

Famous

Jennifer Aniston, Meg Ryan
and other stars talk about plastic surgery

june 2001 volume 2 number 6

canada's entertainment
lifestyle magazine



Hugh Jackman

ON NETTING *SWORDFISH*

RUFUS WAINWRIGHT'S
SENTIMENTAL SONGS

SPOTLIGHT ON:
DAVID DUCHOVNY,
COLLEEN HASKELL
& CHRISTINA RICCI

JOLIE
GOT A GUN

TOMB RAIDER'S ANGELINA JOLIE TALKS ABOUT
GETTING BUFF TO PLAY LARA CROFT

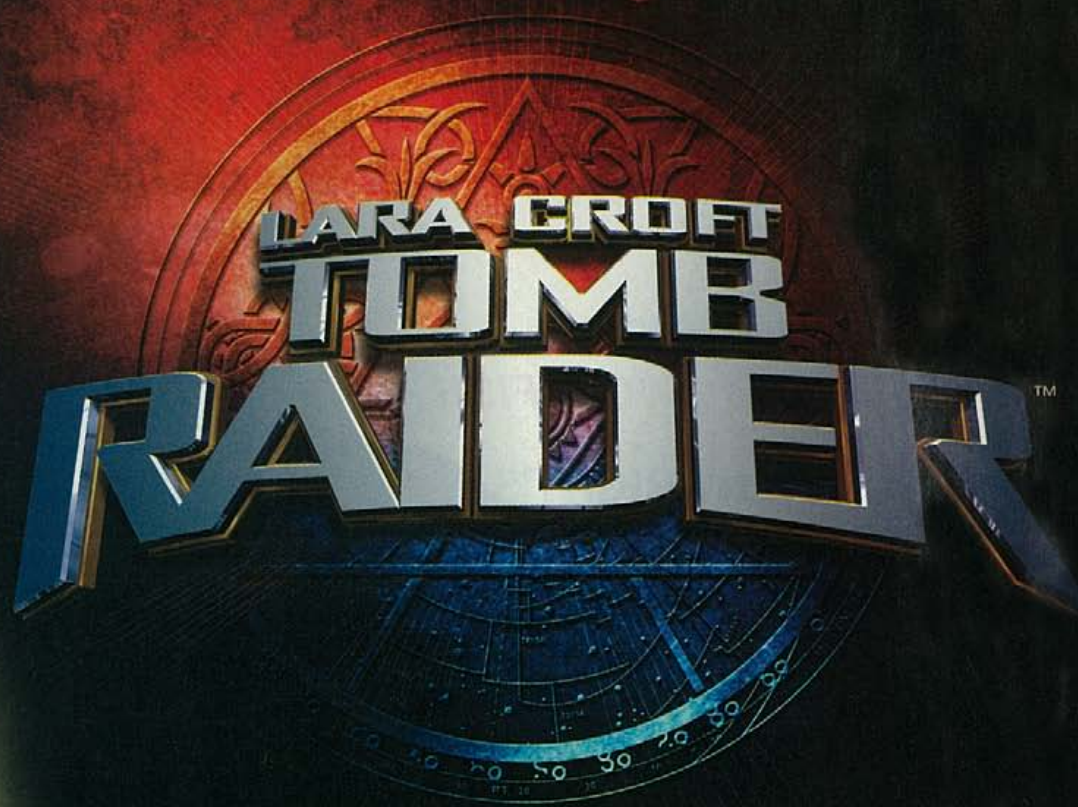
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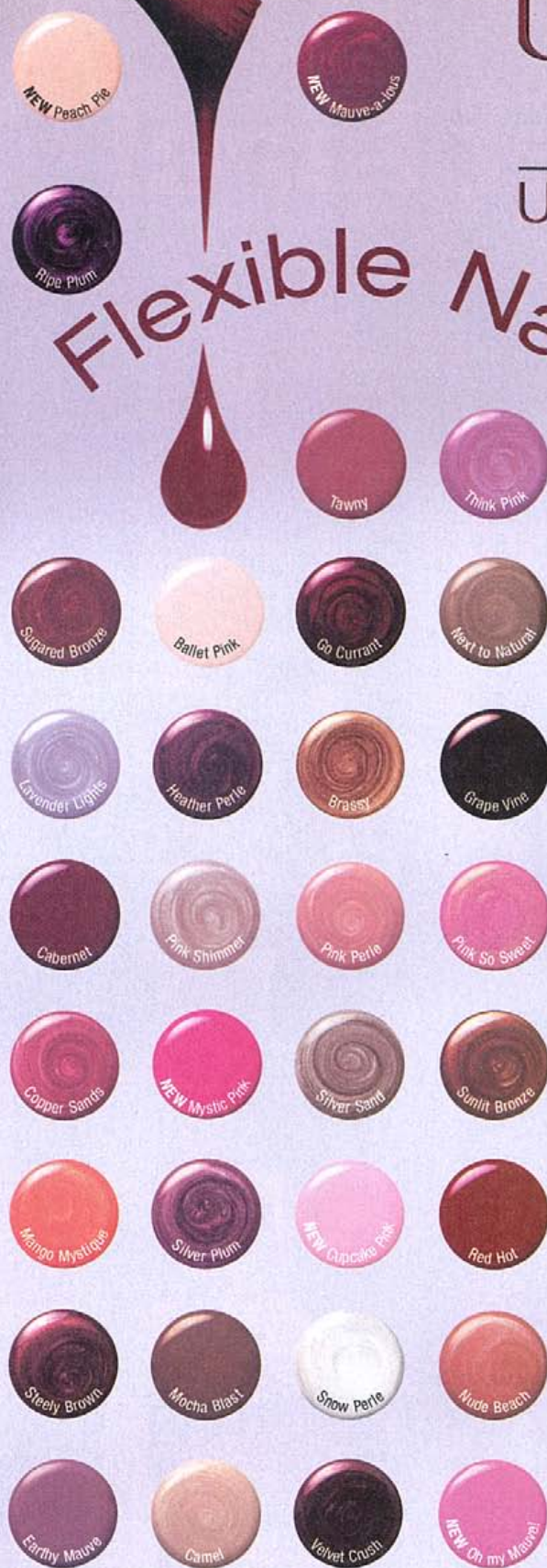
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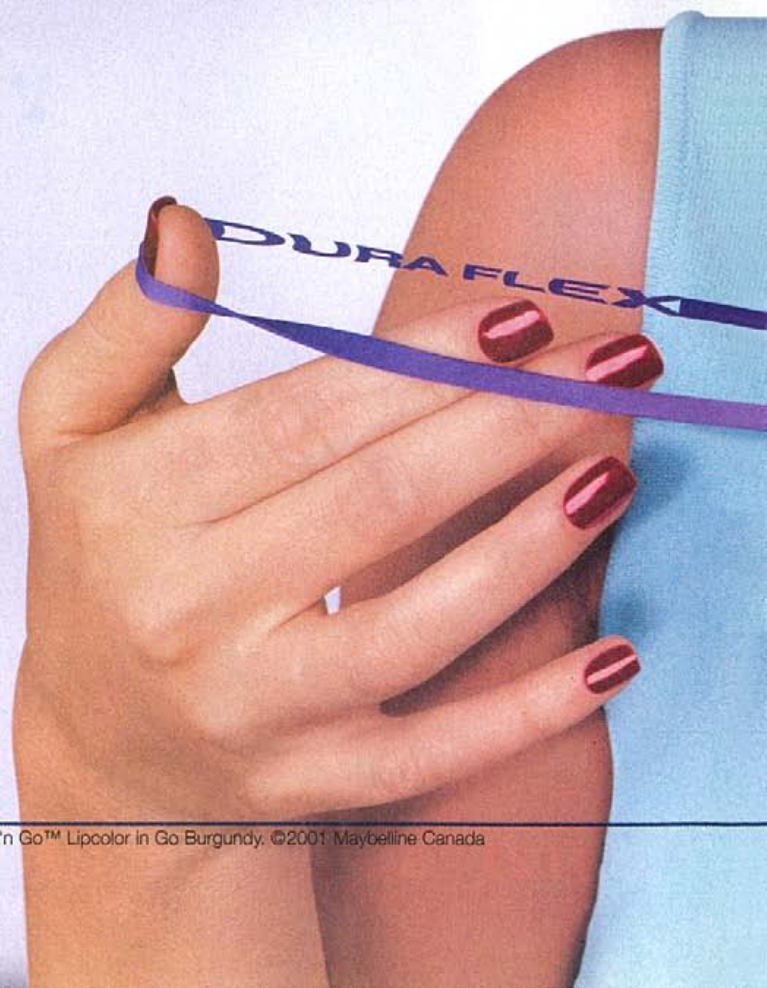
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Josie Maran



