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Famous

july 2004 | volume 5 | number 7

A CINDERELLA
STORY'S
**HILARY
DUFF**

DENZEL
BACKS THE
MANCHURIAN
CANDIDATE

HALLE
BERRY'S
CATWOMAN

THE LATEST
Video
& DVD
PAGE 42

GET CAUGHT
UP WITH
SPIDER-MAN 2'S

**TOBEY
MAGUIRE**

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PLUS ANTONIO BANDERAS, CAMERON DIAZ AND OTHER STARS ON THE NATURE OF LOVE

FROM THE DIRECTOR OF "DUDE, WHERE'S MY CAR?"

JOHN CHO
HAROLD & KUMAR
KAL PENN
GO TO
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SUBJECT TO CLASSIFICATION



AOL KEYWORD: HAROLD AND KUMAR

IN THEATRES JULY 30TH

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Licking the wounds of a failed marriage, *Catwoman's* Halle Berry unleashed her inner kitty by playing film's most famous feline. Here, she talks candidly about surviving a string of personal crises, and the thinking behind that very revealing costume | **BY EARL DITTMAN**

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A Cinderella's Story's Hilary Duff thinks her updated fairy tale flick will appeal to "old" people, you know, like 30-year-olds. Find out what the reigning teen queen has to say about her crossover appeal | **BY EARL DITTMAN**

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30 HANGING BY A THREAD

Tobey Maguire is back as Spidey in *Spider-Man 2*. But there was a time when Maguire's return was in doubt. The reticent star opens up about the back problems that plagued him, the sensational sequel and proving, once and for all, that he's the right man for the role | **BY BARRETT HOOPER**



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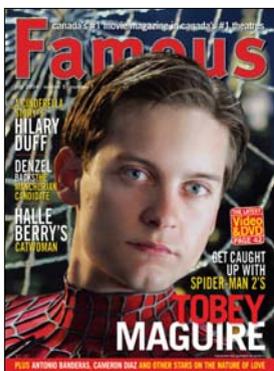
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State of New York



More than two years after its release there are several things that stick in one's mind about the first *Spider-Man* movie — at more than \$114-million (U.S.) it had the biggest opening weekend of all time; Freddie Prinze Jr., Heath Ledger and Scott Speedman were all either in the running or actively campaigning for the role that eventually went to **Tobey Maguire**; a trailer featuring Spidey catching a helicopter full of bank robbers in a web between the World Trade Center towers was pulled after 9/11.

Oh, you'd forgotten about that one?

There was a time, not so long ago, that movies were being delayed, digitally altered or outright shelved if they had anything to do with New York or the doomed towers. Some pop culture pundits said we'd never be able to watch a movie that takes place in New York the same way again. But now, as *Spider-Man 2* reaches theatres, the wound inflicted on New York has turned into a scar — one with which we're intimately familiar, but one which we've seen so many times we almost forget it's there.

So most people won't even notice that there are no twin towers in *Spider-Man's* New York this time around. (Despite the fact that the first movie came out eight months after 9/11, the filmmakers opted to leave the towers in the original.) In fact, the topic of New York, September 11th and its place in film didn't even come up when writer Barrett Hooper spoke with Maguire about *Spider-Man 2*. Instead, "Web Savy," page 30, is filled with musings on the concept of the flawed superhero, that injured back that almost kept him from the sequel and tidbits about — yes, it's true — *Spider-Man 3*, already in pre-production.

September 11th certainly wasn't the first political disaster to cast ripples in the film world. The last public tragedy to have as enormous an effect on the North American psyche — the 1963 assassination of John F. Kennedy — prompted Frank Sinatra to forbid his 1962 movie *The Manchurian Candidate* from being shown in public. Sinatra, who owned the film's rights, was scared people would draw parallels between Lee Harvey Oswald and the film's central character, a Korean War vet brainwashed to kill the president. He was also disturbed by reports that Oswald was a fan of the film. It wasn't until 1987 that Ol' Blue Eyes relented and allowed a re-release. And now comes a remake of the classic conspiracy theory pic starring **Denzel Washington** in Sinatra's role. In "War and Remembrance," page 18, Denzel Washington talks about the perils of remaking a great film and admits (egad!) he's never even seen the original.

On page 24 you'll find "What's New, Pussycat?" in which **Halle Berry** opens up about her *annus horribilis* — which included breaking her arm and separating from husband Eric Benet. But it wasn't all bad — she also got to take over a role made famous by one of her idols, Eartha Kitt, in *Catwoman*.

And then there's **Hilary Duff**, the sweet, perky, blond who couldn't possibly have had a bad day so far in her 16 years, could she? You're expecting me to follow that by hinting at a drug problem, or family skeletons, aren't you? Sorry, if there are any we didn't find them. In "Charmed Life," page 28, Duff discusses her email woes, having middle-aged rock stars as fans and her new flick, *A Cinderella Story*. —Marni Weisz

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CAUGHT ON FILM

THE STARS WORK, PLAY AND PROMOTE THEIR MOVIES



PHOTO BY ALESSANDRO BIANCHI/REUTERS

◀◀◀ Brad Pitt and director Steven Soderbergh share a laugh while on a break from shooting *Ocean's Twelve* at Rome's famed Piazza Navona. The sequel to 2001's *Ocean's Eleven* brought the boys (plus Julia Roberts and Catherine Zeta-Jones) overseas to pull off three separate heists — one in Paris, one in Amsterdam and one in Rome. The film should hit theatres this December.

∨ We're thinking it was probably Jack Black
∨ himself who came up with the idea to have him and his *Shark Tale* co-stars Will Smith and Angelina Jolie ride around the Bay of Cannes on this giant inflatable shark. The fishy animated mob story — for which all three actors did voice work — comes out in October.



PHOTO BY ERIC GALLARD/REUTERS



▲ Unlike most beach-going celebs, who run screaming from paparazzi or hide behind enormous hats (not that we blame them), *S.W.A.T.* star Michelle Rodriguez models the latest in seaweed wigs for a snapper at a Malibu beach. That knee brace is the result of a tumble she took from the rock-wall at her local gym.



▲ Awww...sleepy little thing. New mom Gwyneth Paltrow goes for a walk with baby Apple near their London home. You just know that the absence of a bulging baby bag slung over Gwynnie's shoulder means there's an assistant or two or three just outside the frame.



<<< Heath Ledger takes a ride through the streets of Calgary on his trusty Harley-Davidson. The Aussie hunk was in town shooting Ang Lee's controversial *Brokeback Mountain*. Why controversial, you ask? Because it's based on a steamy book about a couple of Old West cowboys (Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal) who fall in love. Bad news is Lee will, reportedly, cut out a lot of their kissing scenes. Don't do it Ang!



In the PINK

Kristen Holden-Reid can thank the penny-pinching Canadian Heritage Ministry for his acting career.

The now-30-year-old actor was once a promising member of Canada's national pentathlon team — the pentathlon is a single-day event where athletes compete in fencing, swimming, horseback riding, pistol shooting and cross-country running events. Sure, it sounds prestigious, but try performing this decidedly upper-class sport while you're broke.

"There's basically no funding for amateur sports in Canada and I got myself into humongous debt by travelling around the world fencing and riding horses," explains Holden-Reid. "I needed to make money and decided to try acting."

And while his Olympic dreams have been dashed, his acting aspirations are only now coming into focus. The lanky, fair-haired actor, originally from the Ontario farming community of Clarendon, has been working for almost a decade now, mostly in TV movies and small Canadian films. However, that may all change when people catch him in the feel-good, gay romantic comedy *Touch of Pink*.

Sitting in a bistro across from the University of Toronto athletic centre, Holden-Reid sips a cup of tea and talks about his *Touch of Pink* character, Giles, the charming British boyfriend of Alim (Jimi Mistry). Alim, an Indian-Canadian photographer living in London, England, gets into a messy situation when he tries to hide his sexuality from his visiting mother.

"Giles is a character I don't get to play very often," admits Holden-Reid. "Usually, I'm in a very specific kind of role — Rainy Day Guy #2," he says with a laugh, "whereas with Giles I brought something to the character, which is joy. I focused on making him fun, and completely honest."

Having fun seems to come easily to Holden-Reid. He throws his head

back and slaps his thigh when laughing, and tells you he talks with an Irish or Scottish accent when drunk. And when it comes to acting, he believes you have to perform from the heart.

Ask him about working with Liam Neeson and Harrison Ford on *K-11: The Widowmaker*, the sole big-budget, Hollywood movie on his resume.

"I learned a fair amount from that experience," he says. "They are two very different actors. Harrison is a technician and, in many ways, not very soulful. Whereas Liam is a from-the-guts kind of actor. I much prefer Liam's approach to acting. I think it has more integrity, it's putting yourself into the craft, whereas Harrison takes a 'We're making faces for money' approach. He's very open about it."

"I think it affected a lot of the guys on the shoot. There were something like 20 young actors, and we're all thinking, 'YES, we're going to be working with Harrison Ford and Liam Neeson and it's going to be awesome!' And then to have him behave in that way... I kind of walked away with a dirty taste in my mouth."

But making *Touch of Pink* helped wash away that bitter taste and Holden-Reid is ready to take the next step in his career. He lives in Toronto, but knows he'll have to head down to L.A. to get bigger and better roles.

"It's sort of a weird waiting game now," he explains. "When you're moving into the next echelon of casting, it's a little slow. People don't know me yet, they think 'Why should we see this guy?'"

"The magic phrase in the industry is 'Well, he's in...' and as soon as someone can say 'Well, he's in *Touch of Pink*, he's the boyfriend,' it has such a remarkable effect in casting. It's like the fairy godmother elixir. There are so many people out there to choose from that casting agents and producers get bogged down. 'What's he's done, is he recognizable?' That's what they latch onto."

—INGRID RANDOJA

Mimi is wearing #13A Gingerbread

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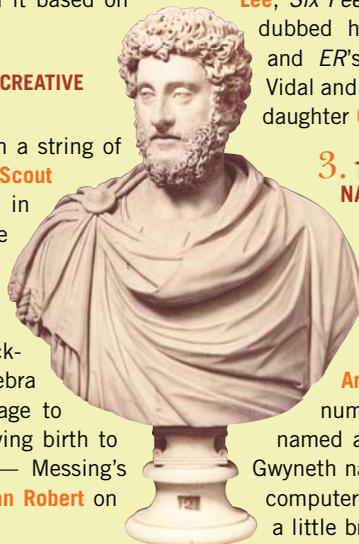
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Whatever happened to baby Jane?

More North American babies are born in July, August and September than any other time of the year. And if you're about to pop out your own bundle of joy you might want to look to Hollywood for inspiration when it comes to names. Then again, maybe not. Everyone was bemused when Gwyneth Paltrow and Chris Martin named their daughter Apple. But a trends analyst somewhere probably predicted it based on the following factors:

1. CELEBRITIES' NEED TO PROVE THEY ARE MORE CREATIVE THAN THE REST OF US.

It started in the late '80s and early '90s with a string of Bruce Willis/Demi Moore offspring — **Rumer**, **Scout** and **Tallulah Belle**. Madonna carried the torch in the late-'90s with **Lourdes** and **Rocco**. And the trend has only picked up speed with Ving Rhames's **Rainbow** and **Freedom**, Gary Oldman's **Gulliver** and Elle MacPherson's **Aurelius**. But this quest for originality can backfire, as happened earlier this year when Debra Messing and Cate Blanchett both paid homage to one of history's most powerful empires by giving birth to baby Romans less than three weeks apart — Messing's **Roman Walker** on April 7th, Blanchett's **Roman Robert** on the 23rd.



2. THE CELEBRITY TREND OF NAMING ONE'S CHILD AFTER A NOUN.

In 2003 alone *A Knight's Tale* hottie Shannyn Sossamon welcomed **Audio Science Clayton**, Jason Lee's wife Beth Riesgraf gave birth to **Pilot Inspektor Lee**, *Six Feet Under*'s Rachel Griffiths dubbed her son **Banjo Patrick Taylor** and *ER*'s lesbian Latina fire-fighter Lisa Vidal and her *ER*-producing husband Jay Cohen named their daughter **Crumpet Cohen**.



3. THE GENERAL PUBLIC'S INCREASING TENDENCY TO NAME THEIR CHILDREN AFTER BRANDS.

A recent study by psychology professor Cleveland Evans of Nebraska's Bellevue University found that in 2000, out of the four-million babies born in the U.S., there were 55 **Chevys**, 25 **Infinitis**, 21 **L'Oreal's**, seven **DelMontes**, six **Timberlands**, 571 **Armanis** (273 of them boys, 298 girls), 269 **Chanel's**, numerous **Evians** and **Guinnesses** and even two **ESPNs**, named after the sports network. And who said Chris and Gwyneth named **Apple** after the fruit? It could have been the computer empire. We'll know for sure if some day Apple has a little brother named Mac. —MW

Eat at Rick's Café

Run "Casablanca" through Google and you'll get far more results about Humphrey Bogart and the 1942 Warner Brothers classic than about Morocco's vibrant business centre.

In North America, at least, the movie has supplanted its setting in terms of recognition, so it comes as no surprise that the phrase "Can you direct me to Rick's Café" is commonly uttered in touristy areas of the great Moroccan seaport. Of course, Rick's Café Américain never did exist in Casablanca — the movie being fiction, and filmed entirely in Hollywood.

"People would come here expecting some remnant of the film only to be told that, no, there's not a Rick's Café," explains former Portland, Oregon, native Kathy Kriger on the line from Casablanca. "And then I guess the second line of amazement is the fact that there never has been one."

Until now.

Kriger, who moved to Morocco to work



for the American consulate, giving advice to Yanks who want to do business in the country, has just opened the first Rick's Café in Casablanca.

But you'll notice the "Américain" has been dropped from the restaurant's name. Could it have anything to do with the fact that Morocco is a Muslim country, and most of the suspects charged in the Madrid train bombings were Moroccan?

"Well, first of all I didn't want to go overboard drawing attention to..." Kriger says, then pauses before picking up



From left: Kriger's Rick's Café; Humphrey Bogart in front of his original gin joint

again, "I have a problem, myself, with some of the political things that are problems right now."

When asked how Americans are perceived in Morocco, Kriger insists that, as individuals, they are welcomed. "It's just that the policies [of the U.S.] are certainly not well-received here," she says.

But, aside from the name, what makes Kriger's restaurant any more connected to the film than any other eatery in Casablanca? After all, more than 50 years have passed since the movie's release, meaning the name "Rick's Café" is in the public domain and Kriger didn't even have to get permission to use it.

