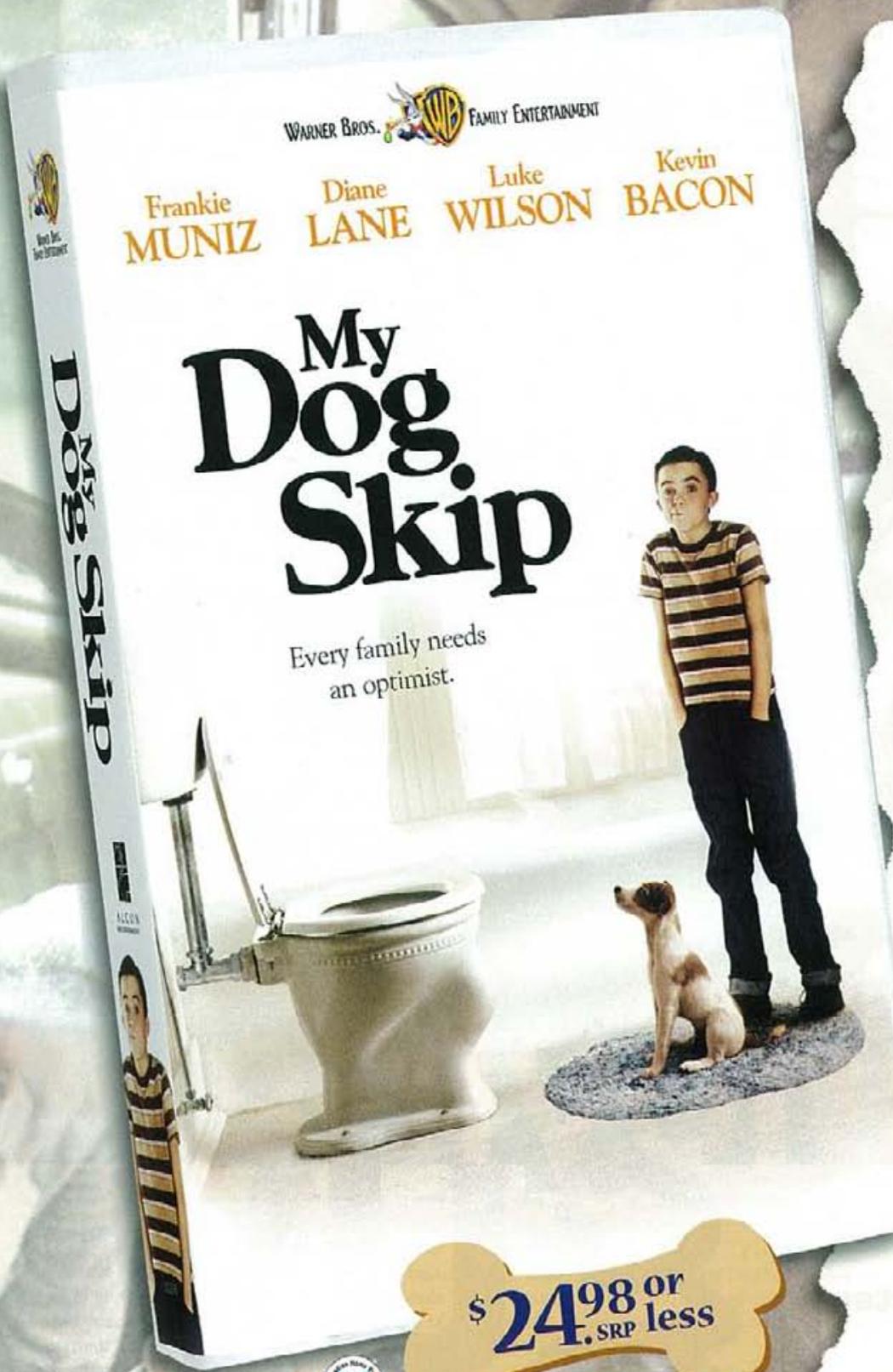


with him on a trip to the Island of Sodor, which is populated by toys, including Thomas the Tank Engine.

Allcroft's real-life magic journey with Thomas began in 1979 when, while researching a documentary about steam engines, she discovered a series of children's books about a talking train that had been written by Rev. Wilbert Awdry in the Forties. "I then spent four years raising the money and putting the team together to bring these stories to life," she says. In 1984, Thomas made his television debut on ITV in the UK as the central character on *Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends*, and then in 1989 on PBS in North America as the star of *Shining Time Station*. He's since starred in 130 TV shows and built up enough of an identity to attract big-name talent.

Of course, Baldwin, star of *The Hunt for Red*

CRITICS ARE WAGGING THEIR TAILS!



Last year, when the movie was being filmed in Mississippi, Willie invited me to come to the set. I told myself it was something I should do, but, as usual, there were more pressing matters.

"Two Thumbs up."

-Roger Ebert and Richard Ruper, Roger Ebert® and the Movies

Willie died on Aug. 2, three days after a private screening in New York. The day after his death, I received in the mail a note from him. "A wonderful movie," he said. "You'd better take every Little Leaguer in Charlottesville to see it."

"You'll fall in puppy love with this literate, family friendly and exquisitely evocative Boy and his dog story."

-Michael D. Reid, Victoria Times Colonist

It is indeed a wonderful movie. I saw it on a Saturday morning, and I cannot remember the last time I cried on a Saturday morning. It beautifully reflects life in a small town in the South during the Second World War, and it captures the spirit of Willie and Skip.

"The best family film of the century. It will have you sitting up and begging for more."

-Joel Siegel, Good Morning America

The movie is funny because Willie Morris had great love of humor. It is possible that most of his childhood anecdotes were true, but I wouldn't bet on it. In many ways he never grew up; he was always a kid in Yazoo City.

And the movie is sad because it's a story of lost youth, of a boy growing up and leaving home. It's also sad because Willie died before he should have.

Because of his love for his dog Skip, he left us a treasure, a story that will make you long for your childhood.

\$24.98 or less
SRP

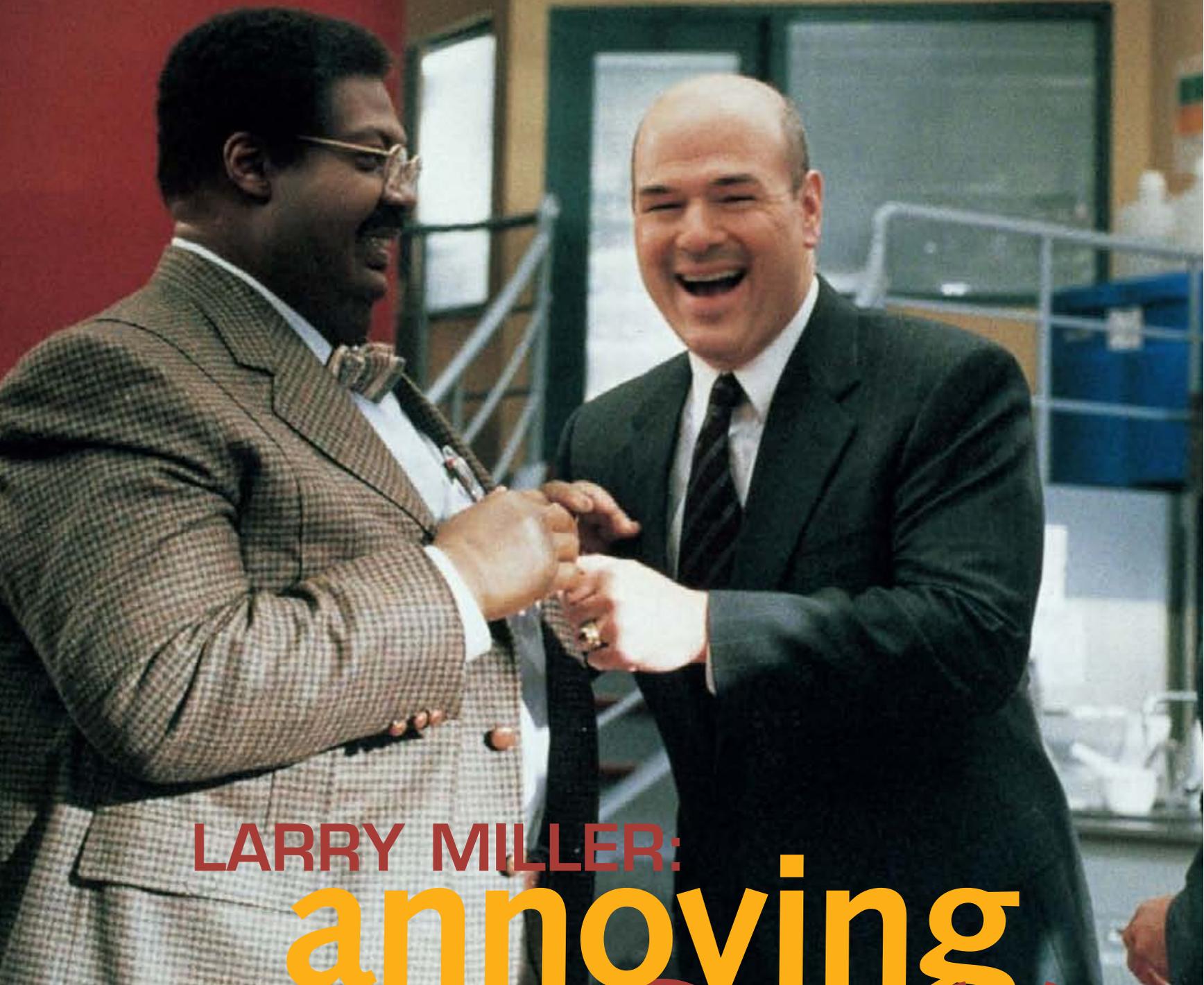


For sale on videocassette & **DVD**

July 11, 2000



© 2000 Warner Home Video. All rights reserved.



LARRY MILLER:

annoying

guy

**The ubiquitous
comedian tackles
another of the characters
he does best in
*Nutty Professor II:
The Klumps***



Eddie Murphy (left) and Larry Miller share a laugh in *Nuttty Professor II: The Klumps*. Janet Jackson looks on

Chances are, you first saw Larry Miller as the smarmy sales attendant who caters to Julia Roberts' whims at a swank Rodeo Drive boutique in *Pretty Woman* (1990). It was a role that made his round face and biting sense of humour familiar across North America. But this hard-working comedian has been around a lot longer than that. His career started at The Comic Strip in his native New York City in the late Seventies where he palled around

with a stellar gang of young comedians that included Jerry Seinfeld. That's also where he first met a young comic named Eddie Murphy.

Now Miller reprises his role as stingy Dean Richmond in *The Nutty Professor II: The Klumps*, Murphy's follow-up to the \$128-million grossing 1996 remake of the Jerry Lewis classic. Once again, Murphy plays seven different characters, including the hefty Professor Sherman Klump and his svelte alter ego, Buddy Love.

Although the 46-year-old Miller might not have Murphy's notoriety, he has appeared in 24 movies in the last 10 years, including *The Big Tease*, *Runaway Bride* and *10 Things I Hate About You* in 1999 alone. He has also made guest appearances on TV's *Seinfeld*, *Mad About You*, *Just Shoot Me*, *3rd Rock From The Sun*, and *The Larry Sanders Show* (as himself, of course). Now Miller is trying to make the jump into screenwriting, as well, and has an office on the Universal Studios lot just a couple hundred metres from where *Nuttty II* was filmed last winter. That's where he was when he took a break from a new project (a comedy that will take place in New York) to call Famous and chat about *Nuttty II* and his career.

ON NUTTY II'S PREMISE "It involves a new youth formula created by Professor Sherman Klump. Janet Jackson plays the love interest. Then, Sherman's alter ego, Buddy Love, comes back with darker designs on the formula. [Chuckles.] I'm chuckling because when you say it out loud it really sounds perfectly ridiculous — as it should, by the way. But you have to have suspension of disbelief. Once you make the buy, it's like, Okay, now let's see how well it's done."

ON HIS ROLE "The Dean thinks he can make money off Klump's ideas in the beginning, so he's very receptive. Then the idea goes a little haywire so he gets very mad at Klump. I've taken to saying it's another in a series of annoying characters. And that's okay... I've got a lot of parts that were the annoying brother-in-law, or the boss or the foil who's trying to get everyone fired. But, to me, that's just been fodder for what I hope is some good comedy."

ON HIS STAND-UP DAYS AND MEETING EDDIE MURPHY "My graduating class from The Comic Strip in New York was pretty good. It

was Jerry Seinfeld, Paul Reiser, Carol Leifer and me. That was our general little circle. There was also Bill Maher and Larry Davidson. But there were some good comedy clubs in Long Island, too, and Eddie was working there. He came to The Comic Strip for a comedy competition — "The Big Laugh Off" on Showtime. He was terrific then, one of the finest, and the folks at The Comic Strip began to manage him. And very shortly after that he got *Saturday Night Live*. That would have been around 1980."

"I've taken to saying it's another in a series of annoying characters. And that's okay... to me, that's just been fodder for what I hope is some good comedy."