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durable shades

MAYBE SHE'S BORN WITH IT. MAYBE IT'S MAYBELLINE.

MAYBELLINE



A movie poster for 'Lara Croft Tomb Raider'. The central figure is Angelina Jolie as Lara Croft, wearing a dark blue tank top and a black skirt with a gold belt buckle featuring a skull. She is holding a handgun in her right hand and a small device in her left. The background is a large, circular, ornate metal door with intricate carvings. The title 'LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER' is prominently displayed in large, metallic, 3D letters across the middle of the poster.

LARA CROFT TOMB RAIDER

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IN THEATRES JUNE 15

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By Sean Daly

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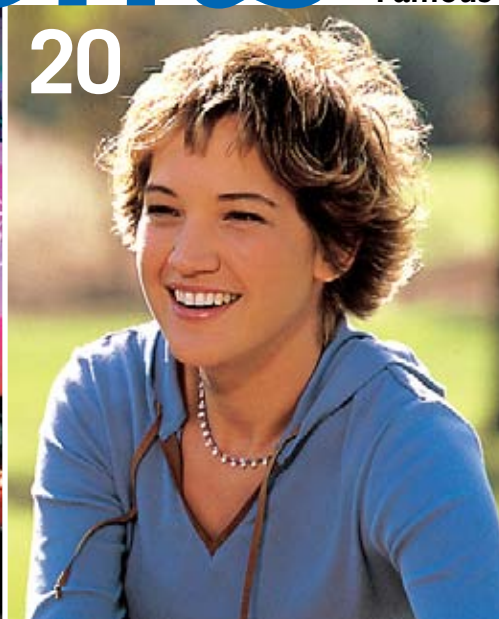
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Angelina Jolie had to behave herself to make *Tomb Raider* — giving up booze, smokes and Billy Bob, and attending a British manners school. She also had to learn how to strip and clean handguns. Here she talks about playing gamedom's Lara Croft in the bullet-riddled action pic