Kriger says she watched the movie hundreds of times to get the ambiance just right — the bar is the same shape as in the movie, and each table has its own beaded lamp, just like in the film. Plus, there's Issam behind the piano — not Sam, but Issam. "Someone called and gave me his name and I said, 'Well, he's already half-way into the job because his name is so incredible,'" Kriger recalls with a laugh.

Issam Chabaa is scheduled to play "As Time Goes By" twice a night, but will play it again, if requested. —MW

now in theatres

Have fun at *Sleepover*, run screaming from *The Village*, or let *Catwoman*, *Spider-Man* and *King Arthur* battle for your bucks



KING ARTHUR

WHO'S IN IT? Clive Owen, Keira Knightley

WHO DIRECTED? Antoine Fuqua (*Tears of the Sun*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? When Roman conquerors abandon Britain, reluctant leader Arthur (Owens) stays behind to unite the feuding Celtic tribes and fend off Saxon invaders. The sprightly Keira Knightley plays a gung-ho Guinevere.

HITS THEATRES JULY 7

ANCHORMAN

WHO'S IN IT? Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate

WHO DIRECTED? Adam McKay (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Ferrell stars as sexist '70s TV anchorman Ron Burgundy, whose reign as San Diego's top news dog comes to an end when a qualified female journalist (Applegate) enters the picture. Look for cameos by Tim Robbins, Ben Stiller and Jack Black.

HITS THEATRES JULY 9



JUNE 30

SPIDER-MAN 2

WHO'S IN IT? Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst

WHO DIRECTED? Sam Raimi (*Spider-Man*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Peter Parker, a.k.a. Spider-Man, is having serious doubts regarding his career path (superhero, photographer, superhero...), which allows well-armed villain Dr. Octopus (Alfred Molina) the chance to terrorize the city. **See Tobey Maguire interview, page 30.**

JULY 2

BEFORE SUNSET

WHO'S IN IT? Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy

WHO DIRECTED? Richard Linklater (*Tape*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Ten years ago Linklater gave us *Before Sunrise*, about an American tourist (Hawke) and a French student (Delpy) who meet on a train then spend a night in Vienna gabbing. Cut to Paris 2004, where the couple reunite and catch up.

THE CLEARING

WHO'S IN IT? Robert Redford, Helen Mirren

WHO DIRECTED? Pieter Jan Brugge (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? A couple's faltering marriage is put to the test when the husband (Redford) is kidnapped, and wife (Mirren) is asked to deliver the ransom.

JULY 9

SLEEPOVER

WHO'S IN IT? Alexa Vega, Mika Boorem

WHO DIRECTED? Joe Nussbaum (debut)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Four unpopular girls compete in a scavenger hunt against their school's reigning clique.

JULY 16

A CINDERELLA STORY

WHO'S IN IT? Hilary Duff, Jennifer Coolidge

WHO DIRECTED? Mark Rosman (*Evolver*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Duff plays a teen who works in her stepmother's diner and puts up with the put-downs from her two stepsisters. But she transforms from frumpy to fabulous when a cute guy plans to meet her at the school dance. **See Hilary Duff interview, page 28.**

I, ROBOT

WHO'S IN IT? Will Smith, Bridget Moynahan

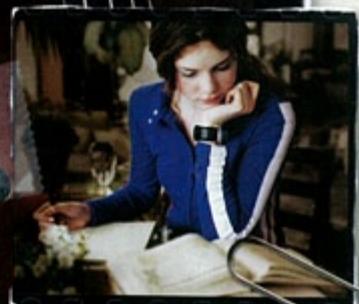
WHO DIRECTED? Alex Proyas (*Dark City*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? This adaptation of Isaac Asimov's anthology is set in 2035 and stars Smith as a homicide detective who believes a robot murdered a human. But according to a robotics tycoon (Bruce Greenwood) that's impossible, since machines can't hurt humans. ▶▶

When I change,
So does my look.

Change is
important to me.
It lets me be
unique and reflects
who I am, at
any given
moment. I
want to be
an individual.
Who doesn't?

- Julia



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THE BOURNE SUPREMACY

WHO'S IN IT? Matt Damon, Franka Potente
WHO DIRECTED? Paul Greengrass (*The Fix*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? This sequel to *The Bourne Identity* finds former CIA operative Jason Bourne (Damon) framed for the murder of a Chinese diplomat.

HITS THEATRES JULY 23



THE VILLAGE

WHO'S IN IT? Judy Greer, Joaquin Phoenix
WHO DIRECTED? M. Night Shyamalan (*Signs*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The inhabitants of a 19th-century Pennsylvanian village have an implicit peace pact with scary "creatures" who live in the neighbouring forest. But when that pact is broken, a brave villager (Phoenix) tries to pass through the woods to get help from the outside world.

HITS THEATRES JULY 30



METALLICA: SOME KIND OF MONSTER

WHO'S IN IT? James Hetfield, Lars Ulrich
WHO DIRECTED? Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky (*Paradise Lost*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? This enthralling documentary takes a behind-the-scenes look at Metallica's two-year struggle to record and release their latest album, *St. Anger*. We observe these headbangers banging heads in group therapy sessions, and dealing with a possible breakup when lead singer Hetfield goes into rehab. Even metal haters will be fascinated by this group's weird working dynamic.

JULY 23

CATWOMAN

WHO'S IN IT? Halle Berry, Sharon Stone
WHO DIRECTED? Pitof (*Vidocq*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Halle Berry plays murdered graphic designer Patience Philips,

who is brought back to life by a magical Egyptian cat that endows her with feline powers. Sporting a bull whip and a costume that looks as if it was ordered from the Victoria's Secret Superhero catalogue, Berry's Catwoman is the year's most provocative, and pissed off, comic book hero. **See Halle Berry interview, page 24.**

JULY 30

THE MANCHURIAN CANDIDATE

WHO'S IN IT? Denzel Washington, Meryl Streep
WHO DIRECTED? Jonathan Demme (*The Truth About Charlie*)
WHAT'S ABOUT? This remake of the 1962 thriller stars Washington as a Desert Storm veteran who remembers that he and fellow soldier Raymond Shaw (Liev Schreiber) were brainwashed by the enemy. And now he must stop Shaw from doing something very scary. **See Denzel Washington interview, page 18.**

▶▶ A TOUCH OF PINK

WHO'S IN IT? Jimi Mistry, Kristen Holden-Reid
WHO DIRECTED? Ian Iqbal Rashid (debut)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? Gay photographer Alim (Mistry) lives happily with his partner Giles (Holden-Reid) in England. But when Alim's mom comes to convince her closeted son to return to Toronto for his cousin's wedding *and* to find a nice Muslim girl of his own, Alim has to decide between mom and boyfriend. **See Kristen Holden-Reid interview, page 10.**

HAROLD AND KUMAR GO TO WHITE CASTLE

WHO'S IN IT? John Cho, Kal Penn
WHO DIRECTED? Danny Leiner (*Dude, Where's My Car?*)
WHAT'S IT ABOUT? The mostly self-explanatory title informs us that stoner pals Harold and Kumar spend a night driving around New Jersey searching for the perfect White Castle hamburger.

HITS THEATRES JULY 30





THUNDERBIRDS

WHO'S IN IT? Bill Paxton, Ben Kingsley

WHO DIRECTED? Jonathan Frakes

(*Clockstoppers*)

WHAT'S IT ABOUT? This live-action remake of the puppet-populated '60s TV show stars Paxton as billionaire, ex-astronaut Jeff Tracey who, along with his five sons, operates International Rescue, an elite team that battles nefarious baddies.

HITS THEATRES JULY 30

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War and REMEMBRANCE

Hollywood's most-revered conspiracy flick, *The Manchurian Candidate*, gets a facelift with **Denzel Washington** as the war vet struggling for total recall | **BY BARRETT HOOPER**



Denzel Washington's case of déjà vu leads to something very sinister in *The Manchurian Candidate*

Denzel Washington works the room like a seasoned politico — warm smiles and handshakes and oodles of charm all around — though he professes no aspirations for public office. He'd have you believe he's just a suburban dad, after all, who carools and coaches Little League and likes to barbecue on the weekends. And he's almost convincing in his baseball cap and sneakers at this Toronto cocktail party, except for the fact that he also just happens to be a staple of *People* magazine's list of the most-beautiful celebrities and makes \$20-million per picture.

He's smooth and confident, qualities less-secure people could mistake for arrogance. He meets you head-on, eyes locking on yours. And while not uncomfortable giving interviews — his answers are direct and to the point, occasionally playful and always thoughtful — it's obvious Denzel talking about Denzel is not Denzel's favourite way to spend an afternoon.

Washington believes his acting speaks louder than words. And with 32 feature films, which have earned \$1.1-billion (U.S.) at the box office, and five Academy Award nominations, including two wins (for *Glory* and *Training Day*), that's more decibels than an F-14 on afterburner. Not that it took bamboo shoots under his fingernails or Chinese water torture to get him to open up about his new movie, a remake of the political thriller *The Manchurian Candidate*. Although, given the film's corkscrew plot and Washington's reluctance to ruin it for fans, a few drops of sodium pentothal would have come in handy.

Now, if you haven't seen the original, which starred Frank Sinatra and Laurence Harvey, or read the book upon which it was based by author Richard Condon, then consider this a SPOILER WARNING: Skip the next three paragraphs, munch on some popcorn.

The 1962 version, directed by the late thrillmeister John Frankenheimer, tells the story of a Korean War veteran (Harvey) who was brainwashed by the Soviets and Chinese as part of a Communist plot to assassinate the President of the United States. And Sinatra, in one of his finest screen performances, played his platoon leader, who uncovers the conspiracy and sets out to prevent the assassination. ▶▶

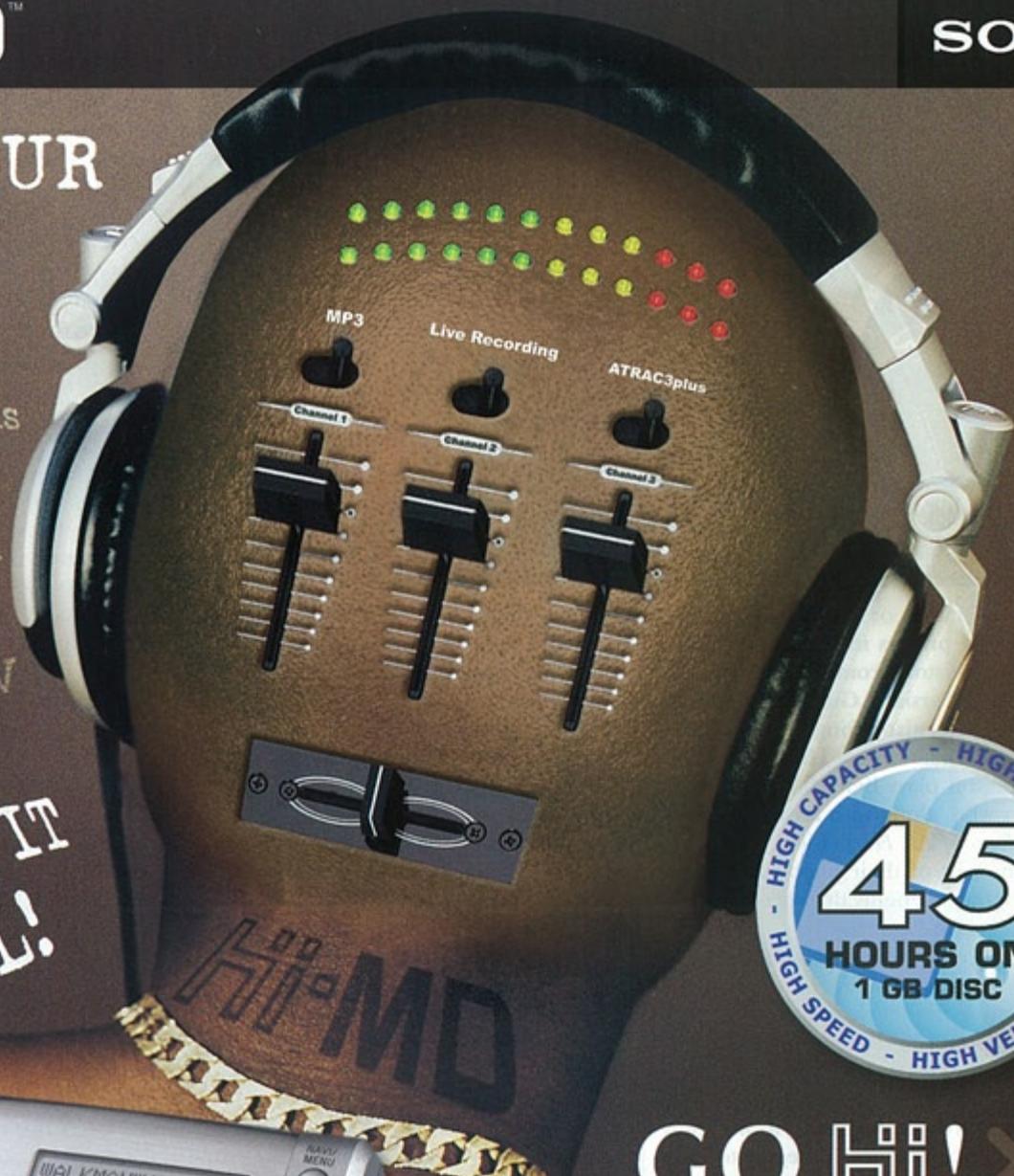
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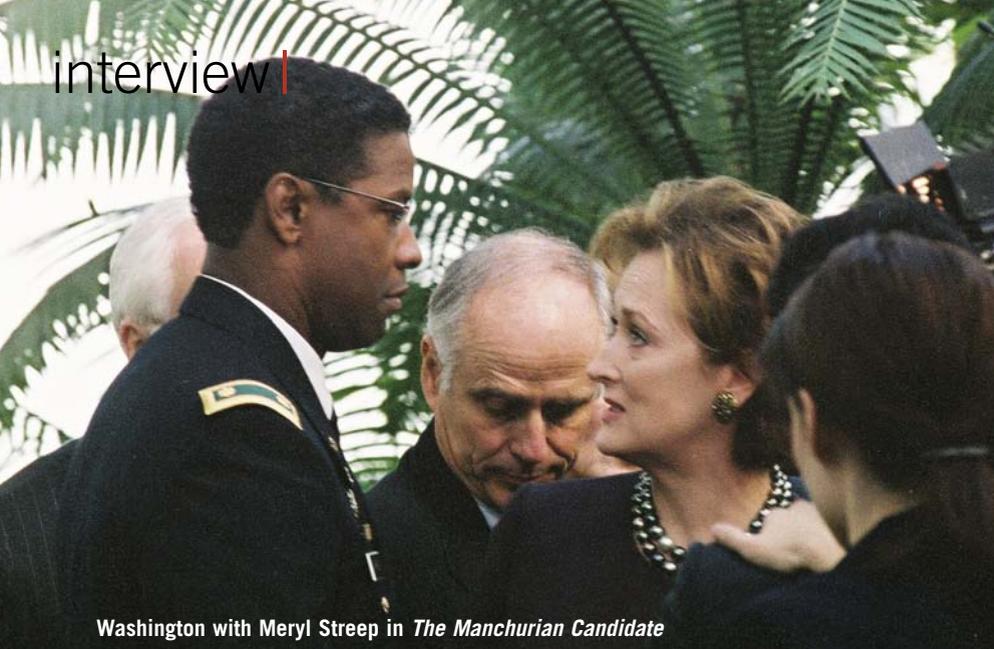
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Washington with Meryl Streep in *The Manchurian Candidate*

▶▶ The remake, or “re-imagining,” as Hollywood prefers to call these things, updates the story from the Cold War to the first Persian Gulf War, which Washington also fought in 1996’s *Courage Under Fire*. This time out Washington plays Ben Marco, a career soldier who, along with Raymond Shaw (*The Sum of All Fears*’ Liev Schreiber) and the rest of their platoon, is taken captive by the enemy during Operation Desert Storm.