ON MURPHY'S PERFORMANCE IN NUTTY II

"What Eddie Murphy goes through for this part is unbelievable. That fat suit is four hours in and two hours out every day. They have huge fans blowing air on him and he's still really hot. But the level of composure he had — he was as serene as Gandhi. Usually I'm not a fan of prosthetics. I wanna say, Look you're supposed to be an old guy, just put some baby powder in your hair. But these prosthetics are so incredible that I, no kidding, was uncomfortable chatting with just Eddie without the Klump suit on. I'd spent so much time with him as Klump — and I'm telling you, that physical presence is a person — that when he'd come out as himself it was jarring to me because I thought, This voice can't come from this muscular body; it's gotta come from this other guy. Not many folks know this, but Jack Nicholson won the Oscar for Best Actor in 1997 [for *As Good As It Gets*], and in his interview backstage after the show he said, 'This is all very nice, but Eddie Murphy should have won the award this year for *Nuttty Professor*.' It's not only astonishing acting, playing a variety of characters, but he manages real warmth and poignancy."

ON STILL BEING RECOGNIZED MOST OFTEN FOR PRETTY WOMAN

"I ought to be horse-whipped if I ever complained. If you do one part that's a little larger than others in people's memory, or that folks really responded to... oh, come on, that's terrific. I think that was a great movie and it was my first chance to do a little comedy dance-step. You know what — any performer who lets his needs or ego get in the way of the people he's supposed to be entertaining expressing their pure pleasure is a real muttonhead."

—Marni Weisz

X-MEN

WWW.X-MEN-THE-MOVIE.COM

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS IN ASSOCIATION WITH MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP THE DONNERS' COMPANY/BAD HAT HARRY PRODUCTION A BRYAN SINGER FILM "X-MEN"

PATRICK STEWART HUGH JACKMAN IAN MCKELLEN HALLE BERRY FAMKE JANSSEN JAMES MARSDEN BRUCE DAVIDSON REBECCA ROMJIN-STAMOS RAY PARK AND ANNA PAQUIN

MUSIC BY MICHAEL KAMEN SPECIAL MAKEUP DESIGNER GORDON SMITH VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR MICHAEL FINK CO-PRODUCERS JOEL SIMON AND WILLIAM S. TODMAN, JR. FILM EDITORS STEVEN ROSENBLUM JOHN WRIGHT, A.C.E. PRODUCTION DESIGNER JOHN MYHRE

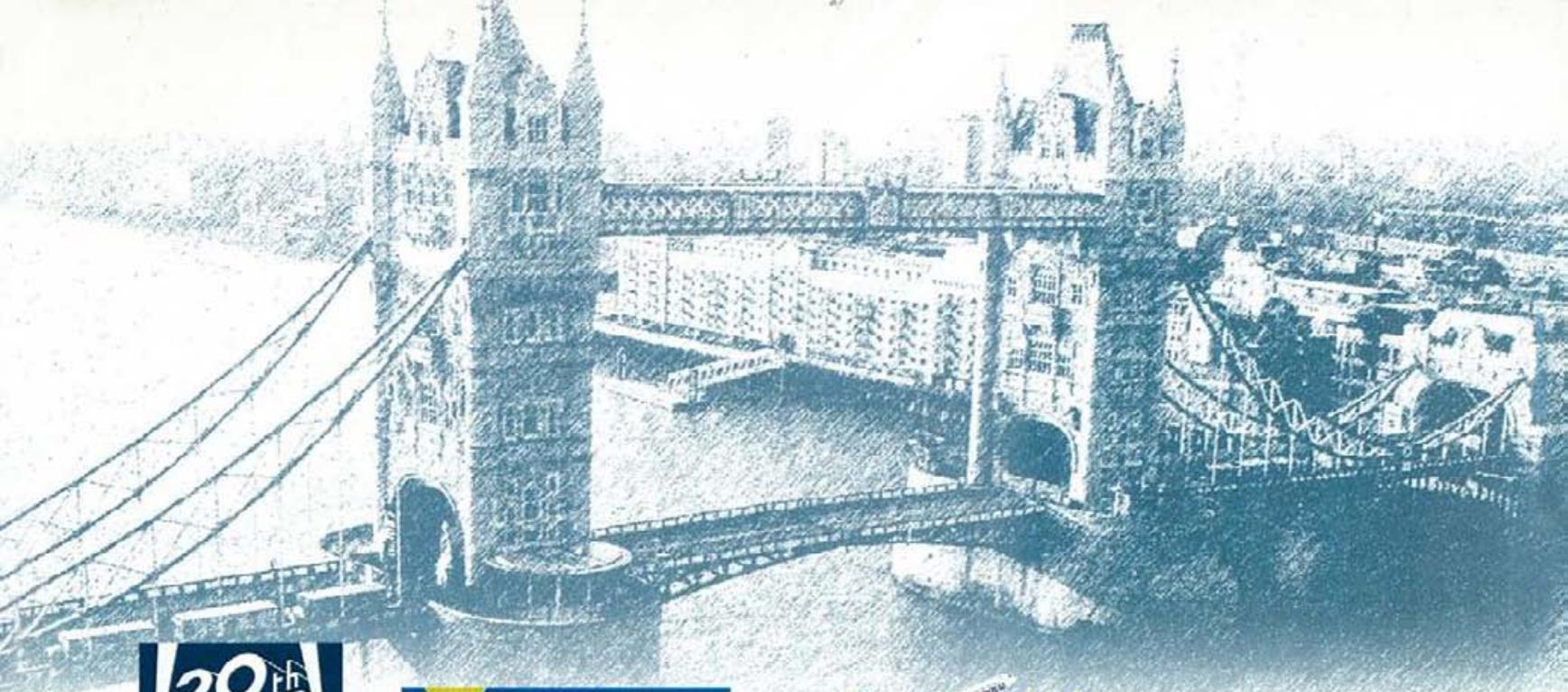
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY NEWTON THOMAS SIGEL EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS AVI ARAD STAN LEE RICHARD DONNER TOM D'SANTO WRITTEN BY CHRISTOPHER McQUARRIE AND ED SOLOMON PRODUCED BY LAUREN SHULER DONNER RALPH WINTER

MARVEL A NEW CHARACTER INTRODUCED IN © 2000 MARVEL CHARACTERS, INC. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. DIRECTED BY BRYAN SINGER

JULY 14

DOLBY DIGITAL IN SELECT THEATRES

20th CENTURY FOX



WANT TO SEND YOU AND A GUEST TO LONDON, ENGLAND!



Win a Signature Vacations 7-night air and hotel package for 2 to London, and stay at the Comfort Inn Kensington.

Enter by naming the two Shakespearean actors pictured here, who face off against each other as Professor Charles Xavier and Magneto in the new X-MEN movie.

X-MEN OPENS IN THEATRES JULY 14

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Terms for Winners: When winner books with SIGNATURE VACATIONS they agree to all General Rules listed below in addition to those reflected in Terms & Conditions outlined in our Britain & Europe brochure.

*Travel to be taken between May 01, 2001 — October 15, 2001. Confirmed space based on availability at time of booking. • Winner must be able to depart from Toronto's Pearson International Airport. Any Costs to get Winner to and from Toronto are the sole cost, expense and responsibility of the Winner. • Please be advised that your prize is non-transferable and non-redeemable in whole or in part for cash. • Employee and family members of all companies involved in the creation and execution of this promotion are not eligible. • All taxes, optional travel insurance and items of a personal nature are not included and are your responsibility.

In the unlikely event that SIGNATURE VACATIONS does no longer offer the destination, hotel or air transportation in the package outlined above at the time booking is to be processed, we reserve the right to substitute a similar destination or hotel or to alter applicable dates of travel without liability. Tickets are released approximately two weeks prior to departure and only upon receipt of any outstanding amounts. • No purchase necessary. Approximate retail value \$3,200.

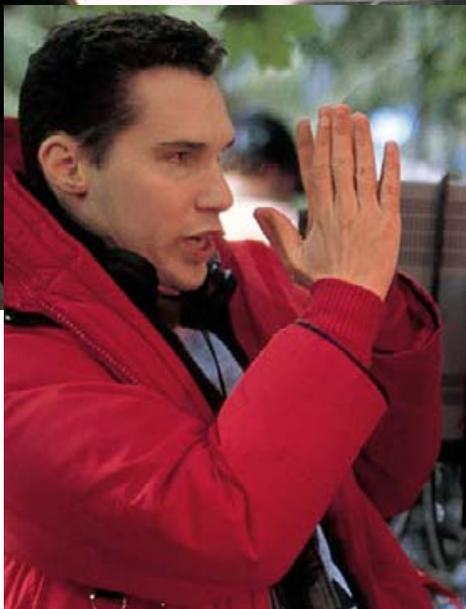
AS PROFESSOR CHARLES XAVIER
AS MAGNETO

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ PROVINCE: _____ POSTAL CODE: _____
PHONE NUMBER: _____ EMAIL: _____

MAIL THIS BALLOT TO: X-MEN LONDON, c/o Famous magazine,
1314 Britannia Road East, Mississauga, Ontario L4W 1C8

Contest void where prohibited by law. All entries must be postmarked on or before August 31, 2000. Famous magazine reserves the right to print the name and photo of the winning contestant.

From left, Hugh Jackman, James Marsden, Patrick Stewart, Halle Berry and Famke Janssen in *X-Men*. Inset: Director Bryan Singer



X-MEN'S main man

DIRECTOR BRYAN SINGER departs from innovative little films like *The Usual Suspects* and *Apt Pupil*, to dive into the world of big-budget fantasy. But you can bet his *X-Men* will have the unique Singer stamp all over it.

By Bob Thompson

Bryan Singer chuckles, almost to himself, as he recalls a chance meeting with an extra who worked on *X-Men* months earlier.

It's late February, and the young director (he's only 33) is taking a lunch break in his trailer. Outside, crew members are scurrying around in sub-zero temperatures, preparing to shoot a bar-fight sequence inside Toronto's abandoned Gooderham & Worts Distillery near

the city's gritty port area.

"I bumped into him a few days ago," Singer recalls. "So I'm being polite, and he finally asks me, 'What are you doing back in Toronto?' I told him, 'I'm still shooting *X-Men*.'"

The extra couldn't believe it. And, at times, neither could Singer, who arrived in Toronto last September to start working on the film version of the popular Marvel Comics series, and still found himself working 24/7 on the pro-

duction late in February.

It's not as if Singer is a filmmaking neophyte who didn't understand the time commitment that goes into making a movie. It's just that he had never before worked on such a technically advanced, big-budget flick (estimates exceed \$70 million) — never mind one that's filled with enough eye-candy to send a diabetic into shock. His two previous major releases were the brainy crime-thriller *The Usual Suspects* (1995), for

which Kevin Spacey won a Best Supporting Actor Oscar, and the disturbing drama, *Apt Pupil* (1998), which earned master thespian Ian McKellen great reviews for his portrayal of a dying Nazi. But each of those movies took less than half the time to make as *X-Men*.

Singer also got to create those movies unfettered by the sort of prying eyes that have been desperately searching for *X-Men* news since the movie was in pre-production. Hardcore *X-Men* fans (they range in age from teens to fortysomethings) have delighted in trading *X-Men* gossip on the web. One of the movie's stars — *Apt Pupil*'s McKellen, who plays lead villain, Magneto — even fed them with diary entries he posted on the internet.

Thanks, in part, to that ready-made fanbase, the adventure fantasy is expected to be a summer blockbuster when it opens on July 14, and both its distributor, 20th Century Fox, and the folks at Marvel Comics are hoping it will evolve into a multi-million-dollar franchise. So Singer is under a lot of pressure. But he's okay with that. He lives for working in the film industry.

Singer grew up in a middle-class home in Princeton, N.J., where he was making home movies by the time he was 13. After attending the School Of Visual Arts in New York, he moved to L.A., enrolled in the University of Southern California, and decided to make movies his career.

Soon after, he wrote and directed *Lion's Den*, a 25-minute short about kids reuniting after high school, which starred his childhood buddy Ethan Hawke. His first feature-length work, *Public Access*, received raves at the Sundance Film Festival but was ignored by moviegoers. It took *The Usual Suspects* to break him out of obscurity and *Apt Pupil* to cement his place among Hollywood's "directors to watch."

Still, Singer was an unlikely candidate to helm the action flick, *X-Men*. Three years ago he'd never even seen an *X-Men* comic. But then his producer buddy Tom DeSanto got him interested in the on-again/off-again Fox project, which had been floating around in various stages of development since the mid-Seventies. Something about the alienation of the younger characters clicked for Singer. "They exist in a land of normals and mutants," he says, trying to clarify the plot for someone else not familiar with the comic. In the *X-Men* universe, he explains, some mutants with twisted chromosomes have superhuman power, so they are often feared and hated by the non-mutants. To prove normal citizens wrong, one band of mutants use their powers for good. But that annoys the other band of mutants who see their super-abilities as a way to exercise evil and get



**Hugh Jackman
as Wolverine**

"I WANTED A FAMILY FILM THAT WORKS ON SO MANY LEVELS. I WANT MOVIEGOERS TO FIND THEIR OWN PATH TO THE STORY. I DON'T WANT AN ACTION MOVIE. I WANT A MOVIE WITH ACTION IN IT," SAYS SINGER

revenge, not to mention world domination.