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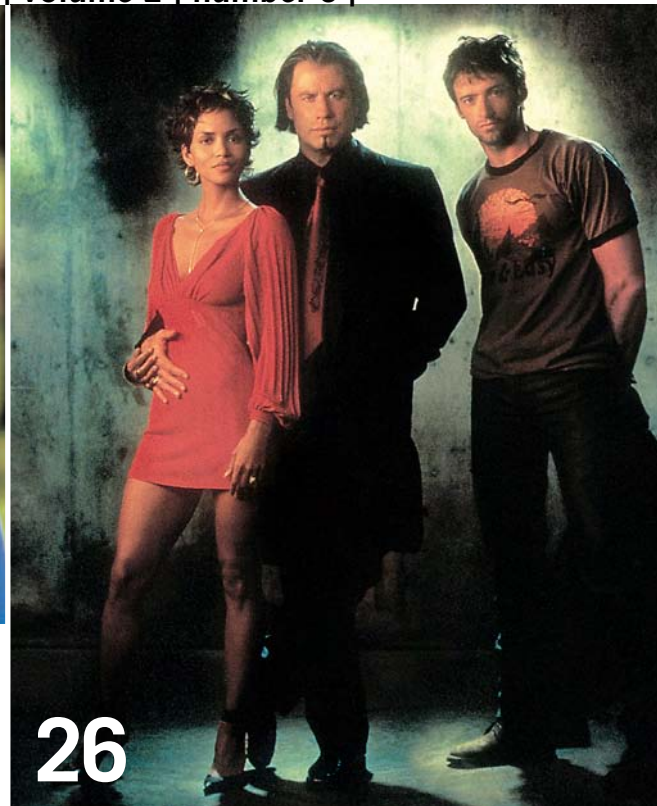
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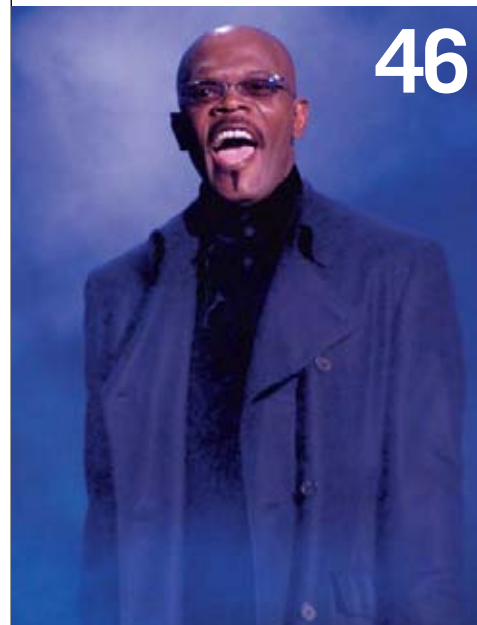
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Jolie good show?



Two issues back, our cover featured Renée Zellweger — an American who snagged the coveted role of the very British Bridget Jones in the big-screen adaptation of the best-selling novel *Bridget Jones's Diary*. This month, we've got **Angelina Jolie** — an American who snagged the coveted role of the very British Lara Croft in the big-screen adaptation of the unbelievably popular *Tomb Raider* videogame series.

Both traveled to England to immerse themselves in British culture months before cameras rolled. And both underwent impressive physical changes to fit their roles — Zellweger gained 30 pounds, Jolie got ripped.

But there's one big difference. While Zellweger's casting enraged *Bridget Jones* fans around the world (How can a Southern belle play our beloved Brit chick?), the decision to go with Jolie was immediately applauded. She just seemed to embody the tough, curvaceous digital vixen.

Of course, whether she's actually pulled it off will have to be decided by the game's fans this month. After all, expectations mean nothing. (Zellweger's performance in *Bridget Jones* was a delightful surprise for most of the book's devotees.) Read what Jolie told Earl Dittman about the shoot, being an adrenaline junkie and her beloved Billy Bob, in "Trigger Happy," page 30.

When a friend and I backpacked through Europe many moons ago, everyone warned us to stay away from Australian guys. If memory serves, there was even a line in our *Let's Go* guide cautioning female travelers to be wary of the notoriously predatory party boys from Down Under.

But I'm not sure it's fair to blame it all on those libidinous Aussies. There's just something about that accent that turns many women to mush. We've seen it with Mel Gibson, Russell Crowe...and now **Hugh Jackman**? Looks like. For someone who's name had never been uttered on this side of the Pacific Ocean until he appeared in last year's *X-Men*, Jackman sure has found a lot of female fans. In Sean Daly's "Hacking with Jackman," page 26, you'll find out how he's dealing with them, and what it's like to star alongside his boyhood idol John Travolta in the new thriller *Swordfish*.

Ancient Egypt has provided us with some of the best movie moments of the past half-century — whether in period pieces which whisk us back to the time of pharaohs like *The Ten Commandments*, or archeological adventures filled with legends and artifacts like *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. And now moviegoers in Calgary will be enjoying all of their films surrounded by the icons of that enigmatic era. Find out why Famous Players decided to deck their newest cinema with pyramids and golden cobras in "Look Like an Egyptian," page 22.

— Marni Weisz

Famous

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Carla Collins on Jolie's **removable** head, Pamela Anderson's **thong** and Michael Jackson's grand **plan**

Off With Her Head Angelina Jolie is worried people might knock her block off. The *Tomb Raider* star was quoted in a recent interview with *US* magazine as saying, "The Lara Croft doll is the closest I have ever seen to me — and that's scary. Seeing yourself in plastic is very bizarre." (Now she knows how Loni Anderson feels every time she looks in the mirror.) "I can imagine someone taking the head off, or sticking it upside down in the mud — doing the things I would do to a doll."

Doll decapitations? I don't know what kind of crazy Barbie re-enactments of *Seven* were going on in Angie's household but the weirdest thing I ever did was put Malibu Skipper and G.I. Joe in compromising positions.



Tito, Call Your Brother *The Scoop's* Jeanette Walls says that the face-morphing Michael Jackson — who was once said to be getting plastic surgery to look more like his then-idol Diana Ross — is now getting work done to look like Elizabeth Taylor. A source close to Jackson reveals, "He wants to look like Liz in her glory days," (so does Liz) "with the shoulder-length tousled black hair, dark eye lashes, and a perfect little nose and chin. He's been having work done to make it happen." He should consult his doctor because from recent pictures I thought his idol was Sailor Moon. With epaulettes.



Blow to His Ego A Jack Nicholson biographer claims that the notorious Hollywood lothario was once plagued by fears of sexual inadequacy. In his book, *Jack's Life: A Biography of Jack Nicholson*, Patrick McGilligan writes, "Jack saw himself as a loser where women were concerned." McGilligan claims Nicholson had no staying power and used cocaine to help him with his sexual short-

comings. That would explain why Jack's been wearing sunglasses since 1972. It may also explain why Robert Downey Jr. is hooked on the junk. Maybe he's looking to last longer than a Ken Burns documentary.