Back home years later, with no memory of what happened, Shaw parlays his status as a highly decorated war hero into a political career, quickly rising in prominence to become a vice-presidential candidate. Marco, meanwhile, is having trouble adjusting to life away from the battlefield. He begins to have suspicions about what actually happened while they were imprisoned, eventually uncovering the plot he and Shaw were unwittingly made a part of. Jon Voight is on board as a liberal senator while Meryl Streep is Shaw’s power-hungry senator mother, a role played rather nastily by a pre-*Murder She Wrote* Angela Lansbury in the original.

So what’s it like to follow in the rather intimidating footsteps of Ol’ Blue Eyes? “I don’t see it that way. I just approached the role the same way I do every other role, focused on playing the character my way,” says Washington, subconsciously evoking the Sinatra standard. “This character’s a risk, but that’s where the joy in acting comes from, the chances you take.”

And by Hollywood’s standards there are few risks greater than a remake. “It’s dangerous waters,” concedes Washington, where a film can easily run

aground on the shores of high expectations and poor execution and the overwhelming question of “Why bother?” They rarely, if ever, work well. For example, *Manchurian Candidate* director Jonathan Demme’s last film was *The Truth About Charlie*, an abhorrent update of the Cary Grant-Audrey Hepburn classic *Charade*. And since the original *Manchurian Candidate* worked so well, as a thriller, as an espionage noir, as a political satire of Cold War hysteria, why fix it if it ain’t broke?

“Well, I never saw the original,” says Washington. Sensing the minefield into which he’s wandered he chooses his words carefully. “I don’t know that a lot of people have. So we didn’t approach this as a remake at all.” A year after the original was released, Sinatra was so devastated by President Kennedy’s assassination (and the similarities that could be drawn to the events in the film) that he bought the film’s rights and had it shelved for more than 20 years. “We had a great script, an excellent, excellent script, very contemporary, that took

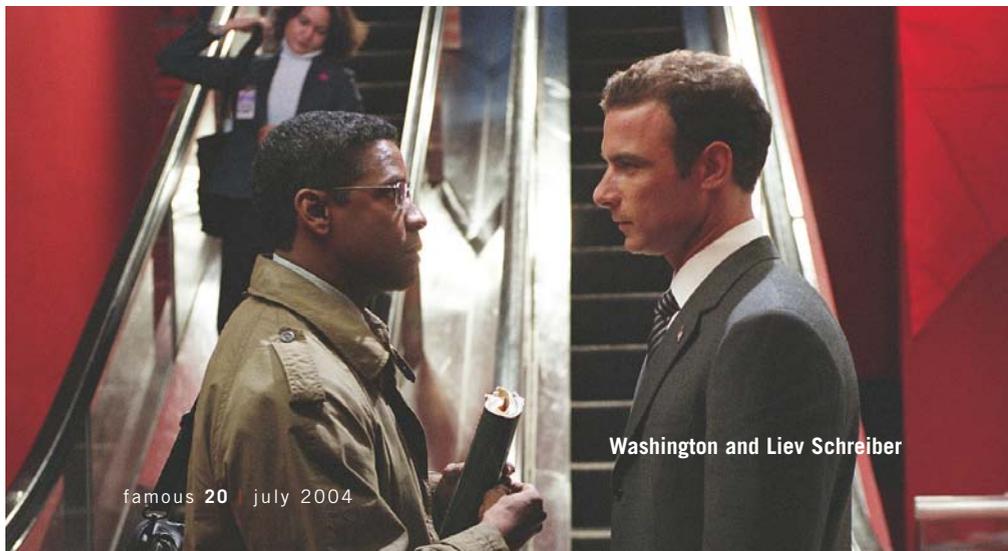
some chances,” Washington continues. “And it was an opportunity to work with Jonathan again.”

Washington, who turns 50 later this year, first worked with Jonathan Demme, the Oscar-winning director of *The Silence of the Lambs*, on 1993’s AIDS drama *Philadelphia* with Tom Hanks. So it’s not surprising the actor and director would want to team up again. Besides, more than any other A-list star, Washington has a habit of sticking with directors he trusts, a rarity given that the revolving-door mentality of Hollywood dictates actors go where the money is, and directors where the work is.

Washington has made three films with Spike Lee — *Mo’ Better Blues*, *Malcolm X* and *He Got Game*, and three more with Ed Zwick, including the Civil War epic *Glory*, which earned Washington his first Oscar (as Best Supporting Actor) for his portrayal of an embittered slave-turned-soldier. Those he’s worked with twice include Demme, Norman Jewison, who cast him in one of his earliest screen roles in *A Soldier’s Story*, Carl Franklin and Tony Scott, who helmed Washington’s last film, the revenge thriller *Man on Fire*. “It’s about working with people whose work I respect and who I respect as individuals and who treat me the same way,” says Washington.

Respect is something highly prized by Washington, and while he’s now considered the heir to Sidney Poitier, the first actor to demonstrate that an African-American could become a heartthrob and a top box-office draw, Washington fought for years to get the respect from Hollywood that he feels he deserves.

He was openly bitter after his 1992 portrayal of Malcolm X lost out in the ▶▶



Washington and Liev Schreiber



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►► Oscar voting to a hoo-hawing Al Pacino, and he made no bones about wanting to win for playing wrongfully convicted boxer Rubin Carter in *The Hurricane*. “I know you’re supposed to say you’re happy to be nominated and all, but the truth is, I wanted to win,” Washington said during an L.A. interview to promote his directorial debut, *Antwone Fisher*, two years ago. “And I wanted to win for *Training Day* and every other time I was nominated. There’s nothing wrong with saying that, is there?”

Born in Mount Vernon, New York, the middle child of a Pentecostal minister and a beautician, Washington earned a journalism degree in 1977, the same year he landed a small part in a made-for-TV bio-pic of black track star Wilma Rudolph, where he met his future wife, Pauletta. After a year of study at

San Francisco’s American Conservatory Theater, Washington moved to New York, where he earned acclaim in Charles Fuller’s *A Soldier’s Play* (he reprised his role three years later for Jewison’s film adaptation) and *When the Chickens Come Home to Roost*, in which he played Malcolm X. Those performances led to a regular role on the hit hospital series *St. Elsewhere* and his big-screen debut as George Segal’s illegitimate black son in *Carbon Copy*.

Five years later, in 1987, his portrayal of South African political activist Steve Biko in the searing *Cry Freedom* brought him his first taste of real stardom in the form of an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actor. Washington took home the gold statuette two years later for *Glory*, and the transition from actor to movie star was complete.

“When he comes into a movie, even if he’s not the star, he changes it,” says Franklin, who directed Washington in the ’40s noir *Devil in a Blue Dress* and last year’s *Out of Time*. “His rhythms are different. He doesn’t play the beats the same as other actors. He bends the notes like jazz.”

And yet, Washington also brings a banker’s mindset to a project, considering the chances for box-office success before signing on. Because, even though it doesn’t affect his paycheck, if a film bombs at the box office, he’s less likely to get the next big gig. “It’s called show business,” he says. “If somebody came to me and asked for \$100-million I want to make my money back. It’s not philanthropy — it’s business. You want to get the investment back.”

And — from that perspective — the prospects for *The Manchurian Candidate* look rosy. Paramount Pictures, the studio behind the film, is so confident with the result that it shifted the film’s release from this fall to July 30 and the heat of the summer blockbuster season.

“I think we’re all very satisfied with the work we’ve done,” says Washington. **F**

Barrett Hooper is a freelance writer based in Toronto.



coming soon

THE FORGOTTEN >> (September)

Stars: Julianne Moore, Gary Sinise

Director: Joseph Ruben (*Return to Paradise*)

Story: A single mother (Moore) seeks the help of a psychiatrist (Sinise) after her eight-year-old son disappears in a plane crash. However, instead of the expected support and sympathy, she’s told that her boy was merely a figment of her imagination. But when she meets another psych patient who was told a similar story after his daughter went missing, she realizes there’s something very spooky afoot. Nicole Kidman was originally supposed to play Moore’s role. Perhaps she dropped out because she’d already covered the whole is-my-kid-dead-alive-or-non-existent? genre with *The Others*.

WIMBLEDON >> (September)

Stars: Kirsten Dunst, Paul Bettany

Director: Richard Loncraine (*Richard III*)

Story: He’s blond, he’s cute and he landed one of Hollywood’s hottest leading ladies in Jennifer Connelly. But, so far, Paul Bettany has been anything but a romantic leading man, playing a drunk poet in *A Knight’s Tale*, a ship’s doctor in *Master and Commander* and a schizophrenic’s hallucination in *A Beautiful Mind*. That may change with this tennis flick from the folks that yanked your heartstrings in *Bridget Jones’s Diary* and *Love, Actually*. Bettany plays a washed up, middling tennis player who, buoyed by a budding romance with a rising tennis hottie (Dunst), has a chance to bag the biggest prize in his sport.

CURSED >> (October)

Stars: Christina Ricci, James Brolin

Director: Wes Craven (*Scream*)

Story: One has to wonder whether the 2000 Canadian indie hit *Ginger Snaps* had anything to do with getting this hiply cast werewolf pic to screens. This time, instead of lovely B.C. actor Katharine Isabelle donning the furry face and fangs, it’ll be petite, curvaceous Christina Ricci. Ricci plays one-half of a brother/sister combo (in *Ginger Snaps* it was two sisters) who bond after a werewolf attack. Other Young Hollywood charter members expected to appear include Shannon Elizabeth, Joshua Jackson, Scott Foley and even former *NSYNC warbler Lance Bass, as himself.

UNCHAIN MY HEART: THE RAY CHARLES STORY >> (October)

Stars: Jamie Foxx, Regina King

Director: Taylor Hackford (*An Officer and a Gentleman*)

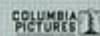
Story: Jamie Foxx is making a strong bid to become only the second *In Living Color* cast member (after Jim Carrey) to make it as a serious actor — a feat even the brilliant Chris Rock has yet to achieve. In 2001’s *Ali*, Foxx turned in an impressive performance as Ali-entourage member Drew “Bundini” Brown, and now he’s tackling one of the icons of American R&B, Ray Charles. The film will chronicle the piano man’s success despite his blindness, heroine addiction and fathering of an illegitimate child.



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What's new, pussycat

Lots, that's what. **HALLE BERRY** broke up with her husband and broke her arm this past year. But she channelled all of that pain and anger into creating the most kick-ass Catwoman yet. Here she talks about putting it all behind her and moving on
| BY EARL DITTMAN

When you think of Catwoman you naturally think of Batman. She was, after all, conceived in the pages of his comic book — first appearing simply as “The Cat” in *Batman #1*, back in 1940. So it comes as a bit of a surprise that in the new *Catwoman* movie, Batman is nowhere to be seen. Plus, it doesn’t seem that this Catwoman, played by Halle Berry, has ever even been to Gotham.

“This ain’t like any Catwoman you’ve ever met or seen before,” says Berry. Dressed in black jeans, a low-cut silk blouse and heels, the 37-year-old actor is lounging on a couch in her Beverly Hills hotel suite. “They didn’t want *Catwoman* to be beholden to the whole *Batman* mythology because they wanted her based more in reality, like she’s an actual person. It’s tough to believe there’s a real Spider-Man or Superman, but with our movie, you could come away with the feeling that Catwoman just might exist in your own hometown.”

Even the character’s name has been changed — from Selina Kyle to Patience Philips, who is a graphic designer at Hedare Beauty, a cosmetics conglomerate on the verge of releasing a revolutionary anti-aging cream. Trouble ensues when Patience discovers a dark secret being hidden by her boss (Sharon Stone), and is subsequently killed. But an Egyptian Mao cat with a debt to Patience brings her back to life, now armed with the strength, speed, agility and ultra-keen senses of a feline. Catwoman’s plans for revenge, however, are complicated by a budding relationship with a detective (Benjamin Bratt) who has fallen for Patience but can’t shake his fascination with the mysterious Catwoman who’s being blamed for a string of crimes in the city. The film is directed by one-name French visual-effects expert Pitof, in only his second time at the helm following the 2001 French period-thriller *Vidocq*.

You’ve said in the past that you never picked up a single comic book as a kid, but did you watch the old *Batman* TV series and see either Eartha Kitt or Julie Newmar in your role?

“Like every other black kid in America, I remember Eartha Kitt playing Catwoman. You have to remember that even in the early ’70s, when *Batman* was in reruns, there still wasn’t a whole lot of black faces on TV. So when Eartha

came on *Batman*, I watched. She was a real cat-diva. I loved her.”

Were you thinking about Kitt while you filmed your scenes as Catwoman?

“Yeah, I was. I couldn’t help it [laughs]. But I had to resist mimicking Eartha Kitt, because her interpretation of Catwoman was so much in my psyche. I had to find my own Catwoman. I finally did, and she’s a lot more fierce and dangerous than the character Eartha played. Eartha played Catwoman for laughs, our Catwoman is a lean, mean fighting machine.”