As Singer became more familiar with the complicated *X-Men* yarns and their accompanying scores of characters, he realized something. "I had to get them down to a workable bunch," he says.

In Singer's version, the good guys include Cyclops (*Gossip*'s James Marsden) who shoots energy beams from his eyes; Storm (*Bulworth*'s Halle Berry) who has the ability to change the weather at will; Rogue (Anna Paquin from *The Piano*) who can absorb other mutants' powers



**Halle Berry
as Storm**

and use them as her own; the telepathic Jean Grey (Famke Janssen from *House on Haunted Hill*); animalistic Wolverine (Australian newcomer Hugh Jackman) who can sprout metal claws from his knuckles; and the brains behind the *X-Men* operation, the wheelchair-bound telepath, Professor Xavier (Patrick Stewart, *Star Trek: TNG*'s Captain Picard).

The baddies? The master of magnetism, Magneto (McKellen), has his Brotherhood of Evil Mutants, including the vicious mauler Sabretooth (wrestler Tyler Mane); the shapeshifter Mystique (*Dirty Work*'s Rebecca Romijn-Stamos); and the agile Toad (Ray Park, who played Darth Maul in *Phantom Menace*).

The story revolves around Wolverine, who journeys from the Canadian backwoods (yes, he really was Canadian in the comic book) and enrolls in Prof. Xavier's *X-Men* Academy. The battle between the good mutants and the bad mutants then escalates into a showdown at New York's Statue of Liberty that was actually shot in Burlington, Ont., where Spencer Smith Park stood in as Liberty Island. Also around Toronto, historic Casa Loma supplied the interiors for Prof. X's mansion, while Roy Thomson Hall was used for its hallways.

"I wanted a family film that works on so many ►►

▶▶ levels," says Singer. "I want moviegoers to find their own path to the story. I don't want an action movie. I want a movie with action in it."

He story-boarded the whole deal on a computer before shooting his first bit of film. That process gave him more confidence during the shoot "to get what I needed even when the cast and the crew weren't too sure what I was after." More critical in the Singer creative process is the fact that, despite his previous character-driven movies, his real passion relates to an *X-Men* sensibility.

"I love fantasy and science fiction, those are my favourite genres," he confesses. "And it really is exciting to bring these fantastical characters to life. My job is to take that fantastic world, and compress it and somehow make it believable, but at the same time elevate everything in a grand way.

"You learn fast that you can't be intimidated by saying, 'We need this and we have to do this right now,'" explains Singer, clearly getting anxious to return to the set for the rest of the day's shooting.

"You've got maybe 300 people counting on you but you can't be fazed by that. It really is like being a general. You have to be at command, but you also have to trust people that you have around you."

He shakes his head, still apparently baffled by the expertise of the set designers, decorators and the craftsmen around him. "I'm still amazed how fast they can build things, and create situations you ask for."

But like that extra implied, "It has been a marathon," Singer says. "It



has been long days, like I mean 14 hours, and then lingering at the office, then go to a coffee shop or restaurant to talk, then go home, watch some dailies and barely have enough time to sleep." As an afterthought, he adds: "I bought a house finally in L.A. but it has no furniture in it." He rubs his face at the memory of the long haul that has been *X-Men*.

Time to burst into lights, camera, action. Singer throws on his jacket and heads out the trailer door to the set a few hundred feet away. When he arrives inside the darkened warehouse, the crew is preparing another run-through of the movie's opening sequence — where Paquin's Rogue first encounters Jackman's Wolverine at a dirty, grimy saloon and fightclub.

Singer settles down in front of his monitors, elevated on a 10-foot-high platform 200 feet from where 50 gruff and grubby extras are getting ready to act naturally. They're sitting around a fight ring that's circled with chicken wire. Jackman is already standing there, ready to transform into Wolverine. Hardly sci-fi or other-worldly, the set looks more like a smoke-filled underground boxing arena. The made-over distillery warehouse is stifling as dust from tons of dirt and special effects dry ice hang in the air.

The director finds Paquin near his monitors and quietly instructs her about her entrance into the club's hallway. She steps down from the platform and waits for her cue.

Singer, still near the monitor, smiles as he confides to somebody nearby, "I've been wanting to do this stuff since I was 13."

Then he gives the signal. On with the show. This is it. **F**

Bob Thompson is a movie writer with The Toronto Sun.

coming soon

Impostor (August)

Stars: Gary Sinise, Madeleine Stowe, Vincent D'Onofrio

Director: Gary Fleder (*Kiss the Girls*)

Story: Based on a short story by Philip K. Dick (*Blade Runner*), this sci-fi thriller is about a weapons engineer (Sinise) who creates a superweapon to be used in a war against aliens. But then his fellow humans begin to suspect he's an alien himself.

Texas Rangers (August)

Stars: James Van Der Beek, Rachael Leigh Cook, Dylan McDermott, Ashton Kutcher

Director: Steve Miner (*Wild Hearts*)

Story: Alberta stands in for Texas in this post-Civil War story about a group of Young Guns who form the Texas Rangers, a justice agency set up to sanitize the dangerous territories. A romantic sub-plot sees Van Der Beek (*Varsity Blues*) and Kutcher (*That '70s Show*) trying to land the same woman, Cook (*She's All That*).

The Replacements (August)

Stars: Keanu Reeves, Gene Hackman, Jon Favreau

Director: Howard Deutch (*Pretty in Pink*)

Story: No, this film isn't about the Minneapolis-based rock group of the same name, but rather the 1987 NFL strike during which teams chose to recruit "scab" players. Reeves plays the scab QB of the Washington Sentinels while his coach is played by Gene Hackman. Football analysts John Madden and Pat Summerall make cameos.

The Yards (September)

Stars: Mark Wahlberg, Joaquin Phoenix, Charlize Theron, James Caan

Director: James Gray (*Little Odessa*)

Story: After a cop dies as a result of industrial sabotage, an investigation opens up a whole can of worms pertaining to the subway industry in New York. What they find is corruption, corruption and more corruption.

Chain of Fools (September)

Stars: Steve Zahn, Salma Hayek, Lara Flynn Boyle, Elijah Wood

Director: Patrick Von Krusenstjerna, Pontus Löwenhielm

Story: This heist comedy marks the feature film debut of the Swedish filmmaking duo of Löwenhielm and Von Krusenstjerna who've previously done only TV and commercials. The story sees Steve Zahn (*Happy, Texas*) as a barber who gets entangled in the attempted theft of rare ancient coins. Along the way, he becomes enamoured with the beautiful detective (Hayek) who's on his trail.

Urban Legends 2 (September)

Stars: Joey Lawrence, Jenny Morrison

Director: John Ottman (debut)

Story: This sequel (it's a sequel in name only) to 1998's *Urban Legend* takes place at a different college than the first movie. A film student's struggle to complete her thesis film on urban legends becomes even more difficult when her crew members start dropping like flies. Filmed in Toronto. Joey Lawrence (yes, *Blossom*'s Joey Russo) co-stars.



EDDIE MURPHY IS THE KLUMPS



NUTTY
PROFESSOR II
THE KLUMPS

UNIVERSAL PICTURES AND IMAGINE ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT A BRIAN GRAZER PRODUCTION A PETER SEGAL FILM "NUTTY PROFESSOR II: THE KLUMPS" JANET JACKSON LARRY MILLER MUSIC BY DAVID NEWMAN SUPERVISOR GARY JONES HAPPY WALTERS
SPECIAL MAKEUP BY TUCK BAKER VISUAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR JON FARHAT PRODUCED BY JAMES WHITAKER MICHAEL EWING WRITTEN BY WILLIAM KEHR PRODUCTION DESIGNER WILLIAM ELLIOTT DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DEAN SEMLER A.C.S. EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JERRY LEWIS EDDIE MURPHY KAREN KEHELA TOM SHADYAC JAMES D. BROOKER
BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY JERRY LEWIS AND BILL RICHMOND STORY BY BARRY W. BLAUSTEIN & DAVID SHEFFIELD AND PAUL WEITZ & CHRIS WEITZ & ZAK PENN SCREENPLAY BY BARRY W. BLAUSTEIN & DAVID SHEFFIELD AND PAUL WEITZ & CHRIS WEITZ
IMAGINE FDS DVD VHS SOUNDTRACK ON BET JAM DET SOUL RECORDINGS PRODUCED BY BRIAN GRAZER DIRECTED BY PETER SEGAL A UNIVERSAL PICTURE
www.nuttyprofessor.com www.dofjam.com **JULY 28** AOL Keyword: Nutty Professor

ANISTON DATES A ROCK STAR, SLY REVS HIS ENGINE AND DIAZ USES HER CRIMINAL MIND



Stallone

STALLONE BEHIND THE WHEEL

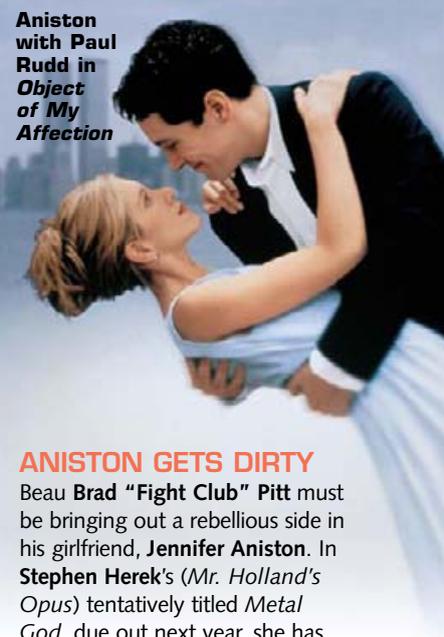
Sylvester Stallone has always wanted to do a racing movie — he was once in talks to do a bio-pic of the late Formula One racer Ayrton Senna, but that fell through. Well, his *Days of Thunder* are now upon him with **Renny Harlin's** (*Deep Blue Sea*) *Champs*, where he will play a former CART racer who becomes a mentor to an up-and-coming driver who's starting to wilt under the pressure. And there'll be pressure galore on Stallone who hasn't had a hit movie since, like, Ronald Reagan was in the White House. Shooting is slated to begin in Vancouver this month.

SAM RAIMI DOES SPIDER-MAN

Long-time Spidey fan **Sam Raimi** (*For Love of the Game*, *The Quick and the Dead*) is taking the long-talked-about *Spider-Man* project under his wing — *Titanic's* **James Cameron** had been attached to it for a while. Raimi hasn't revealed who will get the part of the nerdy teen-turned-powerful-spins-a-web-superhero-courtesy-of-a-radioactive-spider Peter Parker, but says there's no shortage of great young actors who want it. Names like **Leonardo DiCaprio**, **Wes Bentley**, **Ryan Phillippe** and **Freddie Prinze, Jr.** have been mentioned, but the leading candidate appears to be **Heath Ledger** (*The Patriot*). Plot details are sketchy, but filming should start this summer for a fall 2001 release.

CAVIEZEL REBOUNDS

Jim Caviezel, who recently starred in *Frequency* with **Dennis Quaid**, is finally getting his due after a few minor setbacks. First, **Ben Affleck** came in and took the role Caviezel was about to play in the upcoming historical drama *Pearl Harbour* and then Affleck's bud **Matt Damon** got the part Caviezel was vying for in **Billy Bob Thornton's** *All the Pretty Horses*. But Caviezel, who made a name for himself as Private Witt in *The Thin Red Line*, is going to be okay — he plays a heroin addict opposite **Kevin Spacey** and **Helen Hunt** in *Pay it Forward*, will soon shoot the romantic drama *Angel Eyes* opposite **Jennifer Lopez** and will star in the upcoming *The Count of Monte Cristo*, about a falsely imprisoned sailor who escapes, gets rich, and then seeks revenge on the person who framed him.



Aniston with Paul Rudd in *Object of My Affection*

ANISTON GETS DIRTY

Beau Brad "Fight Club" Pitt may be bringing out a rebellious side in his girlfriend, **Jennifer Aniston**. In **Stephen Herek's** (*Mr. Holland's Opus*) tentatively titled *Metal God*, due out next year, she has an orgy scene as part of a drunken night with her rock star boyfriend, played by **Mark Wahlberg**. Jen is apparently trying to get away from her usual clean and tidy girl-next-door roles (*The Object of My Affection*, *Picture Perfect*) and her sparkling-clean Rachel on *Friends*. Produced by **George Clooney**, *Metal God* is loosely based on a true story about a salesman/Judas Priest junkie (Wahlberg) who gets recruited from a Judas Priest cover band to become a lead vocalist for the actual band. Aniston follows him on the road and that's where the wild and immoral things happen. The film began shooting in L.A. this past March.