Who's Your Mummy? The makers of *The Mummy Returns* were forced to alter history for fear of having their film become one long-running breast joke. Though Rachel Weisz's archeologist is meant to be a reincarnation of Egyptian Queen Nefertiti, Weisz explains in a story on the World Entertainment News Network, "they changed my name to Nefereti...I thought it had something to do with superstition, but they were just worried that Nefertiti sounded like titties." You know, *Shaft* sounds like something naughty as well, but that didn't stop John Singleton. Just keeping you abreast.



A Little Thong 'n' Pants Animal rights activists and teenage boys can now rest. Pamela Anderson's exhaustive search for an animal-friendly leather-look g-string has ended in triumph. According to a story on the Internet Movie Database, Indian designer Rohit Bal, who created the fake thong, gushed, "I'm very happy not only because Pamela asked me but because it's linked to an important cause I believe in." Gandhi would be so proud. Now if only Tommy Lee weren't so harmful to the environment.



Field of Dreamin' Kevin Costner apparently hates being seen as a sex symbol. In a World Entertainment News Network story, Costner says he's "only interested in being a good actor and in being remembered for my best films, not for the way I look." Don't worry about it big guy. With your butt sinking faster than the Nasdaq and your hair now thinner than the plot of an after-school special, "heartthrob" isn't exactly the first word that comes to mind. As for being remembered for your best films, let us know which ones you'd like us to cherish: *The Postman*? *Waterworld*? For *Love of the Game*? *3,000 Miles to Graceland*?



Going, Going, Gone Aussie "actor" Paul Hogan has threatened to take the Writers Guild of America to court over *Crocodile Dundee* in Los Angeles. Hogan is furious that his name does not appear in the writing credits for the third *Crocodile Dundee* movie, because he is also one of the film's producers. I think the word "credit" may be somewhat misused in this dispute. Do you really want to fight to see your name scroll at the end of a *Crocodile Dundee* sequel? That's like fighting for acknowledgement on *Dude, Where's My Car?* But I guess when you're dipping into the *Crocodile Dundee* well for a third time, you gotta get the most out of every drop. The next role Hogan will have in the outback will be as a waiter.



Carla Collins is an actor/comedian/supermodel and the host of CTV's *Sonic Temple* and eNow.

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SCARY MOVIE 2

Directed by Keenen Ivory Wayans

Starring Shawn Wayans Marlon Wayans Anna Faris

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Spot the security guard

In light of kidnapping threats against Russell Crowe (centre), security on the set of his new movie *A Beautiful Mind* was tighter than Pamela Anderson's bikini top. The film tells the mostly true story of a Princeton math professor who won the Nobel Prize while battling schizophrenia. As for the hired muscle, our money's on the guy in the jean ensemble.

Gay film, Alberta-style



Baking with Butch

Does size really matter? Last month Toronto hosted one of the continent's largest annual gay and lesbian film festivals, *Inside Out*, and this month Calgary hosts one of the smallest — the **Fairy Tales Queer Film/Video Festival**.

The three-year-old event takes place **June 14 and 15**, with each night consisting of a 90-minute short film program and a full-length feature. According to its website, www.csif.org/fairytales, all films are "of interest to lesbians, gays, bisexuals or transgendered people." Well, isn't everything?

"Basically what that means is issues that aren't covered in mainstream filmmaking," says organizer Trevor Alberts. "Most of the time they're made by queer filmmakers, but not all the time. I mean, we don't ask. It really doesn't matter to us."

Attendance rose from 700 in 1999 to 1,000 last year. And Alberts says the relatively modest

size is intentional. "It's a grassroots festival," he explains. "We basically raise the funds for the entire festival on a private basis, so we don't apply for grants from the Canada Council, or other groups like that."

Instead, the money comes from local real estate agents, law firms and, stereotypes be damned, hair salons. That way, Alberts says, the event stays community based and avoids "any pitfalls of becoming political." In other words, no one can complain about their tax dollars paying for something they find offensive (as has happened in other cities) if there aren't any public funds involved. But overall, Alberts has been surprised by the lack of negative backlash. "I hope it says a lot about the changing climate of Calgary, if not Alberta," he says.

Although most of the films hadn't been decided at press time, Alberts says one short-film program will "deal with the theme of food in the lives of queer people." For example? There's *Baking with Butch*, a lesbian cooking show, and then there's the favourite among felines, *Breakfast with Gus*. "The whole film is shown from a cat's point of view as it's searching for food in the apartment," Alberts explains. "All the while there's some domestic turmoil happening amongst the couple of roommates in the apartment." No word whether it's the cat, or the roommates, who are gay.

■ Shows take place at The Uptown Screen in downtown Calgary. Tickets are available from the Calgary Society of Independent Filmmakers, 403.205.4747 or the Rainbow Pride Resource Centre, 403.266.5685. —MW



Scary movies

It's almost scary how much Kier-la Janisse knows about horror movies. Ask her about slasher flicks, or the post-Franco film industry in Spain, or Japanese ghost stories and you'll get a lengthy answer that draws on everything from folklore to socio-economic conditions and sexual mores.

Italy's *giallo* movies, she explains, were a stylish but violent and sadistic kind of thriller that were mass-produced during that country's economic and cultural slump of the late '60s and '70s. "But they were popular," she says matter-of-factly. "They made their money back. And so [Italy] made all kinds of sex comedies and gore films."

Janisse is head of the **Cinemuerte International Horror Film Festival**, which returns **July 5 to 14** to Vancouver's Pacific Cinematheque with another crop of new and vintage horror flicks — and a special selection of the notorious *giallo* films. "The newer films are there as icing," she says over the phone from B.C. "The target of the festival is to unearth old films and find prints of films that never had a proper theatrical release."