Are audiences going to love Catwoman or be afraid of her?

“Hopefully both, if we did our job and pulled off the story the way that we envisioned it. The good thing about our movie is that we acknowledge all of the Catwomen of the past. We believe that there are nine Catwomen, and Patience is just one of them. So I’m my own version who’s a little more urban. I hope that audiences will think that she’s really sexy and like her. But I also want them to be scared to death of her too.”

Your Catwoman outfit is pretty sexy. How would you describe it?

“Leather pants that are all slashed up, with sort of a very bare top that has belts that wrap around me. Patience makes it from an outfit that she has at home. So there are belts wrapped all around, and she’s got a bandanna tied

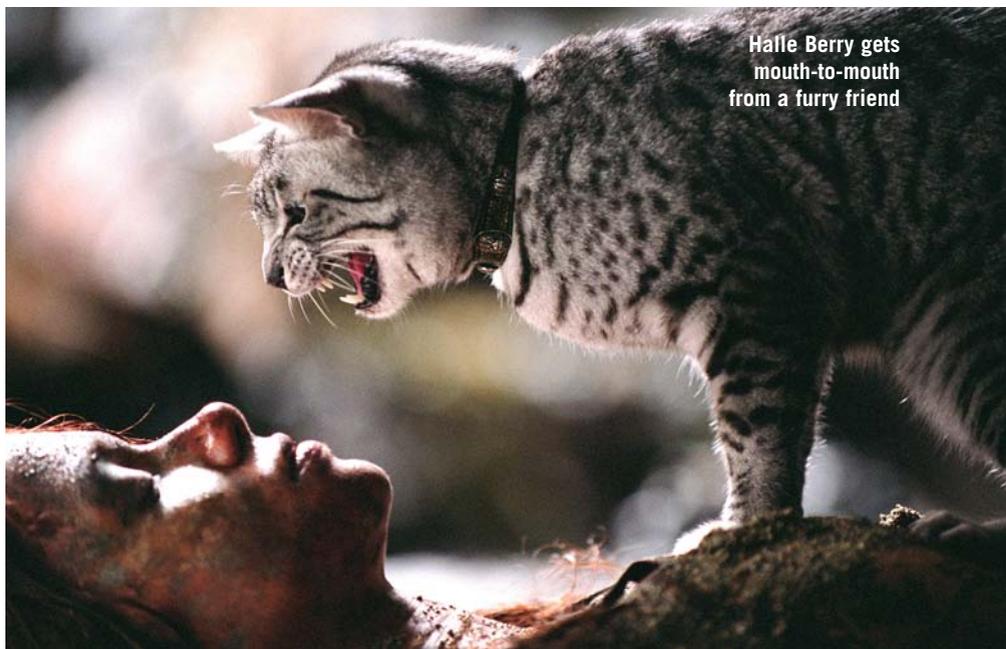
around her face with the cat ears. That’s the way she hides her identity. I know I make it sound real homemade, but it’s actually very stylish. I’m sure it’ll be a big hit this Halloween, especially at bondage costume parties [laughs].”

Did you have cats before doing *Catwoman*?

“No, but I have one now. I have a cat that was my muse. His name is Fig Newton, he’s one of the cats from the movie. We have 60 cats that worked in *Catwoman*, and he’s one of the cats that belonged to the trainers. He was supposed to be a working cat, but now he’s living with me. He’s just a little tabby, they got him from a rescue centre and trained him to work, but now he’s retired already. He didn’t even work a single day. We’re just lazy together.”

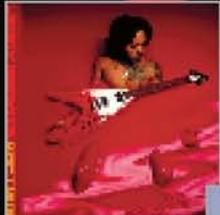
You did a lot of your own stunts even though Robert Downey Jr. accidentally broke your arm while filming *Gothika* a few months before. Didn’t that make it hard?

“Actually, no, it was kind of the opposite for me. I almost overdid it. Baby, you should have seen me on the *Catwoman* set. I was performing my stunts so balls-to-the-wall Pitof came up to me and asked, ‘Are you sure you’re okay? You’re not in any pain? It looks painful to me. You just had a broken arm, shouldn’t you take it easy?’ I turned around, looked at him and said, ‘So what if I broke my arm? Let’s go. Let’s get this show on the road.’ My adrenaline was out the roof.” ▶▶



Halle Berry gets mouth-to-mouth from a furry friend

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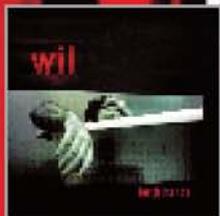
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►►How did you learn to move like a cat?

“Believe it or not, there are people who teach you how to move like felines and other kinds of animals. For instance, the same people we worked with taught a lot of the actors who were in *The Planet of the Apes* to move like monkeys, gorillas and orangutans. They do it for cats, tigers and lions, too.... I was sore after classes every day because cats have such deliberate, delicate movements. As humans, we’re a lot more sloppy.”

Emotionally, how are you doing? Are you adjusting to the breakup of your marriage to Eric Benet?

“Yeah, I really am doing okay. It’s not always easy, but you learn to deal with the problems and the hurt. We’re all the same. We experience the same emotions when unhappiness makes its way into your life. You know, with life, you live, you learn, you go through ups and downs. And, hopefully, you’re a better person when it’s all said and done. But I’m doing well.”

Do you think that you’re ever going to have domestic happiness?

“I don’t know, but I’m learning to be happy no matter what’s happening in

my love life. That’s what life is all about. You can be happy even in your most down moments. Look, I’m happy, I’m alive, I’m healthy. It’s really not that there are so many problems in life. We make problems, our society makes all these things problematic, but unless you’re starving and have no food, or unless you have medical problems and have no way to get help, you don’t really have problems.”

Are you just focusing on your career now?

“No, I can’t just focus on my career because I have a daughter that’s gorgeous, that I love and who I want to share my life with. I’m very much about being a mom and having a career at the same time. The right relationship will come one of these days.”

Did you officially adopt Eric’s daughter while the two of you were married?

“I sure did.”

So you’re still mom and daughter no matter what else happens?

“Yep, no matter what else happens. We’re together forever.”

Has *Jinx*, the movie about your James Bond character, really been shelved?

“I don’t know. I’ve got so many real hard decisions to make coming up and I can’t be all these women — [*X-Men’s*] Storm, Catwoman and Jinx. I think that it’s finally dawning on me. You can’t be every woman.... We haven’t really decided what we’re going to do about it.”

What keeps you going through bad times?

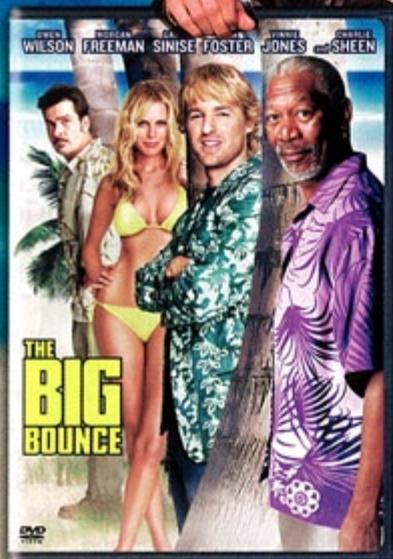
“There have been moments in this whole process where I thought, ‘Okay, this is it, this is going to be the thing that does me in’ — but nothing has. Knowing that those valleys will come again, I sort of believe that nothing is going to do me in, really, because I’ve survived every time that I thought that I wasn’t. I’m still here. So I’m a lot more confident that that’s really just what life is all about — it’s about peaks and valleys. And those valleys are what I call the great learning curve. That’s because I’ve learned the most about life and myself in those really dark hours. But don’t get me wrong, it feels great to finally have my time in the sun.” **F**

Earl Dittman is a freelance entertainment writer based in Houston, Texas.

Meeeeee-ow

Hey kids, combining leather straps and whips can be fun! Yup, this Catwoman Barbie doll is for real. When you think about it, though, it sort of makes sense. Both Barbie and Halle Berry dumped their long-term mates this year. And what little girl wouldn’t want this rubber doll dominating her toy collection? Watch out Woody!



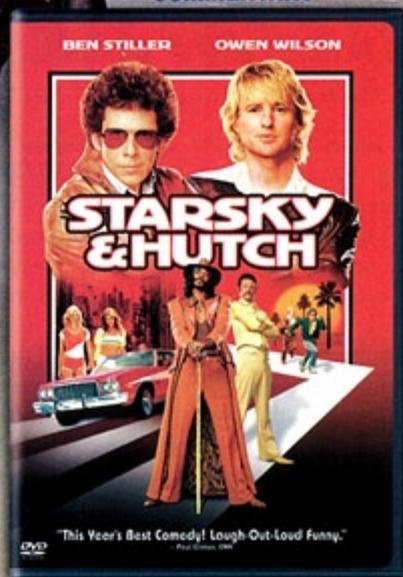


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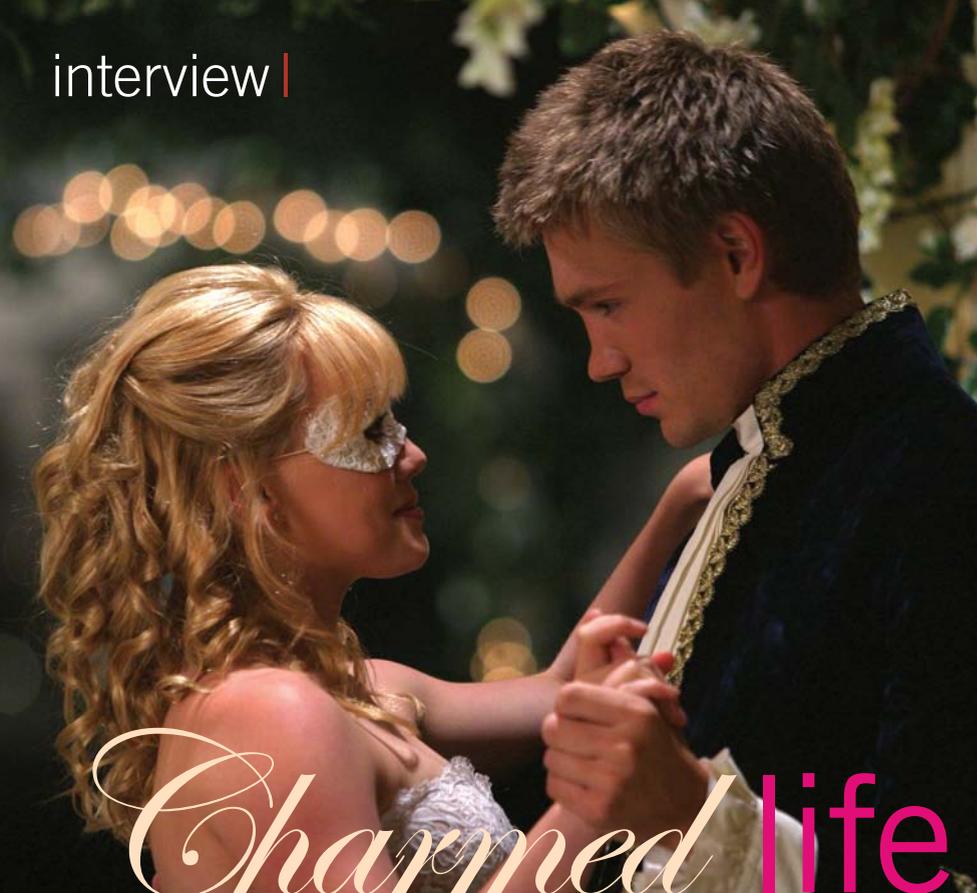
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Charmed life

Teen princess Hilary Duff on living a fairy tale | BY EARL DITTMAN

Hilary Duff has a rather odd way of keeping in touch with the common teen.

"My friends who go to regular school call me up and say, 'Hilary, this happened to me today at school,' and I'll be like, 'That's weird, I filmed that exact thing last week in my new movie.'"

Keeping it real is tough when you're 16 and known around the world as Lizzie McGuire, the junior high student Duff played on TV and in a big-screen version from 2001 until earlier this year. But the Texas native is branching out. Last year she released the hit album *Metamorphosis*, which was actually nominated for a Juno in the category Best International Album. And it's almost impossible to watch TV without seeing her bouncing around in some commercial to support her new clothing line.

The summer's big Duff news is that she's taking on one of children's lit's most recognizable characters — Cinderella, in a modernized version of the fairy tale. Cindy's name has been changed to Sam Montgomery, and now the down-trodden servant girl is a high school senior with a plastic surgery-obsessed stepmother (Jennifer Coolidge, a.k.a. Stifler's mom from *American Pie*), and two snotty stepsisters.

"The stepmom and stepsisters are so

over-the-top you can't help but laugh at them," says Duff over lunch at an L.A. eatery. "Cinderella is a classic tale, but little touches like her crazy family make our version so original. I mean, if they aren't trying to make Sam's life miserable, they're so wrapped up in their own world they forget she even exists."

Sam's boring existence becomes complicated, though, when she meets her Prince Charming online. But when she discovers her cyber-soulmate is the school's star quarterback (*Freaky Friday's* Chad Michael Murray), Sam logs off before he can figure out her identity. He, however, is determined to find her.

Despite tabloid rumours, Duff insists that she and Murray did not become romantically involved during filming. "I wish we had, because he's such a cute guy and awesome actor, but I believe he's already taken," Duff says with a mock sigh. "I think that rumour came about because of our big kissing scene. We had to kiss in front of the entire crew and a whole grandstand full of people because the scene was outside at a football game. And we had to reshoot it



Duff and her on-screen Prince Charming, Chad Michael Murray

about 50 million times. So I think some of the extras thought it was for real."

Duff says she's been too busy recording a new album to be bothered with dating. And, much like her character, she isn't interested in guys who are too popular — for instance, her former beau, popster Aaron Carter.

"I don't want to date anyone in this business ever again," she insists. "Don't get me wrong, Aaron is such a cool guy. He's funny and sweet. But it was hard to date someone famous. You say something to a magazine about dating Aaron and girls my age hate you."

Duff's young fans tell her what they're thinking via the internet, where she keeps a diary at www.hilaryduff.com. "They usually tell me what I should be doing with my life. If they really want to let me know what's on their minds, they'll email me. I must be really dense or something because, for some reason, everybody always figures out my personal email address, so I end up with 20 million girls emailing me."