DIAZ JOINS A GANG

After finishing *Charlie's Angels*, babelicious **Cameron Diaz** (*Being John Malkovich*) will play a master street criminal/manipulator named Jenny in **Martin Scorsese's** drama *Gangs of New York*, opposite **Leonardo DiCaprio** and, possibly, **Liam Neeson**. The movie, which is slated to start shooting this August in Rome, is a portrait of the seedy side of New York, circa 1840, in which Diaz links up, professionally and romantically, with a fellow-thief played by DiCaprio. In real life, she is now romantically linked with **Jared Leto** (*Fight Club*, *American Psycho*) following a three-year romance with her *There's Something About Mary* co-star **Matt Dillon**.



Diaz

B R I E F L Y

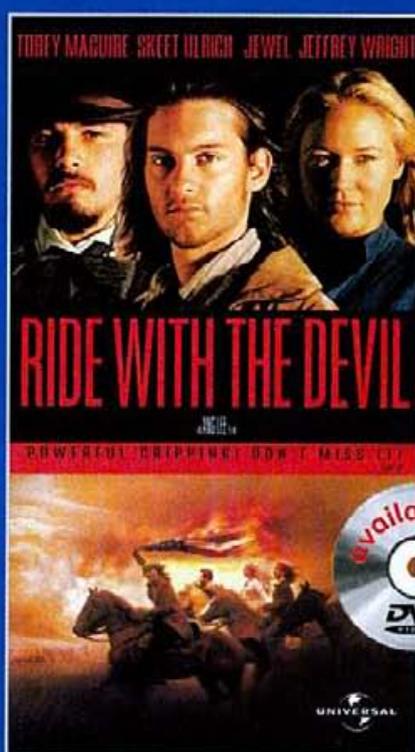
Ben Affleck and **Matt Damon** have optioned a script based on two former New York Yankee pitchers who caused a scandal in 1973 when they went public about their wife-swapping prowess. ■ **Rob Cohen** (*The Skulls*) will direct the supernatural thriller *The Deceiver*, which will be co-produced by **Ivan Reitman**. ■ **George Lucas** has selected 19-year-old unknown Canadian actor **Hayden Christensen** to play Anakin Skywalker in *Star Wars: Episode II*, which has started shooting in Australia. ■ **Harrison Ford** and **Mel Gibson** are the names being tossed around for a sci-fi action project called *Gemini*, about a malevolent genetics company. ■ *American Beauty's* **Wes Bentley** will play the handsome and troubled Fifties acting legend **Montgomery Clift** (*A Place in the Sun*, *The Heiress*) in the indie feature *Monty*, which starts shooting next spring. ■ **Crystal Sky Entertainment** and **Marvel Enterprises** plan to turn the *Ghost Rider* comic into a film. They're hoping **Johnny Depp** will play motorcycle stuntman Johnny Blaze.

rewind this ◀◀

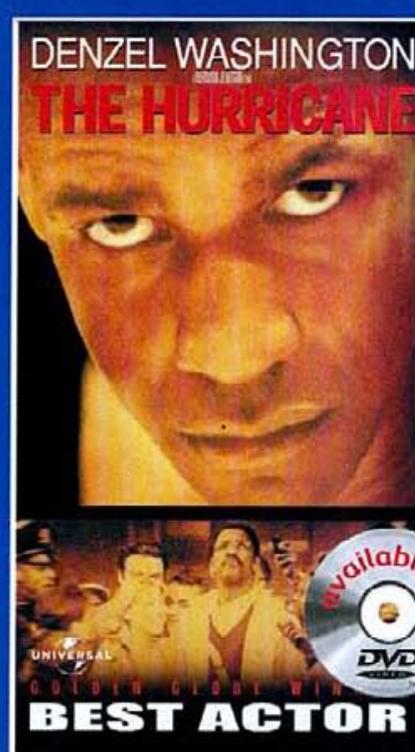
on video



2rent 6/25/00



2rent 6/18/00



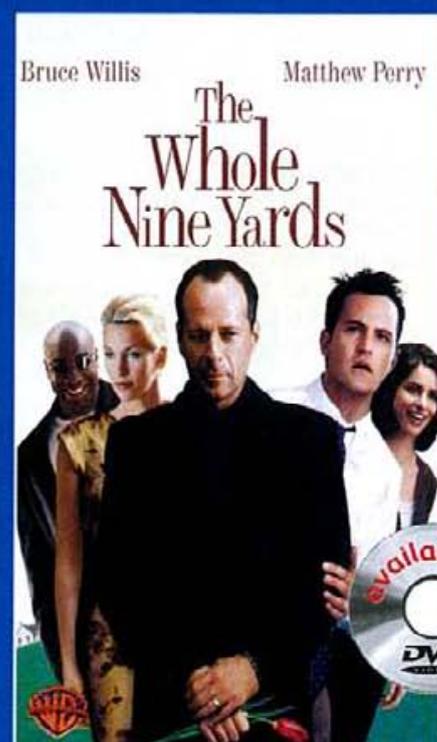
2rent 6/11/00



2rent 6/18/00



2rent 6/18/00



2rent 6/18/00



studio tours

On your way to L.A.? Want to see where some of your fave movies were filmed? Why not take a tour of one of Hollywood's big studios? They're entertaining, educational, and sometimes you even get to see a real movie being captured on film. Here's a sample of what three of the major ones have to offer.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS HOLLYWOOD

Location: Universal City, California

Contact: 818.622.3801

Length: about 45 minutes

Format: tram tour, then you're let loose to walk around the theme park

Price: \$41 U.S. for ages 12 and up; \$36 U.S. for ages 60 and up; \$31 U.S. for ages 3 to 11; free for ages 3 and under

Stipulations: cameras and recording devices are allowed, but you may be asked to turn them off from time to time

What You'll See: The tram tour of Universal's backlot, which is included in the admission price, takes visitors past numerous sets and soundstages featured in hit movies, including Ron Howard's upcoming *The Grinch*, starring Jim Carrey; the building used as "Site B" in Steven Spielberg's blockbuster, *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*; and the clock tower square from the *Back to the Future* trilogy. You'll see the soundstage where *The Truman Show* was shot; *Apollo 13* locations; and sets for *Nutty Professor II: The Klumps*. The tram also passes through the streets of London, New York and Old Mexico — or at least the facades that have stood in for them in countless films.

After the tour you're free to roam around the theme park, which boasts such thrilling attractions as "Jurassic Park: The Ride" and the virtual adventure, "Terminator 2 3-D."

PARAMOUNT STUDIOS

Location: Hollywood, California

Contact: 323.956.1777

Length: about two hours

Format: walking tour with one guide for every 15 people

Price: \$15 U.S.; groups of 15 or more should call in advance (\$12 U.S. per person)

Stipulations: no kids under the age of 10 (for safety/insurance reasons); cameras and recording equipment not allowed

What You'll See: Tim Perez, the executive director of guest relations, says this walking tour gives an "informational, educational and historical overview of film." Bordering the Hollywood Cemetery, Paramount is one of the original and most historic studios. There, you'll see a 25-minute commemorative film, soundstages, wardrobe, exterior production sites (a N.Y. street, a huge tank used for water scenes) and film and TV sets. Most tours also visit at least one of the production theatres on the lot — either the Gower Theater, which is used by filmmakers for screen movies and TV shows still in production, or the Paramount Theater, which has been used for premieres and to screen such big flicks as *Saving Private Ryan*.

Production activity varies from day to day, so you never know what you'll see. You just might run into one of your favourite stars. But Perez, who started this tour 15 years ago, says you'll have a better chance of seeing action if you go in one of the peak production seasons — early spring or late summer. But he warns that there's a lot more TV than film being made here, since, when it comes to the big screen, "Everything's in Toronto."



WARNER BROTHERS STUDIOS

Location: Burbank, California

Contact: 818.972.8687

Length: about two hours

Format: golf cart tour and some walking, with approximately one guide per 12 people

Price: \$30 U.S. per person

Stipulations: children under eight not allowed (for safety/insurance reasons); may have to turn off cameras if a movie is in production. Reservations are recommended, especially in summer months

What You'll See: This tour, which involves some walking, but mostly a ride on an oversized golf cart, will take you to the prop shop, set construction site, outdoor sets, the sound department, indoor soundstages, the costume department and, if you're there on the right day, through sets where actual filming is taking place. You'll get to see Stage 16, which has been called the "ocean with a roof" since a large part of the floor can be removed to reveal a tank capable of holding 2 million gallons of water. The impressive facility (just one of 30 soundstages on the lot) was most recently used to film parts of this summer's blockbuster, *The Perfect Storm*, starring George Clooney, but it has also housed scenes from *Casablanca*, *Rebel Without A Cause* and



the *Batman* movies. Then, half a mile from the main lot, you'll find the Warner Bros. Studios Ranch, a 32-acre property on which the homes of *American Beauty*'s Burnham family and *Lethal Weapon*'s Murtaughs were built. And everyone will recognize the fountain in the centre of the park as that from the opening sequence of TV's *Friends*.

—Neil Morton

World Wrestling Federation Pay-Per-View

SEE THE ACTION LIVE AT

FAMOUS PLAYERS
Big Screen Big Sound Big Difference


JUDGMENT DAY™
MAY 21


KING OF THE RING®
JUNE 25


FULLY LOADED™
JULY 23

Get Famous
With The



See All  Pay-Per-View Events LIVE At Select Famous Players Theatres!
To Order Tickets Call 1-877-9FAMOUS

a hair raising SUMMER

Stylist to the stars, Danilo, says the trend for summer hair is put it Up, Up, Up. And he's got the products to help you do it right — or to make your hair look great in any style

By Ellen Himelfarb

he's run his fingers through some of the fast lane's most respected manes. Julia Roberts and Raquel Welch are clients, as are Oscar-winning vamp Angelina Jolie and Madonna. We're talking about Hollywood stylist and trendsetter Danilo, who has also de-frizzed Naomi Campbell, de-pooft Dolly Parton, de-greased Fiona Apple and managed to make each of No Doubt singer Gwen Stefani's shocking-pink coils even more controversial than the last.

Though he's reluctant to speak of the hair foibles of his rich-and-glamorous clientele ("we've *all* had our problem-hair moments"), Danilo discloses this much: "I've never had a superstar's hair fall out on me," which is good or bad, depending on which Vivienne Westwood runway show he's working. Obviously, he's doing something right. Danilo says celebs have summoned him from as far away as South Africa and Australia for a must-have snip. "I've flown from coast to coast for a day, watched the sun go down, then come up again."

Whether you're a star or just one of the masses who admire them from afar, summer can be the cruelest season when it comes to your hair. Heat, humidity, the sun's damaging rays and chlorine from the occasional dip in the neighbour's pool can lead to serious problems.

Danilo's advice? Practicality above all else.

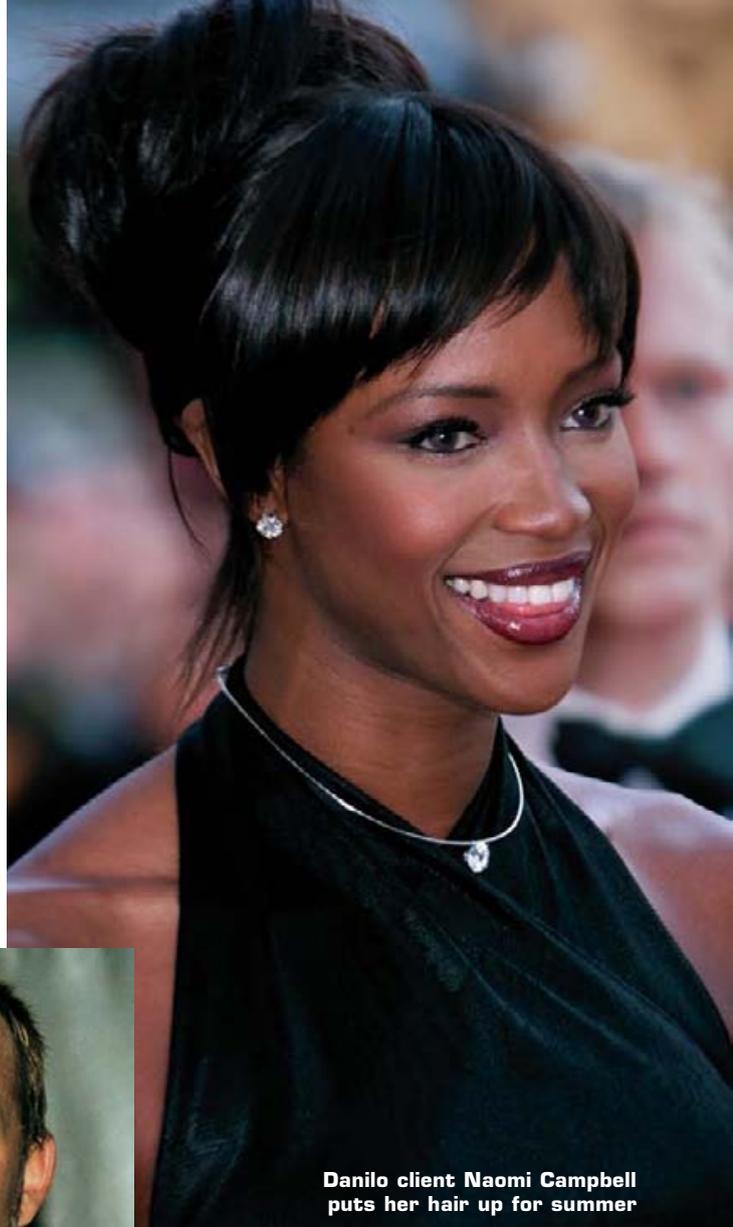


Danilo — stylist to the stars

Make use of the accessories of the day — a triangular folded scarf, bands for braiding and as many pins as you can find to adorn your hair. "Practicality in summer means putting it *away*," he says.