Films such as Italy's 1972 thriller *Black Belly of the Tarantula* or 1971's *Twitch of the Dead Nerve* which, explains Janisse, was the first slasher movie and the inspiration for *Friday the 13th*. "People are out in the woods at a campground and everybody dies.... There are identical murder scenes and an identical setting." They're also screening a gruesome piece of work called *Cannibal Holocaust*, the rarely seen 1979 splatterfest that served as the source for *The Blair Witch Project*.

"It's one of the most brutal movies ever made," says Janisse, adding, with almost academic detachment, that many animals are actually killed on camera. "Which tends to undermine what a masterpiece the film really is."

■ For ticket info call 604.708.3519 or go to www.cinemuerte.com. —SD



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Strange sequels

Some movies seem like they're specifically constructed to spawn sequels. They may be slasher pics — Hollywood has yet to create a villain that its screenwriters can't bring back from the dead (*Jason X* comes out this summer), or buddy flicks about pals who have so many adventures together they can't be squeezed into one film (look for *Lethal Weapon 5* in 2003).

But there are also some surprising sequels floating around Hollywood these days. We thought you'd be interested to know that someone, somewhere is planning to resurrect some of your favourite characters...and some you couldn't care less if you ever saw again.

The First Wives Club 2 — Look, they opened the women's centre and rid themselves of their insecurities. What more is there to do? Make more money, we suppose. Should be out in 2002.

Final Destination 2 — The spooky 2000 film about a teen who dodges Death was a minor hit. But without any big-name actors it seems like an unusual choice for a sequel. Devon Sawa (who?) returns in the lead role.

Dirty Dancing 2 — Announced by Artisan and Miramax in May 2000, this project still doesn't have any confirmed cast, or a plot. But one can assume, like its predecessor 14 years ago, it will have something to do with dancing in a dirty fashion. Why the wait? Perhaps Jennifer Gray's schedule has just been too busy. Hee hee hee.

Wild at Heart 2 — In a neat twist, Nicolas Cage will be replaced by actor/singer Chris Isaak in the role of Sailor Ripley. Which is interesting since Isaak contributed the eerie "Wicked Game" to the soundtrack of the original.

Pitch Black 2 — The first one didn't lose any money, so why not have another go? Perhaps they're trying to be the next *Alien* franchise. Vin Diesel has signed on to reprise his role of a gruff, alien-fighting convict.

The Mask 2 — Jim Carrey has vowed he won't return, so what's the point? Oh well, New Line Cinema is still trying to get this follow-up to the 1994 blockbuster off the ground. The Mask of Loki figures prominently again, meaning the star will have to be another freaky rubberface. Our recommendation? Michael Jackson.

Inspector Gadget 2 — Yikes. You can be sure Matthew Broderick won't be back for this one. After all, the 1999 original made him the laughing stock of movieland. Disney is already billing this follow-up as a direct-to-video release. Do they know something we don't?

Grosse Pointe Blank 2 — John Cusack has signed on for this sequel to 1997's flick about a hitman who returns home for his high school reunion. Script rumours have his character on a mission to find God. We're not sure if this means literally or metaphorically, or if the Blues Brothers will be along for the ride.



FILMS SHOOTING ACROSS THE COUNTRY THIS MONTH

K-19: The Widowmaker

Director: Kathryn Bigelow

Cast: Harrison Ford, Liam Neeson

Location: Halifax, N.S.

Work on this Cold War thriller got rolling in Moscow back in February, but the rest has been filmed in Canada — bringing Ford, Neeson and the gang to the shores of Lake Winnipeg, the studios of Toronto and finally to the shipyards and waters off Halifax, where the marathon five-month shoot wraps up this month. Ford plays the captain of the Soviet nuclear sub that, in 1961, almost set off World War Three when its reactor sprung a leak.



Halloween 8

Director: Rick Rosenthal

Cast: Brad Loree, Jamie Lee Curtis

Location: Vancouver, B.C.

She's only doing a quick cameo, but Curtis has agreed to appear in the eighth instalment of the splatterific *Halloween* flicks, again playing sister to rubber-faced killing machine Michael Myers. Taking a cue from the net-savvy *Blair Witch* movies, *Halloween 8* picks up when a gang of foolhardy teenagers stage a live internet chat from the Myers family home. It's due in theatres this October.

Red Green's Duct Tape Forever

Director: Eric Till

Cast: Steve Smith, Patrick McKenna

Location: Hamilton, Ont.

Little is known about the big-screen adaptation of the CBC's long-running *Red Green Show* — now ending its delayed, five-week, \$4-million shoot outside of Steel Town — except that Canadian everyman Green (Smith) and his geeky, plaid-clad nephew (McKenna) are the only two who can save their beloved lodge from some sort of disaster. Maybe there's trouble with the reactor?

Life, or Something Like It

Director: Stephen Herek

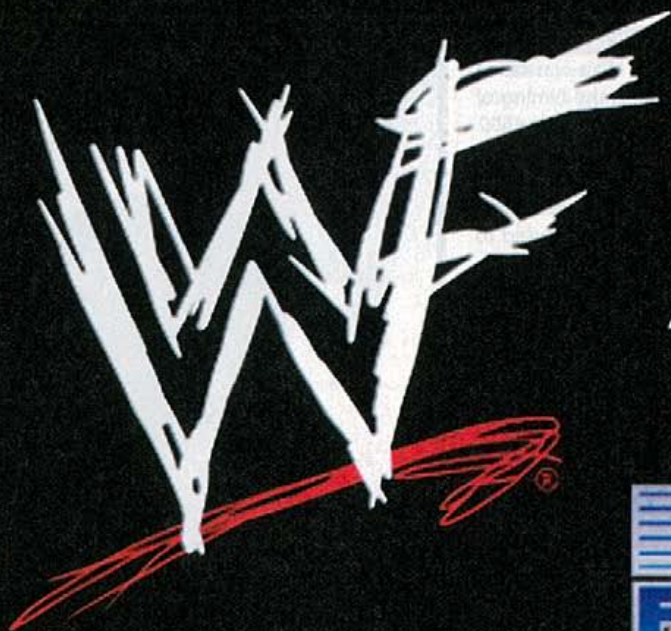
Cast: Angelina Jolie, Edward Burns

Location: Vancouver, B.C.