Not all of Duff's fans are teenage girls. At an MTV event, Duff discovered Aerosmith's lead singer was a fan. "Steven Tyler was like, 'Hey, dude, I just want to say that I'm so excited to meet you,'" Duff recalls. "He shook my hand, then said, 'I really liked *The Lizzie*

McGuire Movie and my kids love it, too.' I was on cloud nine.

"There's this big misconception that I only appeal to teenyboppers. I mean, just the other day, I was on a plane and an older couple slipped me a note that read, 'We're

35 years old and just got married. We don't have any kids yet, but we loved your Lizzie movie. Are you doing any other movies that we would like?' I got up and told them about *A Cinderella Story*, and they got all excited about it. The husband even said, 'That sounds like a movie I could even see with my buddies.'"

Especially if your buddies are 16-year-old girls. **F**

Earl Dittman is an entertainment writer based in Houston, Texas.

Wind still number one

As terms like “record-breaking box office” and “largest opening-weekend gross” increasingly supplant phrases like “this film is worth seeing” and “this film is not worth seeing” in arts sections and, ahem, entertainment magazines, it seems like a good time to take a step back and put the numbers in perspective.

Would you believe that *Titanic* is the only movie from the past 20 years to make the Top 10 box-office leaders once the dollars have been adjusted for inflation? In terms of just plain spookiness, check out *The Exorcist's* numbers — before adjustment the satanic thriller has taken in **\$232,671,011** (U.S.), but once adjusted that jumps to **\$666,729,078!**

Top 20 films: BY DOMESTIC GROSS

FILM	GROSS (in U.S. \$)	YEAR
1 Titanic	600,788,188	1997
2 Star Wars	460,998,007	1977
3 E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial	435,110,554	1982
4 Star Wars: Episode 1 - The Phantom Menace	431,088,301	1999
5 Spider-Man	403,706,375	2002
6 The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King	376,716,328	2003
7 The Passion of the Christ	368,205,546	2004
8 Jurassic Park	357,067,947	1993
9 The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers	341,786,758	2002
10 Finding Nemo	339,714,978	2003
11 Forrest Gump	329,694,499	1994
12 The Lion King	328,541,776	1994
13 Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone	317,575,550	2001
14 The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring	314,776,170	2001
15 Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones	310,676,740	2002
16 Return of the Jedi	309,306,177	1983
17 Independence Day	306,169,268	1996
18 Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl	305,413,918	2003
19 The Sixth Sense	293,506,292	1999
20 The Empire Strikes Back	290,475,067	1980

Top 20 films: BY ADJUSTED DOMESTIC GROSS

FILM	ADJUSTED GROSS (in U.S. \$)	UNADJUSTED GROSS (in U.S. \$)	YEAR
1 Gone with the Wind	1,218,328,752	198,655,278	1939
2 Star Wars	1,074,061,157	460,998,007	1977
3 The Sound of Music	858,764,718	158,671,368	1965
4 E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial	855,764,718	434,974,579	1982
5 The Ten Commandments	789,930,000	65,500,000	1956
6 Titanic	779,086,619	600,788,188	1997
7 Jaws	772,315,273	260,000,000	1975
8 Doctor Zhivago	748,536,797	111,721,910	1965
9 The Exorcist	666,729,078	232,671,011	1973
10 Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs	657,270,000	184,925,486	1937
11 101 Dalmatians	602,501,023	144,880,014	1961
12 The Empire Strikes Back	591,573,955	290,475,067	1980
13 Ben-Hur	590,940,000	74,000,000	1959
14 Return of the Jedi	567,178,243	309,306,177	1983
15 The Sting	537,531,427	156,000,000	1973
16 Raiders of the Lost Ark	531,495,386	242,374,454	1981
17 Jurassic Park	520,077,229	357,067,947	1993
18 The Graduate	515,995,503	104,397,100	1967
19 Star Wars: Episode I - The Phantom Menace	511,705,203	431,088,297	1999
20 Fantasia	500,752,174	76,400,000	1940



* For movies that have had more than one theatrical release (like most older Disney animated films, *E.T.* and *The Exorcist*) the gross represents the earnings from all theatrical showings.
 ** All numbers taken from boxofficemojo.com.

Web savvy

In the first *Spider-Man*, **TOBEY MAGUIRE** played a shy kid adjusting to the fact that he could shoot spider-goo from his wrists and walk up walls. Now, having mastered his spider skills, Maguire copes with the mental and physical demands of being Hollywood's hottest superhero | **BY BARRETT HOOPER**



By comic book standards Tobey Maguire does not look like a superhero. No sharp features or square jaw. No broad shoulders or bulging biceps or preposterously pumped-up pecs. Indeed, on first impression the 28-year-old comes across as a rather bland Everydude, short and thin with a slight stoop and dull blue eyes that rarely meet yours. Hardly the type to swoop in and save the day. And you think, "Even Howard the Duck could kick his ass."

All of which might make him ideally suited to play the awkward outsider Peter Parker, if not his wall-crawling alter ego, Spider-Man. Even Maguire had his doubts when he first signed on for the original comic book adventure three years ago. "I'm probably not who a lot of people would imagine as Spider-Man," he admits sheepishly, evidence of hundreds of hours of gym time hidden beneath a loose-fitting sweater.

He's certainly not who Columbia Pictures had in mind — the studio wanted Wes Bentley or Scott Speedman or Freddie Prinze Jr., someone with teen appeal. Nor is he who director Sam Raimi initially envisioned in the role. "I interviewed every actor you can think of but it wasn't until my wife showed me *Cider House Rules*, and I saw how very real and powerful and brilliant Tobey is, that I knew I had found Peter Parker," Raimi said during interviews to promote the first *Spider-Man* movie two years ago. "I wanted somebody the audience would immediately identify with and be carried along by during the journey from ordinary teenager to superhero."

The gamble paid off. The original *Spider-Man* fulfilled every fanboy's wildest fantasy (minor quibbles over organic web spinners, aside) and netted more than \$800-million (U.S.) worldwide. And now Maguire, Raimi and Kirsten Dunst (as love interest Mary Jane Watson) swing back into action this month in a sequel that reportedly cost \$200-million to make. *Spider-Man 2* has already been greenlit and is set for release on May 4, 2007.

"It's cool," Maguire says of suiting up in red and blue spandex for a second go-around. He's seated at a table overlooking the clubhouse turn at Santa Anita Park, the art deco mecca of thoroughbred racing nestled against the San Gabriel Mountains northeast of

Los Angeles where part of his 2003 horse drama *Seabiscuit* was filmed.

But it's *Spider-Man 2* that's top-of-mind, as filming on the sequel has just wrapped. "Every kid plays cops and robbers and superheroes, and then you find yourself at work and you go, 'I'm getting paid to do this!'" And paid very well, as it turns out. Maguire earned a reported \$17-million for *Spider-Man 2*.

The sequel picks up a couple of years after the original, with college student Peter Parker still struggling with the responsibility that comes with his "gift and curse." He wants to reveal his secret



Tobey Maguire promotes *Spider-Man 2*

identity to Mary Jane, but fears how she'll react, and besides, she has a new astronaut-boyfriend. Parker's friendship with Harry Osborn (James Franco) is complicated by Osborn's bitterness over his father's death (the first film's Green Goblin) and his growing vendetta against Spider-Man, whom he holds responsible. Meanwhile, Peter's beloved Aunt May (Rosemary Harris) has fallen on hard times after the death of Uncle Ben and begins to doubt her nephew.

So, sick of worrying about grades, girls and saving the world, Peter tosses his spandex superroos in the trash and tries to lead a normal life. Which lasts about as long as it takes mad scientist Dr. Otto Octavius, a.k.a. Dr. Octopus (Alfred

Molina), to have four robotic tentacles fused to his spine and start trashing New York City in search of Spider-Man.

"There definitely seems to be a lot more going on this time," says Maguire, eager to talk yet reluctant to reveal too much about the film's plot. "[Peter's] got two jobs, he's going to school, he's fighting crime, he's trying to pay his rent, he's trying to help Aunt May, he's got stuff going on with Harry and Mary Jane, and then there's Doc Ock..." Maguire pauses and a mischievous, boyish smile pulls at the corners of his mouth.

Like Peter Parker, Maguire is something of an outsider among his fellow actors. With subtle performances in *The Ice Storm*, *The Cider House Rules* and *Wonder Boys* — "my art house movies," he says — Maguire's cornered the market on playing shy innocents. The apparent ease and simplicity with which he inhabits these complicated characters, as though Maguire himself is uncomfortable in his own skin and prefers those of his on-screen personae, has earned him consideration as one of today's most promising young actors. And he guards his privacy as fiercely as Peter Parker does his secret identity. He won't comment on his personal relationships, despite often being photographed with his girlfriend Jen Meyer, a Ralph Lauren publicist and daughter of Universal Studios executive Ron Meyer.

What is certain is that Maguire is serious about being an actor. A nervous kid who moved around a lot, he developed a defence mechanism, a spider sense of his own, to help him adapt — the powers of observation. By watching people and keeping his mouth shut, he was better able to fit in, and he soon discovered he was most comfortable on stage. He started taking acting lessons when he was 12, after his mom, who had aspirations of being an actor herself, paid him \$100 to do so.

Commercials and guest spots on TV shows like *Walker, Texas Ranger* and *Blossom* soon followed and by Grade 9 he dropped out of school to act full-time. He watched the films of Pacino, De Niro and Hoffman as sort of home Method tutorials. That Maguire would eventually turn away from "serious" roles to wear a web-covered unitard and hide his tabula rasa features behind a mask in a megabudget Hollywood tent pole only makes him that much more difficult to figure out. (Although playing ▶▶

►► Spider-Man does offer a shiny new webbed skin to crawl inside, providing a more obvious immersion into a character than his previous roles.)

That he would pursue the role with such vigour is even more mystifying. He wasn't a comic book fan ("I don't think I ever read a comic book until after I was cast," he says), yet, to convince the studio he was right for the part he agreed to do something most actors of his stature would consider beneath them: he screen-tested — twice — which he hadn't done since his earliest roles and which often left him physically ill on the casting director's floor. "The urge in me to prove people wrong is

Some believed this was merely a ploy to get more money, and studio execs were reportedly ready to replace him with actor Jake Gyllenhaal, Dunst's real-life boyfriend. Asked about it, Maguire's back instinctively stiffens, his spider-sense tingling.

"Basically, I've been experiencing some discomfort in my back — and this is something that's been on and off for a few years — and I saw the storyboards and animatics of the stunts I was going to have to do for *Spider-Man 2* and I was a little concerned because it was much more complicated and difficult-looking than the first movie," including a bone-breaking hand-to-tentacle battle with



pretty strong," Maguire says now. "Hearing people question the idea of my casting in this film did help in getting me motivated. Any time I felt a little tired when I was working out and wanted to stop I just had to think of them. And I also wanted to show that it wasn't all about what I could do in the costume."

To further prove his commitment, Maguire passed up opportunities to appear in such films as *Gangs of New York* and *Training Day* (in the role that earned Ethan Hawke an Oscar nomination). And he began working out four hours a day, six days a week to get into Spidey shape, combining weight training, martial arts and gymnastics with his usual yoga regimen. (The shot of a pre-transformation, unbuff Peter Parker is actually a body double.)

But it seemed Maguire wasn't so eager to slip back into spandex for *Spider-Man 2*. Just as filming was set to begin in March 2003, he asked for extra time to heal a recurring back problem, a painful herniated disc, that the gruelling *Seabiscuit* shoot had re-aggravated.

Doc Ock inside a speeding subway train. "So I went down and worked with the stunt guys and got on the wires and did some of the stunts, just to feel it out and see how I felt. I did two or three days of that down at the soundstages, and after that, it was all good." As for the ploy to renegotiate his payday, Maguire dismisses it, calling it a "weird story" that had little to do with the facts.

But *Spider-Man 3* is definitely a go, with Maguire, Raimi and Dunst all on board. "I've actually seen a timeline for when the script will be written by, when pre-production and production will start, and Sam has given me a version of what he is thinking for the third movie," Maguire says, but refuses to confirm rumours that villain hopefuls include Venom the Lizard (whose alter-ego Dr. Connor appears in *Spider-Man 2*), or Harry Osborn as the new Green Goblin.

"Who's the villain? I won't say anything." **F**

Barrett Hooper is a freelance entertainment writer based in Toronto.

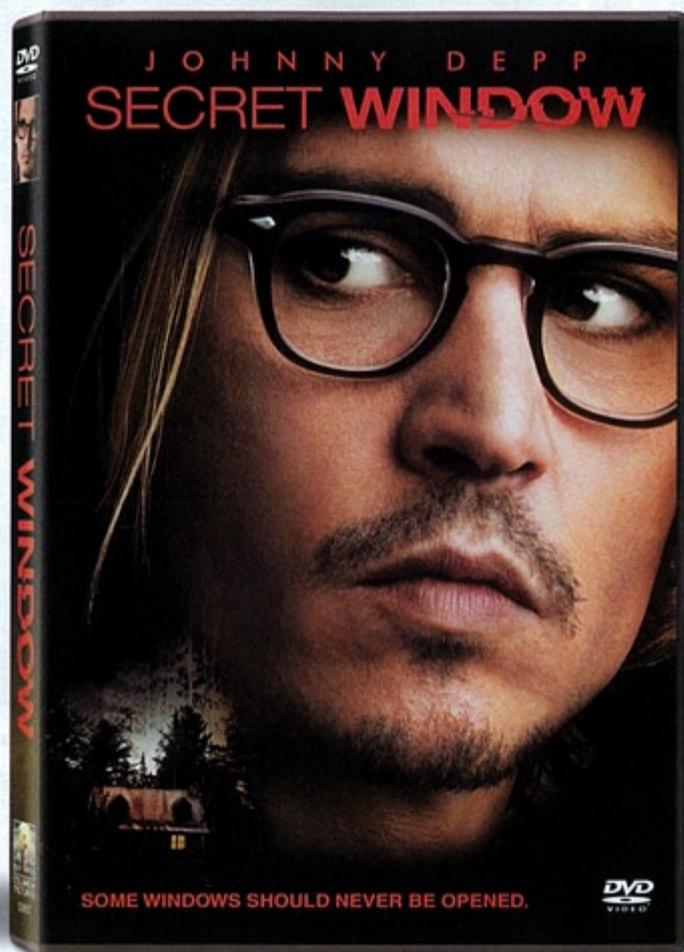
famous TRIVIA

- 1 Will Ferrell, who stars in this month's *Anchorman*, also co-wrote the script. Name the only other movie co-written by Ferrell.
- 2 Which sensational 1998 indie movie saw *The Bourne Supremacy* star Franka Potente racing through the streets of Berlin to save her boyfriend?
- 3 Which star of *A Cinderella Story* earned a 2004 Juno nomination for her album *Metamorphosis* in the category Best International Album of the Year?
- 4 The remake of *The Manchurian Candidate* comes out this month. During which war did the original version begin?
- 5 Halle Berry plays the title character in the new *Batman* spinoff, *Catwoman*. But which famous singer played the fussy feline in the 1960s *Batman* TV series?
- 6 M. Night Shyamalan, director of the spooky new period piece *The Village*, is known for making cameos in his films. Who did he play in *The Sixth Sense*?
- 7 Will Smith stars in this month's adaptation of the Isaac Asimov book *I, Robot*. Can you name the movie for which Smith earned a Best Actor Oscar nomination?

answers

1. *A Night at the Roxbury*
2. *Run Lola Run*
3. Hilary Duff 4. The Korean War
5. Eartha Kitt 6. a doctor
7. All!