Moreover, be playful. Explore. Break the rules. "If you've got longer hair, knot it back in the classic ponytail by day. At night, reposition it on top of your head. Or add some accessories to the mix."

Danilo also suggests starting with your favourite leave-in conditioner. "If you're



Danilo client Naomi Campbell puts her hair up for summer

spending a day at the beach or on the patio, take the opportunity to use a deep-hydrating conditioner while lounging," he says. "Then, when you go to style for night, your hair has already been treated."

And are there any particular potions Danilo recommends? Funny you should ask. For the past several months he's been testing the new Physique line of hair products, and likes them so much he's gone on tour to endorse them. "We have the opportunity to ask ourselves each morning, 'Who do I want to be today?' I think it's about time a product allowed us to do that."

Seven years in the making, and available at most drug stores and groceries this August, the Physique unisex line claims to help train your hair to do what you *want* it to do, not what it was born to do (products are categorized not by frizzy or oily, but by contour, definition and body).

For flatheads, the volumizing series of amplifying products (shampoo, conditioner, spray and foam) helps create and maintain air pockets



between each strand of hair, resulting in something like client Courtney Love's gravity-defying locks. If you want the opposite effect, Physique's line of smoothing shampoos and stylers do the trick, charging runaway hair so that strands cling to one another magnetically for contoured sleekness — seen Whitney Houston lately?

There's also a curl-defining, wave-enhancing, frizz-reducing series that will help you come as close as possible to Julia Roberts' famous do. Prices range from \$10.99 to \$13.99.

And, best of all, results should last up to 20 hours, just in case you plan to party Hollywood-style into the morning.

Hot Products When the Physique line hits stores this summer, it joins an army of products designed to tame misbehavin' hair while the weather taunts away. If you're looking to enforce some hair discipline, you might want to try one of these summer solutions.

KMS

A hot seller in the state of Florida, where humidity can get the best of troubled hair, is Moisture Replace Deep Therapy by KMS, available at select salons and hair-care outlets across the country. "It actually repels the humidity from the atmosphere and moistens the inside of each hair shaft," says Juliette Odbert, communications and events coordinator for KMS. "Spray it on, then put your hair up in a bun. It'll penetrate throughout the day for a sleeker head." Price varies depending on the retailer, but it should cost about \$14 for 240 ml.



TIGI Linea

The TIGI family of products, developed by salon specialists Toni and Guy, has garnered much attention in recent months — as will your hair, we presume, once it has had a dose of TIGI therapy. Their Bed

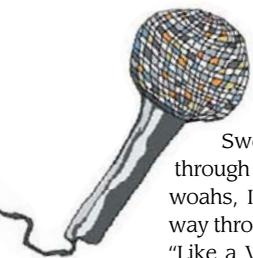


Head line is especially preferred by those who are looking for that tousled, just-woke-up look that lasts all day. For victims of thin and stringy, TIGI marketing representative Andrea Towers recommends Root Boost. "It acts as a mousse, adding volume so your hair doesn't just fall in during the summer months." Or, Bed Head's Control Freak, as its name promises, keeps hair in line — a sleek, straight line. Root Boost should set you back about \$17 for 8 oz., and Control Freak costs about \$24 for 9 oz., depending on the retailer. TIGI Linea products are available at select salons and hair-care outlets across the country.



KARAOKE: the ugly art turns 20

By Lezlie Lowe



It all started with “Do You Know the Way to San Jose?” at a 1995 holiday-season house party that was aptly dubbed *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Sweaty and smiling uncomfortably, halfway through that blisteringly simple chorus of woah-woahs, I knew I was hooked. I then swaggered my way through “Purple Rain,” “Walkin’ on Sunshine” and “Like a Virgin,” clutching the microphone in a happy haze. And I haven’t looked back since. It’s not pretty but, yes, I am a karaoke fanatic.

Despite the “art” form’s many sins, 2000 marks karaoke’s 20th anniversary. Over the past two decades, it has evolved from sketchy, low-tech origins to become Japan’s *ex officio* national sport. In North America, karaoke has made its way onto the big screen in *The Cable Guy* and *My Best Friend’s Wedding*, and to TV via a recent episode of *Dawson’s Creek*. It will also be the subject of Gwyneth Paltrow’s upcoming movie, *Duets*, about a bunch of “karaoke hustlers” who travel the U.S. singing in contests.

Karaoke (compounded from abbreviations for “karappo” meaning empty, and “okesutura,” or orchestra) started in a bar in Kobe, Japan in 1980. Legend has it that when a popular traveling musician was unable to play on certain days, the bar owner would play accompaniment cassettes of popular songs. The customers were quick to sing along, and karaoke, the bastard child of a beat-up tape deck and a gaggle of shameless Japanese drinkers, was born. The technology grew fast and, coupled with the rise of CDs, which enabled wailing fans to skip to specific tracks, karaoke quickly spread around the world. Today, it’s difficult to find someone who hasn’t belted out “Total Eclipse of the Heart” somewhere, sometime.

No one should be surprised about karaoke’s popularity. After all, it embodies one of the most elemental adages of pop culture — not everyone can be a star, but everyone can emulate one. But the boundaries are blurring. With candy-fluff pop and precious boy bands ruling the Top 40 roost, the differences between karaoke and our best-selling music are, save flashy stage lighting and a few boob jobs, shrinking fast.



Take ‘N SYNC, for instance. Their latest disc, *No Strings Attached*, was the first album in music history to sell one million copies in a single day. That’s a good living for a group of young men who don’t have to write their own music or learn to play instruments. All they need to do is strut onto the stage, pose and sing. The only difference between them and the two guys I watched karaoke tag-team Bon Jovi’s “Living on a Prayer” the other night is that the members of ‘N SYNC are better looking — barely.

The same goes for Backstreet Boys, the Spice Girls and Britney Spears, whose latest, *Oops!... I Did It Again* (how’s *that* for a telling album title?), is selling like hotcakes — even if she is primarily singing other people’s songs.

Even Fabrice Morvan, of the infamous lip-syncing duo Milli Vanilli, is finishing work on a brand new album, *Love Revolution*. Morvan started his attempted rise back to the top last April by launching a comeback single to radio — a remake of the Milli Vanilli hit from a decade ago, “Blame it on the Rain.”

You know, maybe I should record my next few karaoke indulgences and make a go of it, too. After all, if Morvan can make a comeback after that nasty Milli Vanilli lip-sync scandal, *surely* I can overcome the embarrassment of the *Nightmare Before Christmas* fiasco. Woah woah woah woah...

Lezlie Lowe is music editor of The Coast, Halifax’s arts and news weekly.

outthismonth

Artist: Richard Ashcroft
Title: Alone With Everybody
Label: Virgin Records

Artist: Beenie Men
Title: Art & Life
Label: Virgin Records

Artist: The Corrs
Title: In Blue
Label: Atlantic/Warner

Artist: Everclear
Title: Songs from an American Movie, Volume One — Learning to Smile
Label: Capitol/EMI

Artist: The Getaway People
Title: Jersey Turnpike
Label: Columbia/Sony

Artist: Kottonmouth Kings
Title: High Society
Label: Capitol/EMI

Artist: Li’l Kim
Title: The Notorious K.I.M.
Label: Atlantic/Warner

Artist: Brian Potvin
Title: Heartbreakthrough
Label: Universal

Artist: Busta Rhymes
Title: Anarchy
Label: Elektra/Warner

Artist: Jon Secada
Title: Better Part of Me
Label: Epic/Sony

Artist: Wide Mouth Mason
Title: Stew
Label: Warner

Artist: Zuckerby
Title: Platinum Again
Label: Universal

Where to karaoke across Canada

- Vancouver** Shenanigans, 1225 Robson St., 604.688.1411
- Calgary** Woodies Tap House, 600 Country Hills Blvd., 403.226.2666
- Winnipeg** The Ming Court Chinese Restaurant, 236 Edmonton St., 204.949.1087
- Ottawa** The Somerset Pub, 706-A Somerset West, 613.232.5479
- Montreal** Brasserie Des Rapides, 7852 Boulevard Champlain, 514.595.3197
- Saint John** AJ’s, 638 Manawagonish Rd., 506.672.4150
- Charlottetown** Inn on the Hill, 150 Euston St., 902.423.2526
- Halifax** Bearly’s House of Blues and Ribs, 1269 Barrington St., 902.423.2526
- St. John’s** Stanley Steamer’s Pub, 26 Torbay Rd., 709.754.0930

ILLUSTRATIONS: KATIA SMIRNOVA



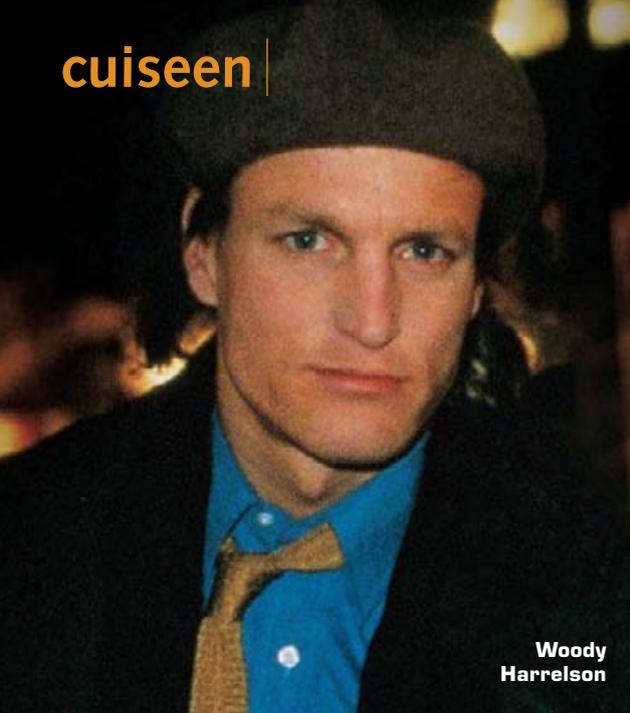
Bringing Entertainment Home™

At BLOCKBUSTER® we believe you should be able to take home the movie you want. That's why we guarantee* that if our hottest new releases are out, you can rent them free next time.



*See in-store for details. May be subject to availability.

BLOCKBUSTER name, design and related marks are trademarks of Blockbuster Inc. ©2000 Blockbuster Inc. All Rights Reserved.



Woody Harrelson

SOTO LIKE A WALK OF FAME

Woody Harrelson enjoys fishy dish at Montreal restaurant

By Neil Morton

So you're walking along the trendy St. Laurent Street in Montreal after a long day of playing tourist, and you're absolutely starved. But it's hot so you don't want anything too heavy — sushi sounds *real* good right about now. There are a bunch of fine restaurants all lumped together, but one place, Soto, registers in your memory. Right, that's the cozy and hip Japanese restaurant that the concierge from your hotel strongly recommended. Even though the place only seats 80 and the guy did say, "GET RESERVATIONS," up the stairs you go.

You're greeted by Soto's hospitable maître d', Hubert Marsolais, the sounds of ambient music and... Holy Cow! There's Pierce Brosnan at the sushi bar, Alec Baldwin over by the front window, and Woody Harrelson and Wesley Snipes are seated close by. Soon enough, you discover Alec's younger bro, Stephen, is over in the private room, and other celebs are lounging in the 35-person solarium, which opens up onto a lovely Japanese garden. And, lo and behold, there's John Travolta coming out of the men's washroom.

Sure this is a bit of an exaggeration, but, at one time or another, all these celebs, plus Bruce Willis, Denzel Washington and more, have dropped by Soto, which celebrates its fifth birthday this month. Dealing with Hollywood royalty has become old hat for Marsolais who has been here for four years and, in the past year alone, has conversed with the Baldwin brothers, Snipes, Brosnan and Queen Latifah, among others.

But his funniest celeb anecdote happened on Halloween eve, when the restaurant had an Eighties theme night to celebrate that decade's cheesiness. The staff dressed up in Duran Duran ties and other new wave gear, and played music by Platinum Blonde, Cyndi Lauper, et al. None of the customers wore costumes, except for one guy who showed up late with friends — minus reservations — with a black Zorro-esque mask covering his nose and eyes. "He started eating with it on, and when he took it off it was funny to see everyone's reactions around him — it was Woody Harrelson," says Marsolais. "At one point he said to me, 'Well we've been talking about Cyndi Lauper for an hour and we think it's your fault.' We conversed about that Eighties era for a while and how we hoped that it might never come back."

Harrelson started with the Maguro Yaki — a sliced tuna steak that is served with three kinds of mushrooms, snow peas, zucchini and red bell pepper, and then topped with a red wine and kiwi sauce.