As *Tomb Raider* unspools in theatres across the country this month, action figure Jolie is already mid-way through her next movie, a romantic comedy with Vancouver standing in for St. Louis. Jolie plays a reporter who is told, by a supposed psychic, that her life is empty and that she has only a few days left to live.

—SD

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JUNE 1



John Leguizamo (top) peeps on Ewan McGregor and Nicole Kidman in *Moulin Rouge*

MOULIN ROUGE

Who's In It? Ewan McGregor, Nicole Kidman
Who Directed? Baz Luhrmann (*Romeo+Juliet*)
What's It About? Originally slated to be released in December of last year, Aussie director Baz Luhrmann's latest got knocked back to May at the last minute, and then to June, prompting many to wonder if there was something amiss with the project being immodestly billed as a "reinvention of the musical form." (The period piece features music by Beck, Christina Aguilera and Fatboy Slim.) Audiences at Cannes got a sneak peek last month when the film opened the annual movie love-in (a very hopeful sign), and the rest of us get to see for ourselves this month, barring any last-minute surprises. McGregor (*The Phantom Menace*) stars as a gifted writer, living in *fin de siècle* Paris, who falls in with the rowdy crowd of bohemians who hang out at the notorious Moulin Rouge nightclub. Kidman co-stars as McGregor's streetwalking girlfriend, joined by John Leguizamo as painter Henri de Toulouse Lautrec.

JUNE 1

WHAT'S THE WORST THAT COULD HAPPEN?

Who's In It? Martin Lawrence, Danny DeVito
Who Directed? Sam Weisman (*George of the Jungle*)
What's It About? Lawrence stars as a professional thief, Kevin, who breaks into the house of a billionaire, Max, and is immediately caught and arrested. To get even, Max (DeVito) swipes Kevin's lucky ring, telling the cops it belongs to him. But Kevin takes his good luck seriously and goes after Max, and his ring, as soon as he's out of jail.

THE ANIMAL

Who's In It? Rob Schneider, Ed Asner
Who Directed? Luke Greenfield (debut)
What's It About? Schneider is a police cadet who, after a terrible car wreck, has most of his internal organs replaced with those of assorted animals. Once he's back on his feet, he starts acting like a critter at the worst possible times. Colleen Haskell, one of the also-rans from the original *Survivor*, plays his love interest.

JUNE 8

SWORDFISH

Who's In It? John Travolta, Hugh Jackman
Who Directed? Domenic Sena (*Kalifornia*)
What's It About? Travolta stars as Gabriel, a dangerous CIA operative who recruits ex-con computer hacker Stanley, played by Jackman, to steal \$6-million in unused government funds. Gabriel and his sidekick (Halle Berry) need the money to finance a covert operation and if Stanley plays along, he'll regain custody of his daughter. **See Hugh Jackman interview, page 26.**



Cloris Leachman and Rob Schneider in *The Animal*

EVOLUTION

Who's In It? David Duchovny, Julianne Moore
Who Directed? Ivan Reitman (*Junior*)
What's It About? Panic breaks out when alien life, arriving on board a meteorite, crashes to Earth and starts to evolve at lightning pace. Soon all human life is facing extinction and, for some reason, a community college professor (Duchovny) and a government agent (Moore) are sent in to investigate.

THE MAN WHO CRIED

Who's In It? Christina Ricci, Johnny Depp
Who Directed? Sally Potter (*The Tango Lesson*)
What's It About? Fleeing Russia in 1927, a Jewish refugee lands in England and then Paris while trying to get to America. Along the way she befriends a Russian dancer (Cate Blanchett), an Italian opera singer (John Turturro) and falls in love with a Gypsy (Depp).

JUNE 15

ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE

Who's In It? Michael J. Fox, Claudia Christian
Who Directed? Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise ▶▶

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What's It About? The big animated feature from Disney this summer lifts material from the collected works of Jules Verne to tell the story of Milo Thatch, a 19th-century submariner who finds a map leading to the sunken continent of Atlantis. Michael J. Fox voices Thatch, who is joined by crew members and undersea life voiced by the likes of Leonard Nimoy, James Garner and Mark Hamill.

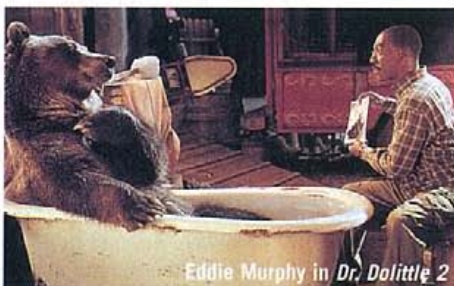
TOMB RAIDER

Who's In It? Angelina Jolie, Jon Voight
Who Directed? Simon West (*Con Air*)
What's It About? British blueblood and gun-slinging archeologist Lara Croft is the only one who can stop an evil secret society from taking over the world. If those evil-doers bring two long-lost artifacts together during a rare planetary alignment their leader (Iain Glen) will gain godlike magical powers. Based on the popular videogame series. See Angelina Jolie interview, page 30.

EVERYBODY FAMOUS!

Who's In It? Josse De Pauw, Eva van der Gucht
Who Directed? Dominique Deruddere (*Crazy Love*)
What's It About? A Belgian comedy, in Dutch, about a stage dad who kidnaps the country's biggest pop star in a desperate bid to make his talentless daughter a successful singer.