The secret is out.



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ANISTON DOES POST-GRAD WORK, ZETA-JONES TAKES A HOLIDAY AND KEYS LOCKS UP FIRST FILM ROLE | BY INGRID RANDOJA



COO COO CA-CHOO MS. ANISTON

It's a case of art imitating art with **Jennifer Aniston** set to star in a dramedy that riffs on seminal '60s pic *The Graduate*. In the yet-untitled film, Aniston will play a woman who puts her nuptials on hold so she can go home and deal with her wacky clan. There, she discovers that the film *The Graduate* was inspired by her family, and that her grandmother (played by **Shirley MacLaine**) was the real-life role model for the alluring Mrs. Robinson. Not only does she have to deal with that weird news, but she's also busy fending off her very own *Mr. Robinson*, an older lothario who's trying to seduce her. Word is that **Kevin Costner** is in talks to play the aging Casanova. First-time director **Ted Griffin** is in charge.



ZETA-JONES GETS HIGH

Catherine Zeta-Jones will be popping pills and snorting some naughty white powder later this summer when she starts shooting *Rachel's Holiday*, based on author **Marian Keyes's** humorous autobiographical novel. The story revolves around fun-loving, Dublin-born Rachel Walsh, who accidentally overdoses in her New York City apartment prompting her da to come from Ireland to take her home and put her in rehab. It looks as if Zeta-Jones wants to soften her diva-like public persona with this Bridget Jones-style oops-look-at-me-I'm-a-charming-screw-up role.

BRIEFLY

■ **Anthony Hopkins** will star in *The World's Fastest Indian*, the story of **Burt Munro**, who in his 60s set the land-speed record aboard a 50-year-old Indian motorcycle.

■ **Clint Eastwood** is set to direct **Hilary Swank** in *Rope Burns*, focusing on a woman who wants to become a professional boxer.

■ **Sienna Miller** beat out Scarlett Johansson for the female lead in the **Heath Ledger** pic *Casanova*.

■ **Al Pacino** will play a time-strapped forensic scientist in the thriller *88 Minutes*.



KEYS STRIKES RIGHT CHORD

When **Alicia Keys** hosted a swanky yacht party at this year's Cannes Film Festival she was doing more than sipping Brut, she was announcing to all that she was ready for her close-up. It was revealed during the festival that the R&B singer had been cast in the yet-untitled **Philippa Schuyler** bio-pic, a project **Beyoncé** was said to covet. Schuyler was an African-American child prodigy born to a black father and white mother in 1931. She started playing the piano at age three, and at 13 she composed her first 100-piece orchestral work. But an abusive home life and the pressure to live up to her genius made for a tragic life, and she was killed in a 1967 helicopter accident in Vietnam while airlifting children from the fighting. Keys is well-cast when you consider she's the daughter of an interracial couple and was also a child pianist.

SIX FEET UNDER

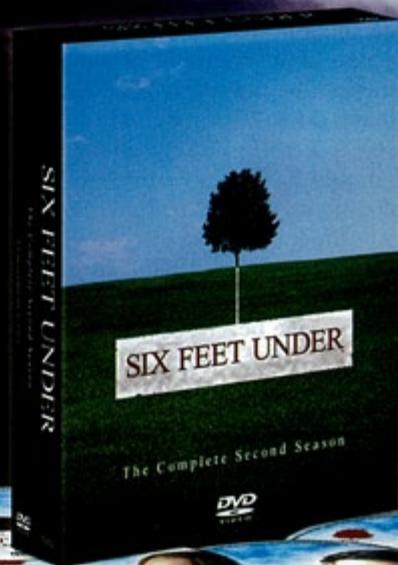
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HBO

A Day at the Beach

You need more than just a stylish suit to make the most of sun-time | **BY LIZA HERZ**

As a northern people, Canadians are so easily flummoxed by images of sun, sand and surf.

Poor us. We instinctively know how to layer for warmth or revive winter-flat hat hair, but when it comes to picking the right look for summer, we fret and fuss the season away.

There are just so many *choices*. Country club chic? Too preppy. And, anyway, should we really encourage the revival of the gender-erasing Lacoste shirt?

Then there's the skateboarder/surfer look with its piercings and tattoos. Probably best to avoid this one, unless you want to end up sharing your beach towel with some knobby-limbed Dave Navarro clone.

For a more accessible fashion template, scan the tabloids at the supermarket checkout. Beach-casual reigns supreme there, revealed in the candid paparazzi shots of L.A. actresses clasping their soy-lattes-to-go as they trot off to their power yoga classes in cargos and ab-revealing baby Ts.

On TV, there's professional newlywed Jessica Simpson slumming around her gated McMansion in Juicy Couture sweats, crop tops and flip flops. For a glammed up St.-Tropez meets South Beach take, we have Jennifer Lopez, all gleaming, tawny skin and bikini-clad curves, photographed splashing around in the Miami surf and drying off with a logo'd Louis Vuitton towel.

But summer style shouldn't be about J.Lo-level bling. Think of beach fashion as an extension of mall fashion, casual enough that it can be pulled-off in a hurry, cheap enough that it doesn't decimate your budget.

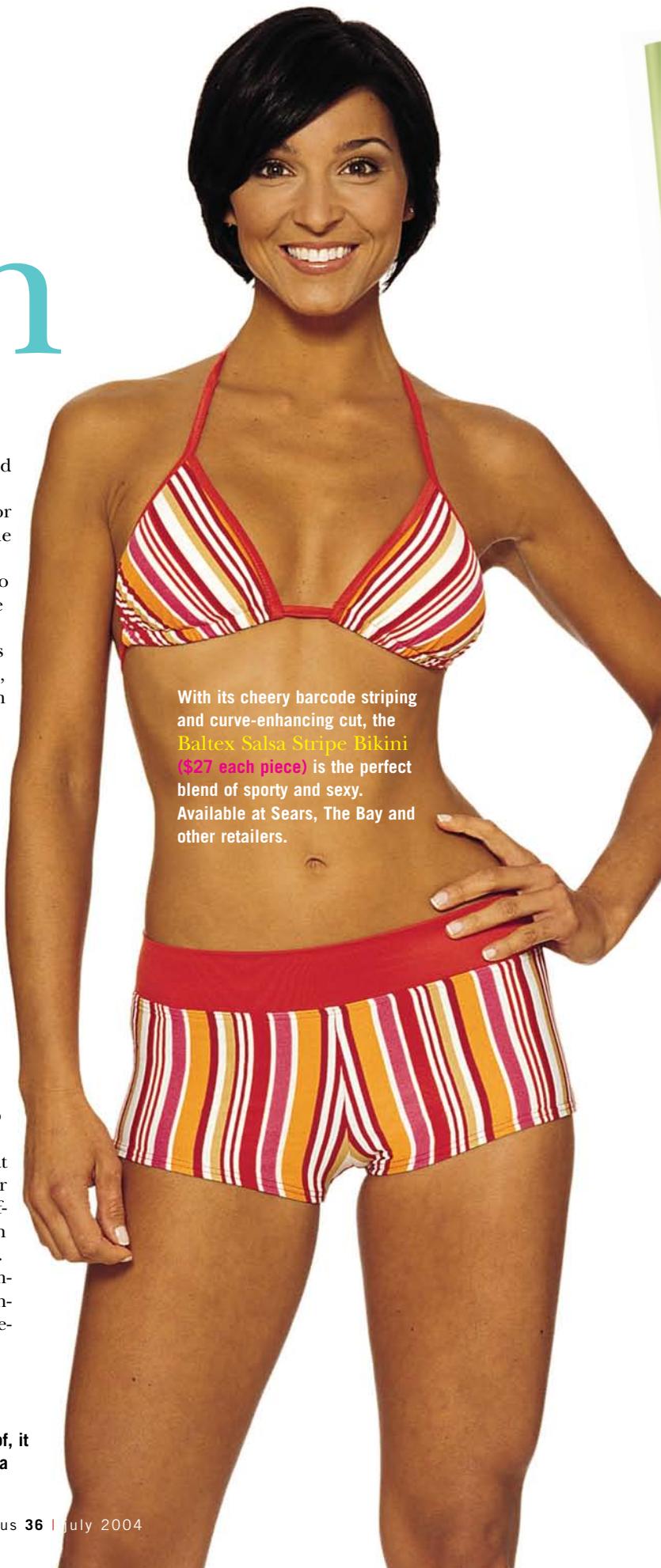
If there is a catchword for beach prep, that word should be *colour*. Summer is a time for exploding out of our proverbial parkas-of-the-soul and reveling in a profusion of pinks, corals and citrus brights.

Here, then, is our list of summer beach, and poolside, essentials. All you need to add is someone to do your back.

Not only is the Gap's Luminous Orange Jelly Beach Tote (\$29.50) roomy and waterproof, it also has that childhood-nostalgia "new beach ball" smell.



With its cheery barcode striping and curve-enhancing cut, the **Baltex Salsa Stripe Bikini (\$27 each piece)** is the perfect blend of sporty and sexy. Available at Sears, The Bay and other retailers.

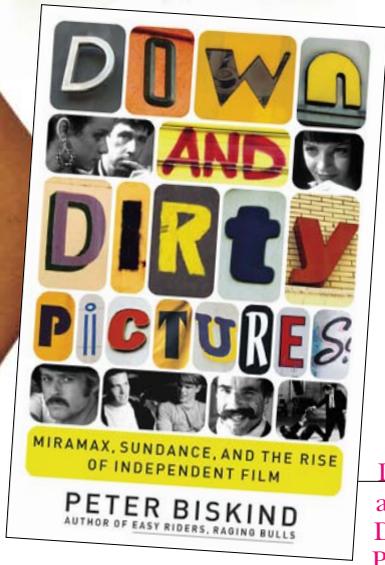




The brand new **iPod mini** (\$349) holds up to 1,000 songs so you can create your own personalized summer soundtrack.

Anthelios SPF 45 water-resistant sunscreen by LaRoche-Posay (\$21.50) contains Meroxyl, the most-effective sunscreen for blocking UVA rays, and is only available in Canada and Europe.

Protect your hair from sun, salt, and chlorine with Neutrogena's new Triple Moisture Silk Touch Leave-In Cream (\$12) or John Frieda's Life Preserver Conditioning Oil (\$10), both with UV filters.



Down and Dirty Pictures by

Peter Biskind (\$40, Simon & Schuster Books), which chronicles the rise of the Sundance Film Festival and Miramax Films, had Ben Affleck publicly regretting that he talked to the author when the book came out. Juicy.

Post-Beach Beauty

The sun-kissed goddess look should be light and shimmery; one that says "a day at the beach," not "an hour in front of the mirror."

Lancôme's new Hypnôse mascara (\$27.50) dramatically defines eyes without the need for eye pencil.

Bobbi Brown's Shimmer Wash Eye Shadow in Bronze (\$26) is a light-reflecting, island-y shade.

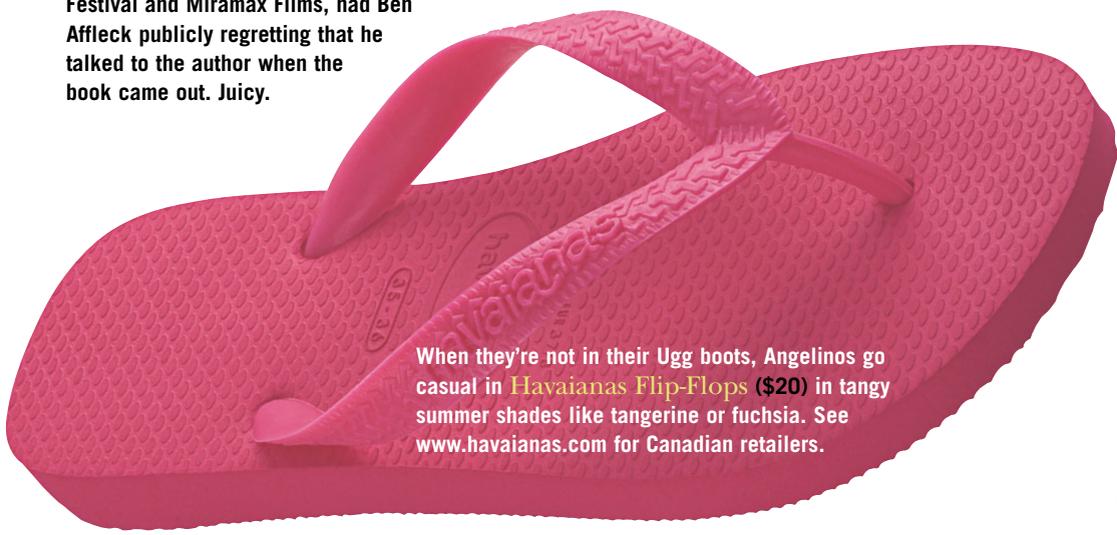
Revlon Copacabana Nail Enamel in High Beam Tan (\$5.50) is the perfect bronze for tanned toes.

Cargo's BeachBlush in Coral Beach (\$32) blends four colours for a beachy glow.

Clinique Glosswear for Lips Intense Sparkle in Sun Burst (\$17.50) is a luscious sparkly melon.

Fructis Surf Hair Texturizing Gum (\$ 6.50) creates the look of windswept, salt spray-thickened hair and adds a breezy clean scent.