His table also ordered whitefish (very slightly grilled, served chilled with roasted leek and garlic and a Soya and olive oil sauce) and, of course, sushi — "It's unavoidable right now," says Marsolais, referring to the *en vogue* Japanese dish.

Well, some avoid it. "When Snipes came in with two bodyguards, they ordered chicken, which is pretty funny because it's the least-interesting dish," he says. "We have like a six-page menu with all sorts of fine and refined products and they kept going for the chicken. They came in four or five times one week and always ordered it — Snipes liked the chicken teriyaki with sautéed julienne vegetables. Some people always go very safely."

Marsolais always gives Hollywood's *crème* the royal treatment, which pays off. And we're not just talking about word-of-mouth. "They give huge tips," he says. "Pierce Brosnan [who came in while shooting *Grey Owl*] was a very good tipper — he came in often and liked to be seated at the sushi bar — and Alec was very generous as well."

If Cyndi Lauper music had been playing, they might not have been so kind.

For reservations, call 514.842.1150

ingredients TO SERVE 4

MAGURO YAKI (TUNA)

- Sushi grade red tuna (one piece)... 400 g.
- Snow peas 120 g.
- Yellow zucchini, diced..... 1
- Red bell pepper, julienned 1
- Daikon (Japanese radish), shaved . 80 g.
- White mushrooms..... 80 g.
- Oyster mushrooms..... 80 g.
- Shitake mushrooms 80 g.
- Tempura sauce..... 1 cup

SAUCE

- Spanish onion..... 60 g.
- Shallots..... 60 g.
- Red wine..... 1½ cups
- Dashi (fish broth)..... ¼ cup
- Kiwi, chopped 2

METHOD Sear the tuna in a very hot pan with olive oil, making sure it's marked everywhere. "It's rare inside, not cooked," explains Soto's executive chef, Kunichi Ikematsu. About 30 seconds on each side should do it. The accompanying vegetables should be blanched in boiling water until tender yet crunchy. Then, sauté the vegetables and shaved daikon (Japanese radish) in an oiled pan for one minute and deglaze with tempura sauce. Cut the tuna into 1 cm thick slices (this should give you about eight per person). Place the mushrooms on the plates and spread the tuna on top like a fan. Arrange remaining vegetables on the side.

To make the sauce, heat a tablespoon of olive oil in a pan and sauté red onions and shallots until tender and moist. Cover with the red wine and dashi, then reduce by half. Add the kiwi just before serving. "It has an exotic taste because you have the tuna with the red wine sauce but there's also the kiwi," explains Ikematsu. "It's not exactly Japanese — it's like a combination of tuna sushimi style but with a French-style sauce."



Kunichi Ikematsu with his Maguro Yaki

THE STARS ARE GETTING wired

Could the web be the best (and safest) way for actors to keep in touch with their fans?



By Trent Ernst

In Hollywood, there's an entire industry dedicated to tours of celebrity sites: Here's where Brad Pitt lives, where Anthony Hopkins has lunch, where Robert Downey Jr. likes to party. But finding where a star hangs out on the internet? That can be harder. Unless you've discovered "Celebrity Fun Stuff" (www.celebrity-fun.com), a tour of Hollywood's virtual homes — well, homepages, at least.

John Moore runs the site, which has about 2000 links to official celebrity sites, from Affleck, Ben to Zeta-Jones, Catherine. Moore says that, to the best of his knowledge, all the pages are "either created, maintained, sanctioned or otherwise approved by the stars themselves or their next of kin."

Why are celebrities hopping on the online bandwagon? There's no one reason, says Moore. The site may simply be home to the star's fanclub, sanctioned by the celebrity, but without their participation. Or, some stars use their site as a way to sell merchandise. This is often the case with older TV personalities who are still fondly remembered by fans, but who have a tough time finding work. "Many of them have been attending conventions, signing autographs for small and not-so-small fees," says Moore. "They may see

the internet as the next logical step in merchandising themselves." For others, having their own website is merely a vanity project, says Moore. Not pointing any fingers, but consider William Shatner's homepage (www.williamshatner.com), with the tag line "Enjoy your visit and come back whenever you can! Besides...where ELSE would you want to be?"

But, Moore says, there are some celebrities who are genuinely interested in connecting with their fans on a deeper level, and the internet is a "relatively safe" way to do that. One such celebrity is Sir Ian McKellen (www.mckellen.com), who contributes regular updates (usually monthly) to his site, answering fan's emails, writing exhaustive from-the-set updates on his current projects (right now, he's in New Zealand filming *The Lord of the Rings*), providing behind-the-scenes photographs and generally keeping fans abreast of what he's up to.

A few stars actually run their own sites. Moore notes that it is the lesser-known celebrities who are more likely to be involved in the hands-on operation of their homepage, like Robert "Baretta" Blake (www.bobbyblake.com), who was last seen in David Lynch's *Lost Highway*. Blake's site ranks as one of the worst-designed around, consisting of little more than a bunch of pictures pasted into an electronic photo album — some personal, some behind-the-scenes, but most without context — and a few movie stills. But it's nice to see a celebrity getting his own hands dirty.

One of the most, ummm... interesting variations on the celebrity homepage is the "Marry Tom Arnold" site (www.marrytom.com). The former Mr. Roseanne Barr recently asked single women of the world to send him an email explaining why they would make the best next Mrs. Tom. (His requirements included "...of child-bearing age", "willing to relocate" and "self-confident enough to wear a bathing suit on vacation.") Arnold is currently sifting through the correspondence to pick suitable candidates. "This is not a contest that has to end in marriage," Arnold writes. But he is planning to "set up some casual dates around the country... to get to know some of these fantas-

Other Celeb Sites

Jeff Bridges

www.jeffbridges.com

The text is posted in Bridges' own handwriting, so you know the star of *The Fabulous Baker Boys* is generating the content himself. Okay, so the site may really be little more than a way for Bridges to promote his music — there are even links to help you download an MP3 player or Liquid Audio. But, who knows? You might actually like his tunes.

Kelsey Grammer

www.kelseylive.com

A snapshot of Kelsey and his golden-haired wife, Camille, lounging barefoot, sets the mood on the homepage. Once inside, a greeting from the star of *Frasier* explains that he and Camille are eager to interface with visitors. And he's not kidding — there's a chat-room, which they visit often, and monthly live video chat sessions.

Arnold Schwarzenegger

www.schwarzenegger.com

Okay, compared to Bridges and Grammer, Ahnuld had little to do with his official website. But he did write the intro, in which he proudly states, "I've built this site for you, my fans — you have given me the opportunity to achieve everything I've dreamed of."

Bruce Campbell

www.bruce-campbell.com

The star of Sam Raimi's *Evil Dead* movies contributes opinions and updates to his site. There's also a question-and-answer section called "Rumor Control" where he swats down gossip with refreshing candor, eg. Q: "Is that your voice in [the videogame] *Duke Nukem*?" A: "No, it's not me — some cheezeball shemp rippin' off the mighty words of Mr. Raimi..."

tic women." Sorry girls, he is no longer accepting applications for his new bride-to-be, but the site still offers some interesting reading. "I eat too much," he admits to prospective brides, "occasionally smoke cigars, have ADHD (Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder), and a low sperm count." That's probably more than we needed to know.

Trent Ernst is a freelance writer based in Chilliwack,

You've Got Smell

DigiScents Aims to Scent Gaming Space

By Marc Saltzman

Imagine you're sitting in the cockpit of a PC racing game and the wheels of your car rub up against the side of the curb. Immediately, the pungent scent of burning rubber fills your nostrils. A moment later, you whiz by two restaurants and, without even looking, you know one is a deli and the other is a pizzeria.

This scenario may sound futuristic, but if the folks at DigiScents have their way, smell will be added to the gamers' existing palette of sight, sound and touch (via peripherals like vibrating steering wheels) before the end of this year.

DigiScents (www.digiscents.com) was formed by Dexter Smith and Joel Bellenson, two biotech entrepreneurs with one objective: to scent-enable computer and console games, movies, TV and websites. Okay, so it's not an entirely new concept if you consider Smell-o-Vision and Aroma-Rama, two failed movie-based ventures from the Fifties, but Smith and Bellenson believe their cutting-edge hardware and software can deliver "digital scent technology" to the masses. David Libby, the company's spokesperson, says prices should range from \$80 to \$150 on the low end to a few hundred dollars for an extra hundred odours.



And Smith and Bellenson aren't the only ones trying to develop this technology — a company called AromaJet (www.aromajet.com) and another called TriSenx (www.trisenx.com) have recently joined the race for your nose.

Here's how the technology works: You purchase a small USB-connected peripheral, dubbed the iSmell, that emits a broad range of odours via essential oils inside the box. This "personal scent synthesizer" will receive data in real-time via a web plug-in, or embedded on a CD-ROM game or a DVD movie that communicates with the iSmell to release a fragrance at a given moment. Over time, certain oils will need to be replaced, just like a printer cartridge.

Libby says the 28-palette iSmell box "should be as small as a pencil sharpener, or about half the size of a shoe box for the 128-palette device." He adds that the scents will be subtle vapors that will fade in a matter of seconds. "Like walking past a bouquet of roses," he says.

Aside from making the gaming experience more realistic, the scents may also act as clues to help your strategy. "It'll be possible to smell bonus power-ups such as bananas in a *Donkey Kong* game, or perhaps a nearby crate of gunpowder in 3D shooters such as the next incarnation of *Quake* or *Unreal Tournament*," Libby predicts. DigiScents has already begun talking with such top-name game developers and publishers as Acclaim, Eidos Interactive, Ubi Soft and Infogrames.

Then there are the other applications for the technology — like scent-enabled DVD discs, TV shows or websites. Imagine renting a copy of *Forrest Gump* and having the aroma of fresh-cut grass fill the air during the park bench scene, or, better yet, the smell of sweet chocolate as Gump opens the box to offer a *bon bon* to a stranger.

By this winter, we'll know whether the brains behind DigiScents — or their competitors — have a nose for this kind of technology, but it sure smells sweet to us.

Marc Saltzman is the author of *Game Design*:

outthismonth

StarLancer (PC)

Developed by the creators of *Wing Commander*, Erin and Chris Roberts, this space-combat game is set far in the future, when former enemies like the U.S. and Russia have formed strategic alliances and are battling for control of the planets. If you need to escape from the interplanetary stress, you can chill out in your interactive bunkroom, complete with CD player, fishtank and simulator pod for flight practice.

Sega Sports World Series Baseball 2K1 (Dreamcast)

Like Sega's other 2K games, this one features ultra-realistic players and just-as-realistic ballparks. Comes with updated rosters for the 2000 season, so Mr. Griffey will be knocking them into the bleachers for the Reds, not the Mariners. Select up to eight different types of pitches and choose between four modes of gameplay — season, exhibition, tournament and home run derby.

Seaman (Dreamcast)

Your job is to raise a creature named Seaman, with whom you can converse via a microphone peripheral attached to his aquarium. You must ensure that all his needs are provided for, which includes monitoring the temperature of his tank and feeding him. If you can keep Seaman alive, he will evolve into another form and move to land — so you get to see where this weird creature originated from. If you treat him well, he'll turn out fine. If you don't, he'll turn moody and could rebel.

Ecco The Dolphin: Defender of the Future (Dreamcast)

Videos and photographs (including some from *National Geographic*) were used to create the terrain in *Ecco the Dolphin*, an underwater adventure that's full of challenging puzzles and mazes, as well as alternate timelines just waiting to be explored.