JUNE 22



DR. DOLITTLE 2

Who's In It? Eddie Murphy, Jeffrey Jones
Who Directed? Steve Carr (*Next Friday*)
What's It About? Lisa Kudrow and Norm Macdonald are just a couple of the actors lending their voices to assorted wildlife in this, the follow-up to Eddie Murphy's 1998 comic hit about a veterinarian who can talk with animals. This time he's trying to save an endangered species of bear from extinction by finding one of its last members a suitable mate. Which he does, except the second bear works in a circus and needs to be taught how to survive in the wild.

THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

Who's In It? Vin Diesel, Paul Walker
Who Directed? Rob Cohen (*The Skulls*)
What's It About? Rival street gangs are racing souped-up sport cars on the streets of L.A. and an undercover cop (Walker) is sent in to investigate — posing as a drag racer and befriending the gang's higher-ups. Rising star Diesel (*Pitch Black*) stars alongside indie-film palooka Michelle Rodriguez (*Girlfight*).

JUNE 27



BABY BOY

Who's In It? Tyrese Gibson, Ving Rhames
Who Directed? John Singleton (*Shaft*)
What's It About? Described, by Singleton, as a follow-up to his 1991 breakthrough *Boyz n the Hood*, *Baby Boy* stars newcomer Gibson as an unemployed man, living with his mom in South Central Los Angeles, who's juggling relationships with two women while trying to raise his son.

JUNE 29

A.I.: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Who's In It? Haley Joel Osment, Jude Law
Who Directed? Steven Spielberg (*Jurassic Park*)
What's It About? Spielberg takes over for his late friend Stanley Kubrick to direct the story of a robot (Osment) on a Pinocchio-esque quest to be like a real boy. Set in the near-future, when humanity has become dependent on machines with artificial smarts, *A.I.* also stars William Hurt, Sam Robards and features narration by Robin Williams.

KISS OF THE DRAGON

Who's In It? Jet Li, Bridget Fonda
Who Directed? Chris Nahon (debut)
What's It About? Human tornado Li (*Romeo Must Die*) plays a Chinese intelligence officer who gets caught up in a deadly conspiracy while on assignment in Paris.

All release dates are subject to change.
Some films play only in major markets.

check www.famousplayers.com for showtimes and locations

THE ANIMAL



Haskell in *The Animal*

COLLEEN HASKELL

Now appearing in... *The Animal*, a wacky new comedy from the man who brought you *Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo*. That's right, Rob Schneider is back, this time as Marvin, a police cadet who gets mashed up in a bad mountainside car accident — only to be saved by a strange beast who fixes him up using various animals' body parts. Haskell plays the little dog-walker who captures Marvin's heart.

Bio bits: You knew it would happen. As the cutest member of the first *Survivor* cast, Colleen Haskell was destined to end up on some screen somewhere. She turned down a \$100,000 offer to appear nude in *Playboy*, but when Columbia Pictures came a-knockin' Haskell quickly put aside her studies at a Miami advertising school to go Hollywood.

But let's take a trip back in time 24 years to Bethesda, Maryland, where Haskell entered this world on December 6, 1976. Her dad, John, worked for Geico Insurance and her mom, Patricia, was a career counsellor. The closest Colleen got to the limelight was behind the scenes of high school plays, working on lighting, set design and sound. After high school she moved south to attend the University of Georgia in Athens, during which she managed to snag a six-month internship working for the London Film Festival in England.

When she returned home (after some sight-seeing in Africa and France) she moved to Miami and enrolled in a two-year program at the Miami Ad School. But, one day, Colleen and a friend were shopping at a trendy mall when they came upon open auditions for something called a "reality TV show" that would be filmed in Malaysia. Having no idea what reality TV was all about, Colleen threw her hat into the ring hoping to earn a free trip to somewhere tropical.

After the show ended in August 2000, Haskell swore she wouldn't let her new-found fame change her. But she smacked her lips when lip-balm manufacturer Blistex offered to make her their spokesperson. And then, in September 2000, she signed on to do *The Animal*.

Sample roles: Ummm... well, there was Colleen in *Survivor* (2000), and Colleen in that Blistex commercial (2000)

Hobbies: travel, cooking, watching French films, talking on the phone

Interesting tidbits: Her "luxury item" on *Survivor* was soap. • Favourite band is The Cure. • When her legs were covered in festering bug bites during the filming of *Survivor*, she asked the on-site doctor what he could do and he responded, "Tomorrow, I'll bring a camera."

On Richard's victory: "I know that everyone was saying that he had the best strategy and deserved to win, but I'm sick of hearing that — it isn't true. I think someone like Gretchen was extremely strong and a great person. If she had won, it would have said something really positive about where society is. Instead, the message is: This is where America is at — you have to plot and scheme to get what you want. I find it sad." — *Detour*, October 2000

THE MAN

CHRISTINA RICCI

Now appearing in... *The Man Who Cried* as a young Jew who flees persecution in pre-World War Two Russia. The plan is to go to America, but instead she ends up on a boat bound for England. A few years later she migrates to Paris, where she befriends a dancer (Cate Blanchett) and falls in love with a Gypsy (Johnny Depp).

Bio bits: One of those child actors we watch with fascination to see if they'll blossom (like Jodie Foster) or self-destruct (like Macaulay Culkin and Dana Plato), Christina Ricci is doing pretty well so far.

Born February 12, 1980, in Santa Monica, California, Christina grew up mostly in New Jersey, where she lived with her realtor mom after her parents divorced. She didn't have long to be a normal child before a local critic noticed her in a school play and recommended an agent to her mother. She was eight. By the time she was 10, her first film — the Cher/Winona Ryder chick flick *Mermaids* — was in theatres. Ricci stole the show as the little sister who was most comfortable when she was underwater. Her next big break was as the emotionless Wednesday Addams in *The Addams Family* movies, which foretold movieland's desire to see her in slightly disturbing roles — like her teenaged sexual predator in *The Ice Storm*, a gun-wielding runaway in *The Opposite of Sex* and the drugged up artist in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* — all of which were done before she was 18.