Try a self-tanner like L'Oreal Sublime Bronze (\$16) for natural colour or Clarins After Sun Shimmer Oil Spray (\$36) for a more subtle glow.



When they're not in their Ugg boots, Angelinos go casual in **Havaianas Flip-Flops** (\$20) in tangy summer shades like tangerine or fuchsia. See www.havaianas.com for Canadian retailers.

METALLICA GETS ITS HEADS SHRUNK, AND MADONNA, PRINCE AND STING ROLL ACROSS CANADA | BY INGRID RANDOJA

BAND AID

In 2001, Metallica — a band that's been together 20 years and sold more than 80 million albums worldwide — was on the brink of breaking up. When you sell that many records there are a lot of people — from managers, lawyers, right down to the mullet-haired guys selling T-shirts in stadium parking lots — who have a vested interest in you *not* breaking up.

So, in a final effort to keep these lucrative metal gods together, a therapist was brought in to help them salvage their working relationships and guide them through the recording of a new album. But the real surprise here was the fact that the notoriously guarded band also allowed noted documentary filmmakers Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky (*Brother's Keeper* and *Paradise Lost*) to set up their cameras and film the process.

The result is the fascinating, funny doc *Metallica: Some Kind of Monster*, which showcases a group of men mired in petty jealousies who mature just enough to stay together and complete their hit album *St. Anger*.

"There are laughs in the film," says co-director Bruce Sinofsky on the line from his New Jersey home. "When you hear [drummer] Lars Ulrich say 'What I hear you saying...' to [singer] James Hetfield, you can't help but laugh because here they are using the language of therapy."

We see Ulrich trying to overcome his pain at feeling snubbed by front man Hetfield, who himself takes off, enters rehab and leaves the band hanging for almost a year. And then there's guitarist Kirk Hammett, who wisely keeps his mouth shut and rarely enters the emotional fray. Overseeing it all is Phil Towle, the calm therapist who obviously enjoys his \$40,000 a month assignment. That is, until the band members decide they don't need him anymore.

"You have to understand that everyone likes to be let into the inner sanctum and Phil was no different, he enjoyed hanging with the band," says Sinofsky. "Ultimately the band felt they had out-



Directors Joe Berlinger (standing left) and Bruce Sinofsky (standing right) film a Metallica meeting. That's front man James Hetfield in the plaid

grown Phil, but Phil hadn't outgrown them. I don't think he was ready to give them up and you see it in the film; there's James and the band on one side of the table, united, and Phil on the other side. And that's why I'm glad that James thanks Phil in the film for giving the band the tools to help itself."

So, could this film be used to help other bands in the same situation — and let's be honest, doesn't every band eventually get to the "I hate you, man!" stage?

"We'd love that," says Sinofsky. "Joe and I thought, wow, imagine if the Beatles had gone into therapy in 1970 and managed to make, say, two more albums before breaking up — what music we would have!"

OUT THIS MONTH

THE ROOTS

The Tipping Point >> July 13

The groundbreaking hip-hop sextet from Philly unveils their latest, featuring the single "Don't Say Nuthin'."

B.G.

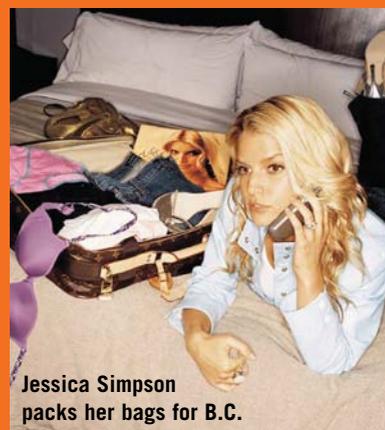
Life After Cash Money >> July 13

The New Orleans hip-hopper (whose 1999 song "Bling Bling" created a stir and a new term that made its way into the Oxford English dictionary), continues to make waves with this new disc of hard-hitting ditties.

ON TOUR

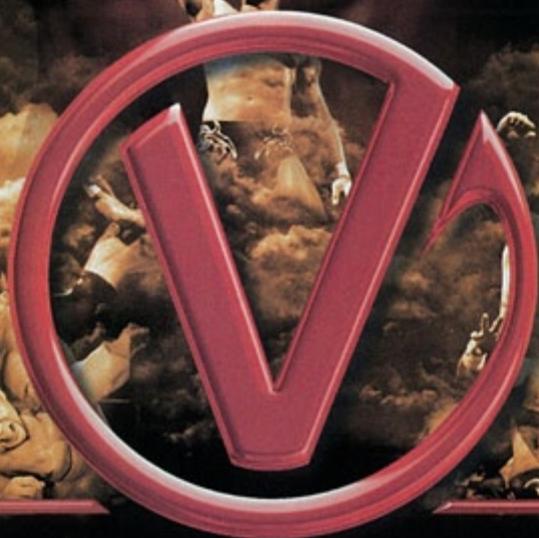
Metallica won't be making any stops in Canada during its current world tour. However, a few notable rockers are stopping by our home and native land this month.

Madonna dons fatigues and undergoes a faux electrocution at Toronto's Air Canada Centre on July 18th, 19th and 21st, while funkmeister Prince hits the same venue on July 27th and 28th. Tantric babe Sting sizzles at Montreal's Bell Centre July 13th, while newlywed Jessica Simpson sashays across Vancouver's G.M. Place stage July 23rd. And those in Calgary may want to stop thinking about tomorrow and get Fleetwood Mac tickets for the group's July 6th gig at the Pengrowth Saddledome.



Jessica Simpson packs her bags for B.C.

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OLYMPIC TITLE

Run, jump and swim your heart out a month before the torch gets to Athens | BY SCOTT GARDNER

ATHENS 2004 (PS2)

With school out and everyone thinking vacation, July is traditionally the time when we Canadians seek out more wholesome, rustic pleasures. But if you're more about PlayStation than playing *coureur de bois* — or if it's raining — there are still some ways to take a break from electronic shooting, stabbing, sabotage and general mayhem.

At the top of the list is Eurocom's *Athens 2004*, which offers a wide variety of classic Olympic sports. The only current console game licensed by the International Olympic Committee, *Athens 2004* features 25 events, including discus, javelin, shot put and archery, plus various gymnastic, swimming and track-racing events.



For added variety, the game ships with 800 different characters hailing from 64 countries, from traditional powerhouses like the U.S. and Russia, to I-had-no-idea-they-had-a-team states like Fiji and the Bahamas. The different game modes allow up to four players to practice, enter a single event or run a long-term competition.

Individual sports games have been around forever, and, with its dependence on old-fashioned button-tapping and split-second timing, *Athens* isn't looking to reinvent the genre. However, given the PS2's brainpower, the athletes' movements promise to be mighty realistic.

And, while given the recent international scandals involving judging, doping and bribery, idealizing the "swifter, higher, stronger" Olympic principles might be a bit naïve — it's still more uplifting than blowing your opponent's brains out in the latest extreme war title.

This time, the game serves up a living, breathing version of New York City that Spidey can explore at his leisure, from street-level fruit stands up to the top of the Chrysler Building, all rendered in meticulous proportion.

The missions are triggered by events or characters you encounter, and range from nabbing a purse snatcher to foiling Doc Ock's big bad scheme. And with improved web-slinging, targeting and camera work, Spidey can finally swing through Manhattan in an appropriately go-anywhere, gravity-defying style.



TALES OF SYMPHONIA (GC)

A big hit in Japan, *Tales of Symphonia* is an unusual little role-playing game that's been retooled for North American gamers.

The plot is pretty standard *Dungeons & Dragons* stuff, something about a Chosen One who must be protected and a scary land full of mean-spirited spiders, raccoons and walking plants all trying to enslave, sauté or fillet the heroes.



What is of note, however, is *Symphonia's* lush and painterly anime-style graphics rendered in bright colours and now punched up to three dimensions. Additionally, the real-time battle system bridges the gap between the usual RPG turn-based options and a true action title.



WAY OF THE SAMURAI 2 (PS2)

This action-adventure game sends you back to 16th-century Japan to roam the countryside, fight for honour and glory, help the innocent and destroy the corrupt. And that whole honour thing is the real kicker.

Like the original, *Way of the Samurai 2* features realistic sword fighting with katana, twin sword, quick slash and acrobatic ninja styles. But as a samurai, you must be controlled, avoid confrontation and gradually earn the trust of the villagers.

A nifty upgrade lets you sheath and draw your sword at will. In fact, the good-hearted citizenry — who'd normally ignore you — will start to attack if you run around the village with your sword drawn. And if you succumb to weakness and fall in with a gang of thugs, the way of your samurai will lead to chaos, random killing sprees, lynching and...oh yes...dishonour.

SPIDER-MAN 2 (GC, PC, XBOX, PS2)

As we've noted before, tie-in games based on blockbuster movies don't tend to represent the pinnacle of the gaming experience, but with impressive upgrades to its story, scenery and controls, *Spider-Man 2* looks like an exception.



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new releases

GO HOME WITH **HELLBOY**, **STARSKY & HUTCH** OR **MONSIEUR IBRAHIM**

JULY 6



THE BUTTERFLY EFFECT

Stars: Ashton Kutcher, Amy Smart
Directors: Eric Bress & J. Mackye Gruber
Story: Chaos principle states that a butterfly flapping its wings

in Tahiti can, in theory, produce a tornado in Kansas. In the Hollywood version, a young man (Kutcher) travels through time to change his disturbing past but messes up the present and future too — kind of a "Dude, Where's My Memory?" **DVD Extras:** director's cut, a subtitle trivia track, deleted scenes, two featurettes, storyboards



MONSIEUR IBRAHIM

Stars: Omar Sharif, Pierre Boulanger
Director: François Dupeyron (*Pas d'histoires!*)
Story: The legendary Sharif won a French César

award for his portrayal of an elderly Muslim widower who mentors a troubled Jewish teenager in this critically acclaimed coming-of-age story.

JULY 13



AGAINST THE ROPES

Stars: Meg Ryan, Omar Epps
Director: Charles S. Dutton (*debut*)
Story: Real-life boxing manager Jackie Kallen (Ryan) sashays through

the testosterone and cigar smoke to make a name for herself in the ultra-

macho sport. One critic called Ryan's trash-talking performance "an impression of Johnny Depp doing an impression of Keith Richards doing an impression of Liz Taylor."



AGENT CODY BANKS 2: DESTINATION LONDON

Stars: Frankie Muniz, Anthony Anderson
Director: Kevin Allen (*The Big Tease*)

Story: In this action-comedy sequel to 2002's *Agent Cody Banks*, the teenage super-spy (Muniz) poses as a student at an elite English boarding school to stop a madman with a diabolical device. Watch for merry cultural mix-ups of the "they say 'chips,' we say 'fries'" variety. **DVD Extras:** interactive video commentary and quiz hosted by the cast, deleted and extended scenes, a behind-the-scenes featurette, photo gallery



THE DREAMERS

Stars: Eva Green, Louis Garrel
Director: Bernardo Bertolucci (*The Last Emperor*)
Story: In turbulent 1968 Paris, three young film lovers are

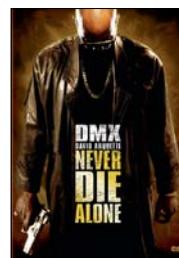
brought together by their passion for movies and each other. What begins as a casual friendship ripens into a sensual voyage of discovery and desire in which nothing is off limits.

DVD Extras: commentary by Bertolucci, plus separate R-rated and NC-17-rated versions

THE BARBARIAN INVASIONS

Stars: Rémy Girard, Stéphane Rousseau
Director: Denys Arcand (*Jesus of Montreal*)

Story: Arcand and company nabbed a mittful of Genie Awards plus an Oscar for Best Foreign-Language Film for this "make you laugh, make you cry" sequel to *The Decline of the American Empire*. Now, 17 years later, family and friends reunite to spend a few quality days with dying Rémy. In French with English subtitles.



NEVER DIE ALONE

Stars: DMX, David Arquette
Director: Ernest Dickerson (*Juice*)
Story: Rapper DMX is all menacing charisma in this dark, stylish,

modern-day noir about a hard-boiled criminal who returns home seeking redemption, but finds only violent death. Based on a cult novel by the late Donald Goines, himself an ex-con. **DVD Extras:** commentary by Dickerson, DMX and Arquette, 11 deleted scenes

JULY 20



CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE DRAMA QUEEN

Stars: Lindsay Lohan, Adam Garcia
Director: Sara Sugarman (*Very Annie Mary*)
Story: Suddenly cat-

apulted into the mall-dwelling teenage wilderness of New Jersey, New York City girl Lola (Lohan) feels like her life has come to an abrupt halt. We wonder if a series of madcap adventures can return her to her old sassy self.

NEW to DVD

FANTASTIC MONTH FOR FANS OF FILM NOIR



With racks of DVDs now selling in corner stores, pizza joints and probably funeral homes, it seems like every B-list movie ever filmed is getting the "Very Extra

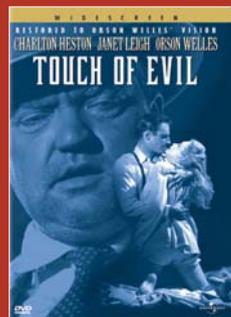
Special Edition" treat-

ment. This month, however, brings two collections from the 1940s and '50s with a big difference — the movies are good! And some are even honest-to-goodness "classics."

On July 6, murder is for keeps and happy endings are for saps when Warner Brothers unveils **The Film Noir Collection: Volume 1**, featuring **The Asphalt Jungle** (1950), **Gun Crazy** (1950), **Murder, My Sweet** (1944), **Out of the Past** (1947) and **The Set-Up** (1949), available individually or as a box set. And on the same day, Universal is releasing single discs of **The Big Clock** (1948), **Black Angel** (1946), **This Gun for Hire** (1942) and **Touch of Evil** (1958) as part of its "Film Noir Promo." Each movie has been remastered and most have a few extras, including trailers and a variety of commentaries or featurettes by film historians.

Film noir (for those readers whose cinematic memories start at *Titanic*) is a highly original and sophisticated style of American filmmaking that first evolved in the 1940s. The term "noir" was coined by French film critics who noticed how dark — in both look and theme — many crime and detective films from this era were. The setting was most often a

shadowy, smoky underworld populated by morally ambiguous tough-guy anti-heroes, beautiful, manipulative and deadly femmes fatales and the regular Joes who fell for them.