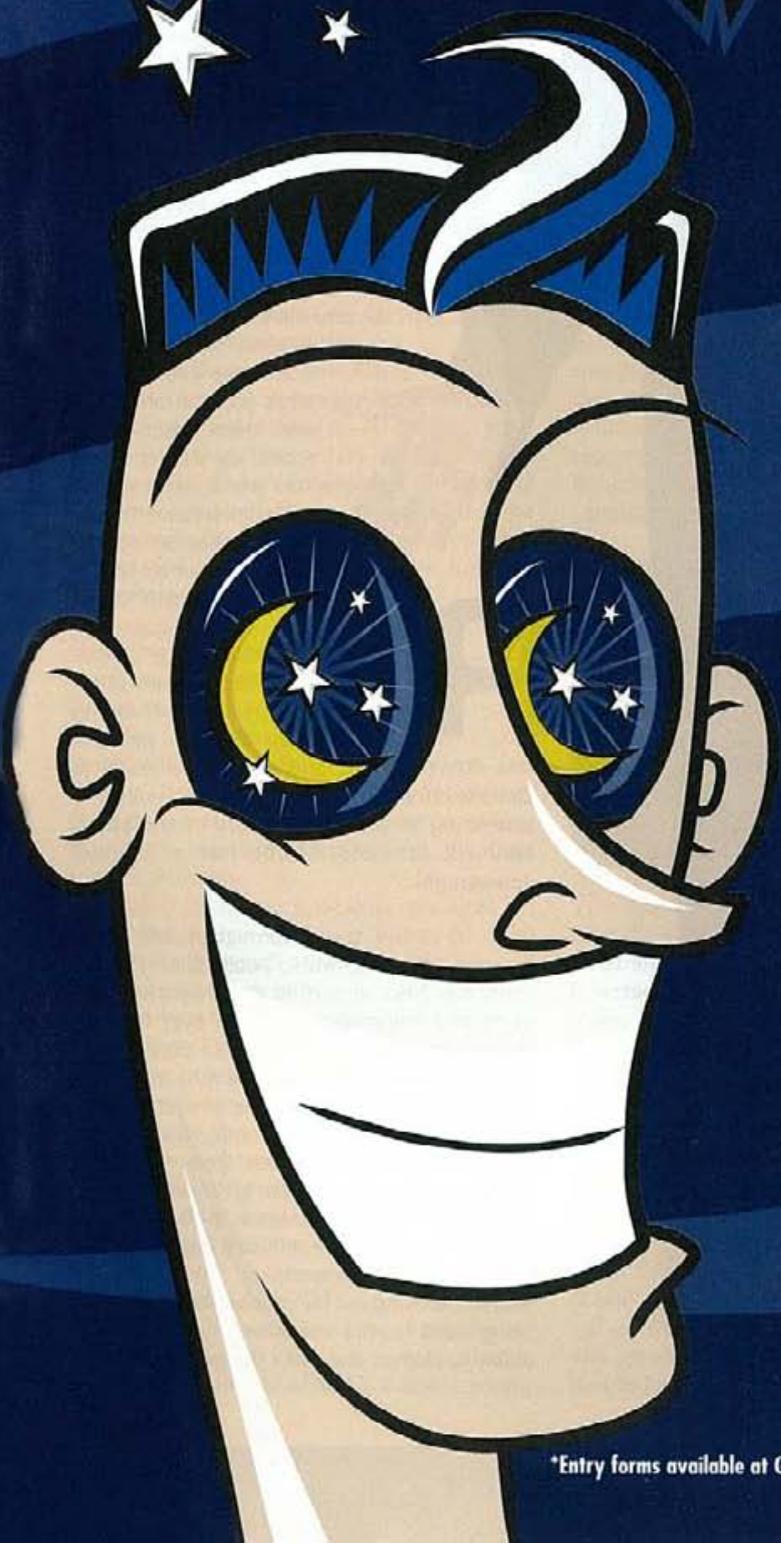
Secrets of the Sages (*BradyGAMES*: MacMillan Publishing)

Doing it ALL NIGHT LONG

WITH THE



ALL NIGHTER



The Famous Players All-Nighter is coming July 5th to Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Calgary. Enter for your chance to spend the night at a Famous Players theatre with a friend you know AND a bunch you don't! Watch movies all night long, including the premiere screening of

SCARY MOVIE

starring Carmen Electra and the Wayans Brothers. Plus eat a ton of great food and get the bare necessities required to survive the All-Nighter, including comfy ROOTS clothing.

PLUS you could win a great ROOTS Leather Chair.

The Famous Players All-Nighter
JULY 5th
coming to a theatre near you!



*Entry forms available at Guests Services only at participating theatres in Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton, Winnipeg and Calgary. See in-theatre for full contest details.

While a parade of MuchMusic personalities have come and gone since the station launched in 1984 (anyone remember Christopher Ward, Erica Ehm or Steve Anthony?), only one original remains — Master T, aka Tony Young. Although Master T wasn't a regular on-air personality in those first few years, he was there as a videotape operator and cameraman who occasionally did on-air promos. In 1990 he made the jump to full-time VJ as host of the hip hop show, X-TendaMix — now simply called DaMix — which celebrates its 10th anniversary this year. Now 30+ years old (that's as specific as he'll get), Master T has been married for 10 years and has a three-year-old son named Kalif. He has his own multimedia production company called Fullstedd, which is currently working on a two-hour urban radio show, and is planning to start a website to promote things having to do with black urban culture.

After 10 years, T has not only interviewed a long list of musicians, including Madonna and the Spice Girls, but has also chatted with an impressive slate of actors, most recently *Battlefield Earth's* John Travolta and *The Green Mile's* Michael Clarke Duncan. Here, he talks about his five favourite films, his future and the state of hip hop.

ON HIS FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS "No. 1 is *Boyz n the Hood* (1991). For me, it was the original movie about the gangster wars in L.A. It really brought the issue to the forefront and gave everyone a real dose of reality — one that a lot of people hadn't seen before. And it was just great to see a young cast deliver a film with a message the way they did — Ice Cube, Cuba Gooding, Jr. You look at where these guys are now, and director John Singleton, and it's amazing. • No. 2 is *Love Jones* (1997) because it was a really beautiful romantic love story. It was a black film that showed black people being in love, and a lot of the time you don't get to see films that really express that. It starred Larenz Tate and Nia Long as this couple who went in other directions and you kinda thought that they weren't going to get back together, but they did. Which was the real beauty of the film. • My third pick is *Once Were Warriors* (1994) [about a family descended from Maori warriors]. It's always interesting to look at the way people live in different cultures, but it

was a good story too. The father was a very hard man with short emotions, and it was all about who he was as a man. He wasn't really keeping in check with his family and, in the end, he got left in the cold. • No. 4 is Spike Lee's *She's Got a Way* (1986). I like a lot of Spike Lee's movies, but for the amount of money that he spent on this film, I think it was \$175,000, it's just amazing. The story is about this independent woman who shows she can empower herself in terms of how her body is going to be treated and who she is going to love. • No. 5 is *Enemy of the State* (1998) with Will Smith. In terms of an action film it was really good. I saw it on a plane and, usually, when I see a film on a plane, I end up falling asleep. But this one really grabbed me because it showed just how much control the government really has over our lives."

ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN INTERVIEWING ACTORS AND MUSICIANS

"Most musicians won't give you a list of what you can and can't ask them. But, with actors, it's different. And actors are so used to formatted interviews, they're used to that 30 second sound-bite. So for every interview, it's like blah, blah, blah. Stop. Smile. Next question."

ON HOW MUCH LONGER HE'LL BE AT MUCHMUSIC

"Not much longer. [Laughs.] I don't want to be on the air when I'm not feeling it and people are ready to kick me off. I think if I do move on it will be to something in another capacity of the entertainment business. Maybe just a different demographic."

ON HOW HIP HOP HAS CHANGED OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS

"It goes through phases. When I started it was the whole Public Enemy era — conscious lyrics. It was all about positive messages and empowerment. Then over the past three to four years it's been about materialism, like, 'Hey, we can garner wealth and we're going to show it.' Which, to me, is a little ridiculous. But now the cycle is coming back to real valid content and conscious lyrics. Guys like Dead Prez and Common are giving people food for thought. You have to listen to the lyrics, it's not just about the beat. Once again, they're talking about empowerment, taking care of yourself, looking out for your brother and sister, being healthy. But the beauty is it has the ability to change and that's the great thing."

—Marni Weisz

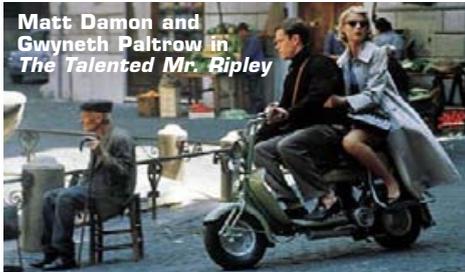


MASTER
T
MAKES
HIS
PICKS

JAMES PATTYN

NEW releases

THE BEACH, MAGNOLIA AND THE HURRICANE
AMONG MONTH'S BEST VIDEO FARE



Matt Damon and Gwyneth Paltrow in *The Talented Mr. Ripley*

The Talented Mr. Ripley (June 27)

Stars: Matt Damon, Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow
Director: Anthony Minghella
Story: Matt Damon is Tom Ripley, a penniless musician hired by a wealthy businessman to travel to Italy and retrieve his errant son, Dickie (Law). But when Tom arrives, he becomes so entranced by Dickie's free-spirited lifestyle and beautiful girlfriend, Marge (Paltrow), that he tries to make them his own. Law's performance earned him an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor.

Hanging Up (June 27)

Stars: Meg Ryan, Diane Keaton, Lisa Kudrow, Walter Matthau
Director: Diane Keaton
Story: When three sisters (Ryan, Keaton and Kudrow) find out that their grumpy, insensitive, philandering father (Matthau) may be dying, they come together to try to work out their family's problems.

Scream 3 (July 4)

Stars: Neve Campbell, David Arquette, Courteney Cox-Arquette
Director: Wes Craven
Story: Sidney Prescott (Campbell) moves to L.A. to become an actress, but it seems where Sidney goes, horror soon follows. Before long, the cast members on the set of *Stab 3: Return to Woodsboro* start turning up dead — so Sidney, reporter Gale Weathers (Cox-Arquette) and officer Dewey Riley (Arquette) reunite to find out who the killer is this time.

My Dog Skip (July 11)

Stars: Frankie Muniz, Diane Lane, Kevin Bacon
Director: Jay Russell
Story: In the summer of 1942, a lonely young

boy (Muniz) gets a new best friend when his parents buy him a little terrier. The story takes place in Yazoo City, Mississippi, circa 1942, and is based on the best-selling memoir by Willie Morris. Young Frankie Muniz is best-known as the precocious Malcolm on TV's *Malcolm in the Middle*.

All About My Mother (July 11)

Stars: Cecilia Roth, Maris Paredes, Penelope Cruz
Director: Pedro Almodovar
Story: Almodovar had to be dragged off the stage by friend Antonio Banderas at this year's Oscars because of his overly loquacious acceptance speech after winning Best Foreign Film for this picture. But he can be excused — his story of a woman who sets out to find the father of her recently deceased son won worldwide acclaim, including the Golden Globe for Best Foreign Language Film and Best Director at Cannes.



Denzel Washington in *The Hurricane*

The Hurricane (July 11)

Stars: Denzel Washington, Rod Steiger, Deborah Kara Unger
Director: Norman Jewison
Story: Washington was nominated for a Best Actor Oscar for his portrayal of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, the middleweight boxing contender who was wrongly convicted of a triple-murder in New Jersey back in the Sixties.

Boiler Room (July 11)

Stars: Giovanni Ribisi, Ben Affleck, Nia Long
Director: Ben Younger
Story: To impress his father, a 19-year-old man (Ribisi) takes a job as a stockbroker and has to sell worthless stocks to unsuspecting investors. Will greed and corruption make him rich, or lead to his downfall?



Julianne Moore in *Magnolia*

Angela's Ashes (July 18)

Stars: Emily Watson, Robert Carlyle
Director: Alan Parker
Story: A poor family, led by an alcoholic father, struggles to survive in Limerick, Ireland, during the Depression. Based on novelist Frank McCourt's Pulitzer Prize-winning autobiography. Acclaimed British actress Emily Watson plays the matriarch of this Irish family.

The Whole Nine Yards (July 18)

Stars: Bruce Willis, Matthew Perry, Michael Clarke Duncan
Director: Jonathan Lynn
Story: A mild-mannered suburban dentist (Perry) has his life turned upside down when the witness protection program moves a retired mobster named Jimmy the Tulip (Willis) into the house next door.

What Planet Are You From? (July 18)

Stars: Garry Shandling, Annette Bening, Greg Kinnear, John Goodman
Director: Mike Nichols
Story: To save his race from extinction, an alien (Shandling) comes to Earth with one mission: to impregnate a woman. But, not versed in human courtship rituals, he finds the task isn't as easy as he'd hoped.

The Beach (July 25)

Stars: Leonardo DiCaprio, Tilda Swinton, Virginie Ledoyen
Director: Danny Boyle
Story: An American backpacker (DiCaprio) in Bangkok meets a French couple and the trio sets off in search of a legendary island paradise known as "The Beach." But they discover that this supposed Eden has a very dark side. Based on the celebrated book by Alex Garland.

Magnolia (July 25)

Stars: William H. Macy, Tom Cruise, Julianne Moore, Jason Robards
Director: Paul Thomas Anderson
Story: The lives of a handful of people are woven together in this story that takes place on a single strange day in California's San Fernando Valley. Cruise was nominated for a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his portrayal of the outwardly macho, inwardly wounded, Frank T.J. Mackey.

10 stars talk about FASHION

By Susan Granger

Sigourney Weaver

"I do love clothes.

For dressing up, I love Richard Tyler, Romeo Gigli and the great Italian and French couturiers, like Saint Laurent. I like things that don't look so new."

Alicia Silverstone "I'm not like any of the characters that I've played in movies. I hate clothes! I really have a hard time dressing — I like sweats and T-shirts. In a lot of the films I've done, I've had to go through a lot of fittings and I just pretended to like it. But, frankly, I just hated every moment of it."



Sigourney Weaver waves during a photocall at the San Sebastian International Film Festival

PABLO SANCHEZ/REUTERS



Brooke Shields arrives at a recent Columbia Pictures luncheon in Las Vegas

STEVE MARCUS/REUTERS

Brooke Shields

"I like a clean look, one that makes you notice the person rather than the clothes or makeup. But I do enjoy adding something funky to something fancy, like pairing my Helmut Lang tuxedo with Dalmatian-print shoes. Simple does not mean boring."

Meg Ryan

"The Eighties really bummed me out because everyone was trying to follow some designer's look. Now you look around and people are being as much themselves as they possibly can. I love the eclecticism of fashion today. I love Prada, Gaultier and the funky, understated clothes of Costume National. I only wear comfortable, natural clothes. The one thing I'd never put on my body is polyester. Synthetic fibers just get me down."

Michelle Pfeiffer

"I'm always more comfortable underdressed than over. I like clean lines and minimal accessories. I'm finding no jewellery very refreshing. I love clothes from Giorgio Armani — no matter what I choose from him, it will work. During the day, I live in blue jeans, white V-neck T-shirts, black stockings and black loafers. For night, it's usually a black cocktail dress."

James Coburn

"When I do a contemporary film, I get the clothes I wore in the film. That way you get it tailored and have it broken in by the time you go home."

Dolly Parton

"I would never stoop so low as to be fashionable."

Lela Rochon

"I go for what makes me feel sexy and I like to be completely colour-coordinated from the inside [lingerie] out. Glamour is something sexy and sensual that commands attention. I love Manolo Blahnik high heels — not that I need them for height because I'm five feet, nine inches tall, but I just love his shoes. They're so sexy and beautiful."

Joely Richardson

"I have never been into really overdesigned things. I have a great collection of silly little summer dresses that I am really too old to wear but I wear anyway. Wintertime, it depends. Over the years, I have built up a good collection of cashmere sweaters that are so comforting to wear. I never buy things that will last for just one season — I am not at all a shopoholic. I love beautiful things but I am not obsessive about it. But when I go out for an evening, I really love to dress up. It's such fun — it's like being a princess."

Mark Wahlberg

"When I was growing up, everything was hand-me-downs. I'm the youngest of nine, so I got the clothes after my brothers — or sisters — were done with them. By the time I got them, I was just hoping I could make them fit. The first really cool item of clothing I got for myself was an Adidas sweatsuit. We went all the way up to the factory about 45 minutes out of Boston to get it. Now I'll wear anything good that's plain and clean-looking: Armani or Gucci primarily, mostly black or navy blue — the basics — nothing too fancy."

starpower

By Dan Liebman

CANCER

June 22-July 22

After several false starts, you're developing good money-making skills. July, with its abundance of lazy days, is splendid for creative thinking and long-term planning. If relatives irk you (more than likely from the 23rd on), go easy on them — you will be rewarded for being such a noble soul.

LEO

July 23-August 22

Show-offy Leo plays an uncharacteristic supporting role that garners great reviews. Seemingly random events are scattered throughout the month, but around the 20th, you should be able to figure out the pattern. A romantic partner may be sentimental while you're acting silly, but no worries — the combination works.

VIRGO

August 23-September 22

Before the end of July your career will take a turn. The key is to take a pro-active role in planning your professional destiny. Country life is a mid-month theme, even for diehard city slickers. A creative project that seemed to have hit a dead end gets back on track when you find the right collaborator.

LIBRA

September 23-October 22

The month unfolds like a poorly edited movie — it's hard to keep track of the plot and sort out the characters. Mid-month galas see you decked out in summertime finery. Libra the art lover may find a treasure at a flea market or garage sale, while Libra the diplomat needs to defuse a late-month feud.

SCORPIO

October 23-November 21

If planning a celebration for a friend, go for an offbeat type of event. A work-related proposal will get two thumbs up — provided you do the necessary fine-tuning. Make financial planning a high priority. Late month is a good time to enter contests, especially if they require a combination of mental sharpness and physical agility.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22-December 22

Platonic friendships develop early in July. Romance requires a more conservative approach because unusual tactics can backfire. If planning a trip, expect surprises that involve delays, unusual weather conditions or a new travel companion.

CAPRICORN

December 23-January 20

Lively travel (1st through 11th), romantic reconciliation (15th through 19th) and professional kudos (late-month) are all in store for this very busy July. Pets also play a part — you may be puppy-sitting, or a dog or cat may decide to adopt you.

AQUARIUS

January 21-February 19

Though not your usual style, it's far more productive to promote rather than understate your abilities. In romance and finance, follow-ups are critical. Update your passport and related documents, even if you're not planning a big trip. A long-term friendship takes a surprise turn, but don't overanalyze the situation.

PISCES

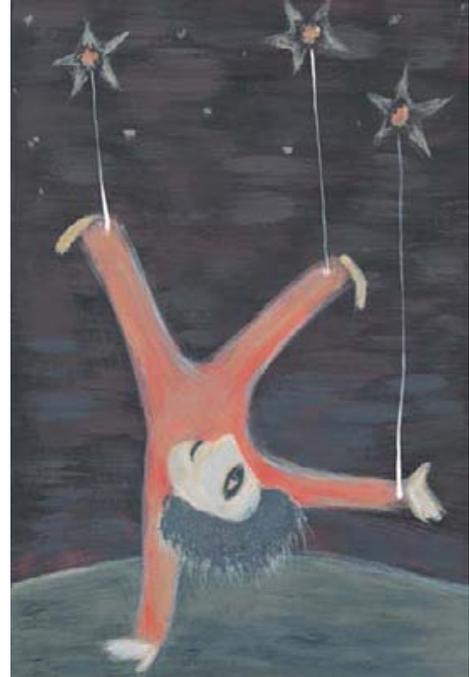
February 20-March 20

A pet project, especially one involving community work, turns out to be a surprise hit. The first two weeks of July are for romance — think candlelight, luscious food and a wacky sense of fun. All arrangements requiring shared expenses should be ironed out well in advance. In financial matters, the details are essential.

ARIES

March 21-April 20

As the month opens, you find yourself needing some time alone. But your emotional batteries should be sufficiently recharged by the 10th, at which time you turn into a powerhouse — kind of like motivational speaker Tony Robbins. Your partner is loving yet surprisingly sensitive, so choose words and gestures carefully from the 22nd on.



KATIA SMIRNOVA

TAURUS

April 21-May 22

You show promising signs of being on the rebound, and there are good prospects for an exciting new relationship starting around the 4th. Dealings with neighbours can be tricky toward mid-month. Much of late July has a comfy quality, as you find yourself surrounded by a familiar gaggle of charming, low-maintenance house guests.

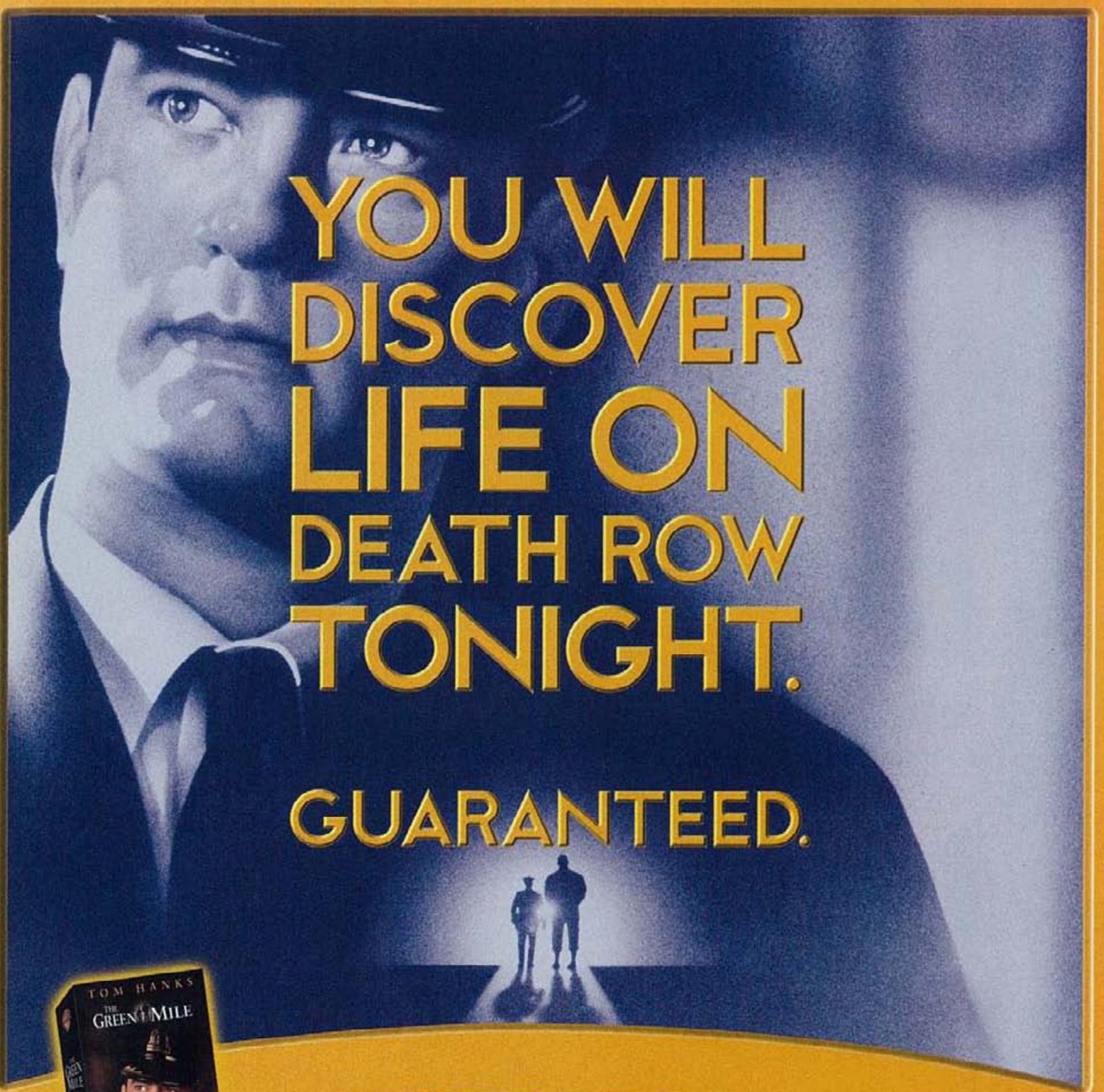
GEMINI

May 23-June 21

During the first half of the month, you deliver good news to those most important in your life. Come the 16th, people are lining up to congratulate you on an achievement. One late-month caution: Don't overbook your summer calendar.

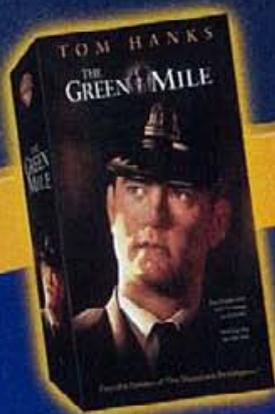
JULY BIRTHDAYS by date

1st	Dan Aykroyd	17th	Donald Sutherland
2nd	Jerry Hall	18th	Hume Cronyn
3rd	Tom Cruise	19th	Atom Egoyan
4th	Neil Simon	20th	Natalie Wood
5th	Huey Lewis	21st	Robin Williams
6th	Janet Leigh	22nd	Alex Trebek
7th	Shelley Duvall	23rd	Woody Harrelson
8th	Anjelica Huston	24th	Jennifer Lopez
9th	Tom Hanks	25th	Matt LeBlanc
10th	Elwy Yost	26th	Sandra Bullock
11th	Giorgio Armani	27th	Maury Chaykin
12th	Bill Cosby	28th	Sally Struthers
13th	Harrison Ford	29th	Wil Wheaton
14th	Ingmar Bergman	30th	Hilary Swank
15th	Linda Ronstadt	31st	Wesley Snipes
16th	Ginger Rogers		



YOU WILL
DISCOVER
LIFE ON
DEATH ROW
TONIGHT.

GUARANTEED.



If The Green Mile isn't on our shelf for you tonight, BLOCKBUSTER® will give it to you FREE next time. Guaranteed*.



© 1999 Warner Bros. All Rights Reserved.
© 2000 Warner Home Video Canada.
Rated 14A.

*See in-store for details. May be subject to availability.

BLOCKBUSTER name, design and related marks are trademarks of Blockbuster Inc. ©2000 Blockbuster Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Bringing Entertainment Home™

Famous Players™ is the **HOTTEST** place to be

Today's moviegoers are young,
active, affluent consumers who know
what they want.

Make them want what you've got.

HIT YOUR TARGET WITH

Famous magazine

exclusive interviews original copy lifestyle columns

PLUS

On-Screen Advertising • In-Theatre Backlit Posters

Outdoor "Mega Murals" • Famous Players Online

Famous Kids magazine (coming soon)

Get **results with Famous**

Famous Players Media, Inc.

1314 Britannia Road East, Mississauga, Ontario, L4W 1C8
email: famous@interlog.com Fax: (905) 564-3398

Tel: (905) 564-1033

Salah Bachir ext. 222 Wayne Carter ext. 232

Sarah Toth ext. 233 Jamie Cruver ext. 224 Paul Gitlin ext. 236

British Columbia: Diane Rajh

4580 Bonita Drive, N. Vancouver
British Columbia V7R 3J6
Tel: (604) 904-8622 Fax: (604) 986-7189

Western Canada : Michael Flatt/ Julie Flatt

95 Evergreen Close Southwest
Calgary, Alberta T2Y 2X8
Tel: (403) 201-6992