JULY 27

STARSKY & HUTCH

Stars: Owen Wilson, Ben Stiller
Director: Todd Phillips (*Old School*)

Story: The crime-fighting odd couple will need their canniest under-



cover skills, hard-core street smarts and striking good looks to solve the crime and make sure the Big Bad does the time. Because as David Starsky says, "In Bay City, when you cross the line, your n*ts are mine!" **DVD Extras:** director's commentary, a spoof documentary, Snoop Dogg's "Fashion Fa Shizzle Wit Huggy Bizzle" featurette, deleted scenes, outtakes, a "Vince's Bit for the Kids" Easter egg



HELLBOY

Stars: Ron Perlman, Selma Blair

Director: Guillermo del Toro (*Blade 2*)
Story: A gleefully eccentric comic/action/sci-fi/horror flick following the

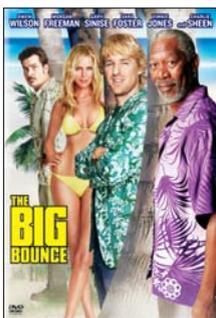
supernatural adventures of Hellboy (Perlman), a regular lunchbucket kinda guy who also happens to be a bright red, cigar-chomping, demon-with-a-heart raised to fight the forces of darkness.

DVD Extras: del Toro's commentary, four featurettes, deleted and alternate scenes, outtakes, concept art

THE BIG BOUNCE

Stars: Owen Wilson, Morgan Freeman
Director: George Armitage (*Grosse Pointe Blank*)

Story: A comic noir film about an everydude



(Wilson) who finds trouble in the form of a beautiful blonde on a Hawaiian beach. Other shady characters in on the scams and counter-scams include Charlie Sheen, Gary Sinise, Bebe Neuwirth, Harry Dean Stanton, Kris Kristofferson and Mr. Willie Nelson.

THE WHOLE TEN YARDS

Stars: Bruce Willis, Matthew Perry

Director: Howard Deutch (*Grumpier Old Men*)

Story: A hit-man, a nerdy dentist,



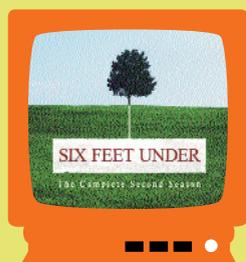
Hungarian gangsters and some sort of "comic" mayhem. Give yourself a hand — your profound indifference toward this limp sequel to 2001's sorta-hit *The Whole Nine Yards* has saved us all from the nightmare of an "Eleven Yards" (10.058m).

TV on DVD

Without doubt, this month's TV on DVD highlight is July 6th's release of **Six Feet Under: The Complete Second Season**, 13 more dark, comic episodes about life — and death — at the Fisher & Sons Funeral Home.

Season Two continues to chronicle the gloriously messed-up personal lives of the Fisher clan: prodigal son Nate, uptight good son David, teen rebel Claire and repressed matriarch Ruth, who grapple with everything from coming out of the closet to serious illness, all while comforting a parade of grieving customers. Watch for Lili Taylor to make an appearance toward the end of the season as Nate's earthy ex.

Special features include commentary on selected episodes by creator Alan Ball, featurettes and a Season One recap — which you'll need since it's been a three-year wait for Season Two.



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CAMERON DIAZ "I've been boy-crazy all my life. I love romance and I love to flirt — ask my mom. I know what kind of trouble flirting gets me into. But, you know what? It's fun. I mean, aren't all men 16-year-old boys at heart?"

TALK ABOUT ROMANCE

BY SUSAN GRANGER

10 Stars



CAMERON DIAZ FLIRTS WITH PHOTOGRAPHERS AT THIS YEAR'S CANNES FILM FESTIVAL. PHOTO BY IPHOTO

WOODY ALLEN "I believe in lifelong passion but you have to be intensely lucky. I don't think it's the kind of thing you can work at. Two people meet each other and everything has to intermesh perfectly. It has to be, like, the great pleasure of your life.... Like the woman goes to the Knicks game with me, not because she knows I love it. It's that she also loves it. It's on a sexual level as well. You want your partner to like the same things you like or to intermesh with you. If you stumble into that, it's very rare."

JOHN CUSACK "Matters of the heart are tough. I guess you just learn that you can't change other people. You can't look for someone else to fill your holes. You become a better judge of character, and I think with women I'm finally looking past their obvious gifts more than I used to. I want someone who has control over her life and wants to share it."

KEANU REEVES "Romance is giving joy to someone you love and giving them something that you know they love as well. A moment's gesture, giving your love, giving your feeling. The romance is the specialness of the moment and the event and the gesture."



WOODY ALLEN AND WIFE SOON-YI AT A RECENT KNICKS GAME. PHOTO BY ANTHONY J. CAUSICORON SMH

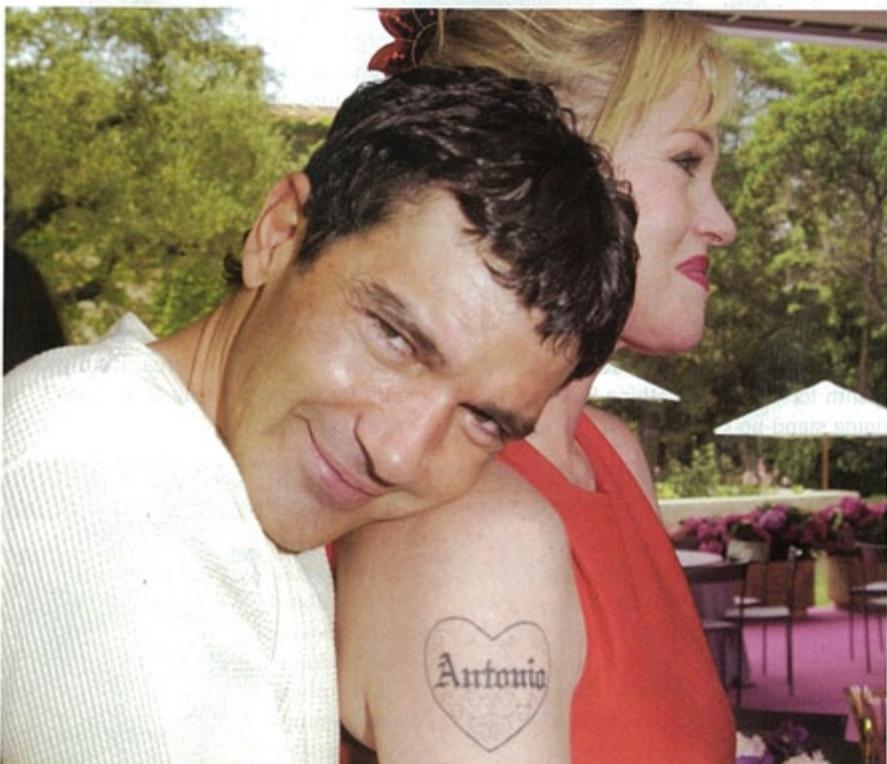


PHOTO BY JEFF VESPAWIREIMAGE

ANTONIO BANDERAS "Happiness is a breeze that touches your face only once in a while. Romance is an encounter that makes you feel good, a woman who makes you feel that you have lived the joy of life."

JAMES BROLIN "I feel like I've been married to Barbra [Streisand] since the day we sat down together at a dinner party.... The honeymoon should be over by now, but I just can't stand to be away from her. Our life — this romance — is pretty darn mellow, pretty cool. It's amazing.... When I was shooting a movie in the Philippines we had some telephone calls that were six hours long. I had the national debt phone bill!"

MEL GIBSON "I think I've scratched the surface after 20 years of marriage. Women want chocolate and conversation."

KIRSTIE ALLEY "My quest for romance has always been connected with my quest for spiritual freedom. I've always wanted a mate who was on a similar wavelength, who had a similar goal."

COURTENAY COX "I used to think that a relationship is supposed to be a perfect fit. Now I realize there's a lot of work involved in making the pieces fit, a lot of compromise."

ZSA ZSA GABOR "Husbands are like fires; they go out if unattended."

july

HOROSCOPE
BY DAN LIEBMAN



KATIA SMIRNOVA

Cancer

June 22 >> July 22

It's an excellent time to evaluate existing friendships and expand your circle. As the second half of the year gets underway, review your recent accomplishments, then prepare for growth and change, and consider learning a new skill.

Leo

July 23 >> August 22

This month is a blend of hard work and pure relaxation. The trick is to avoid letting the former intrude on the latter. For anyone interested in the performing arts, this is an excellent time to make a debut — or at least to take a singing or acting lesson.

Virgo

August 23 >> September 22

Your partner is alternately laidback and egotistical. In fact, it's hard to keep track of everyone's moods. Fortunately, your own disposition remains even, though you tend to be outspoken around the 15th. You may finally be able to purchase a high-end item.

Libra

September 23 >> October 22

Hospitality is a theme this month. Plan on a reunion, and expect to supply the glue that holds folks together. You could be misinterpreting a loved one's motives, especially around the middle of the month. Late July sees you renewing important agreements.

Scorpio

October 23 >> November 21

Following a slump, your self-confidence soars. As far as you're concerned now, nobody is out of your league. Fashion sense is strong, and it's a good month to show your flamboyant side.

Sagittarius

November 22 >> December 22

Bonds strengthen with an older relative. Try to take a more ambitious approach to your career. You may hear from someone who's been in your thoughts. There's a late-month tendency to write impulsively, so reread email messages before hitting the send button.

Capricorn

December 23 >> January 20

Your sign is identified with ambition and drive, but you also have a humanitarian side — and that's what's emphasized this month. You're also flirtatious, and may attract a new friend around the 20th. If travelling with others, be sure to handle the finances.

Aquarius

January 21 >> February 19

Expect communications snags around the new moon of the 17th. Back up computer files and be sure phone messages are getting through. Your sense of humour is one of your best qualities. July is a great month for writing something funny or doing stand-up comedy.

Pisces

February 20 >> March 20

There's something old-fashioned and formal about the month. You could, for example, be attending an elegant party. This is also a good time for correcting past lapses — sending out overdue replies or repaying debts. Late month is ideal for solitude and reflection.

Aries

March 21 >> April 20

You generally take the lead, but this month you assume a supporting role. Your partner is more willing to share your interests. You can make a name for yourself in a field that involves ingenuity and originality.

Taurus

April 21 >> May 22

Before committing yourself to an arrangement, be sure you know what the deal includes. This is a good month to join organizations or clubs. A complex relationship becomes easier to deal with. Look for new destinations, even if travelling close to home.

Gemini

May 23 >> June 21

July has two full moons — one on the 2nd, the other on the 31st. In the weeks between them, you show great perseverance and make major advances in a personal or professional area. It's a good month for fitness, as long as you don't get carried away.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

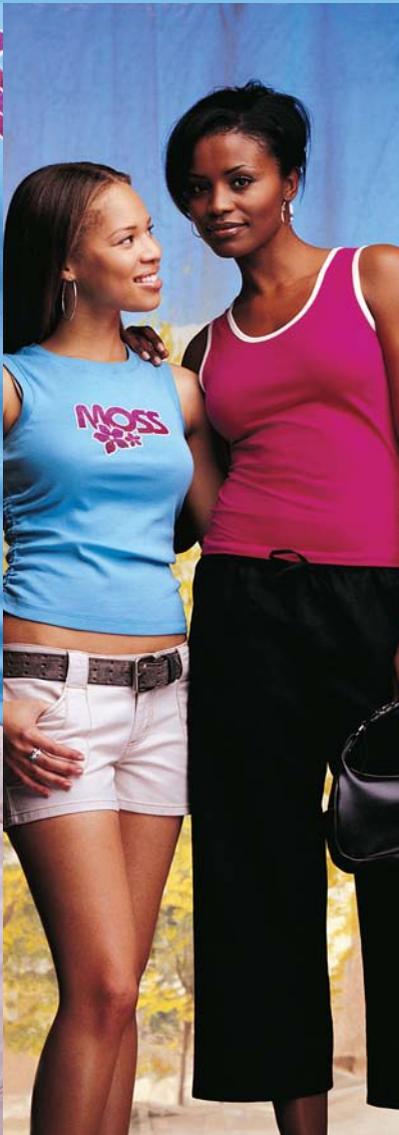
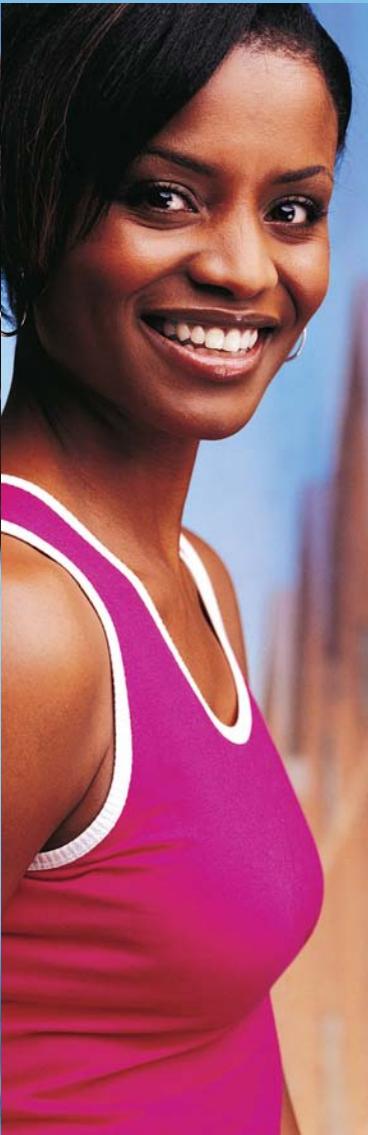


1st	Dan Aykroyd	12th	Bill Cosby	23rd	Marlon Wayans
2nd	Lindsay Lohan	13th	Harrison Ford	24th	Jennifer Lopez
3rd	Tom Cruise	14th	Matthew Fox	25th	Matt LeBlanc
4th	Neil Simon	15th	Forest Whitaker	26th	Kate Beckinsale
5th	Huey Lewis	16th	Corey Feldman	27th	Maya Rudolph
6th	Geoffrey Rush	17th	Phyllis Diller	28th	Sally Struthers
7th	Ringo Starr	18th	Vin Diesel	29th	Peter Jennings
8th	Anjelica Huston	19th	Anthony Edwards	30th	Lisa Kudrow
9th	Tom Hanks	20th	Diana Rigg	31st	J.K. Rowling
10th	Jessica Simpson	21st	Norman Jewison		
11th	Lil' Kim	22nd	Danny Glover		





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