But those teen years weren't all glamour for Ricci. The media's comments about her fluctuating weight (she did hit puberty, after all) spurred a bout of anorexia, during which she dropped down to a scary 85 pounds. She says she's beaten the disease.

The Man Who Cried marks her third time working with Johnny Depp, after 1998's *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas* and 1999's *Sleepy Hollow*. But they actually met on the set of *Mermaids*, when Depp was dating Ryder, and have had a brother-sister relationship ever since. Which apparently makes the on-screen kissing kinda weird.

Sample roles: Katrina in *Sleepy Hollow* (1999), Val in *200 Cigarettes* (1999), Shelley in *Pecker* (1998), Dedee in *The Opposite of Sex* (1998), Lucy in *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*

aring in...

WHO CRIED

Vegas (1998), Layla in *Buffalo '66* (1998), Wendy in *The Ice Storm* (1997), Kat in *Casper* (1995), Wednesday in *Addams Family Values* (1993) and *The Addams Family* (1991), Kate in *Mermaids* (1990)

Love life: Ricci and her actor boyfriend Matthew Frauman (who had a small part in *Bounce*) moved from New York to Los Angeles in 1998 and bought a house in Los Feliz.

Interesting tidbits: Was turned down for the roles of Batgirl in *Batman & Robin*, Juliet in *Romeo + Juliet*, Rose in *Titanic* and Jane in *American Beauty*. • Her best friend is *200 Cigarettes* co-star Gaby Hoffman. • She has her own production company, called Blaspheme Films.

On her self-image: "Even though I live in Los Angeles now, I don't travel in Hollywood circles because I always feel rejected. Everyone else looks so fabulous." — *Los Angeles Times*, November 1999



Ricci in *The Man Who Cried*

EVOLUTION

DAVID DUCHOVNY

Now appearing in... Ivan Reitman's sci-fi comedy *Evolution* with Julianne Moore. Duchovny covers familiar ground as a college professor sent to investigate an alien life-form that has crashed to Earth.

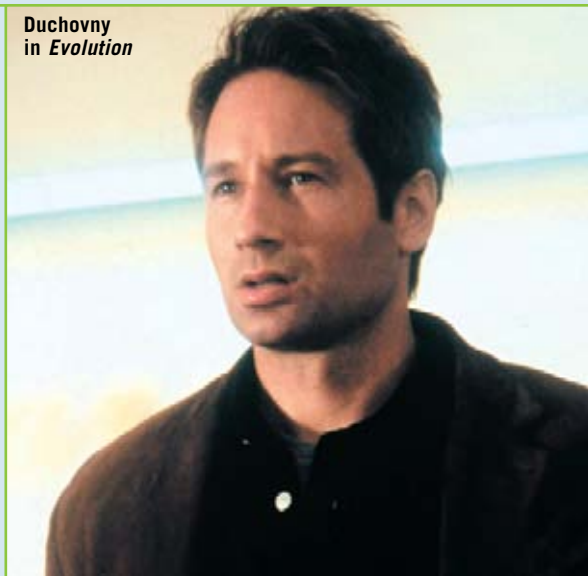
Bio bits: Only someone who spent years deep in the world of Ivy League academia could deliver the complex, convoluted dialogue of Fox Mulder. No doubt, David Duchovny's previous career as a scholar gave him some advance training for his part on *The X-Files* — a role that requires him to spout seamless lines about such arcane topics as Jungian psychology, alien abductions and Tibetan numerology.

It was his mom, a teacher, who steered him toward scholarly life. Born in 1960 and raised in Manhattan's scruffy Lower East Side, Duchovny attended the city's prestigious Collegiate Prep School on a scholarship — where he was nick-named "Hayseed" by his uptown, upper-crust classmates. He played basketball and baseball, studied almost obsessively and, after his parents divorced, worked as a lifeguard to make ends meet. Upon graduation, as class valedictorian no less, Duchovny turned down offers at Harvard, Yale and Brown and left to study English at Princeton. He graduated *summa cum laude* and went on to Yale for an MA and a PhD.

It was during his doctoral studies in 1987 that he stumbled into acting because he needed a quick \$2,000 to pay his school expenses, and a friend pointed out that he could easily make that much money by appearing in just one TV commercial. Duchovny called an agent and quickly landed a job in an ad for Löwenbräu beer. Within the year, he ditched Yale and his dissertation ("Magic and Technology in Contemporary Poetry and Prose") to be a full-time actor.

He had one line ("Surprise!") in his feature film debut, *Working Girl*, and, in the early '90s, landed small parts in off-the-beaten-path indie films such as *Julia Has Two Lovers* and *The Rapture*. A 1991 appearance on David Lynch's TV series *Twin Peaks*, as a transvestite DEA agent, got him some much-needed attention and, a year later, he was hired to host *The Red*

Duchovny
in *Evolution*



Shoe Diaries, a series of soft-focus erotic shorts airing on Showtime. Like an NC-17 version of Rod Serling, Duchovny anchored the racy series and earned a reputation as "the thinking woman's sex symbol." His winning streak continued into 1993, and beyond, when he landed what would be his breakthrough role — paranoid FBI Special Agent Fox Mulder — on a summer replacement series called *The X-Files*. Eight seasons and 30 million fans later, Duchovny is making an effort to move his career from TV back to the big screen.

Sample roles: Bob in *Return to Me* (2000), Mulder in *The X-Files* (1998), Eugene in *Playing God* (1997), Brian in *Kalifornia* (1993), Rollie in *Chaplin* (1992), Brad in *Beethoven* (1992), Randy in *The Rapture* (1991), Daniel in *Julia Has Two Lovers* (1991)

Love life: Married to actress Téa Leoni. They have one daughter. • Dated Sheryl Lee, Perreyé Reeves, Winona Ryder and singer Lisa Loeb.

Interesting tidbits: Is blind in his right eye from a high school basketball injury. • Was classmates with JFK Jr. in prep school.

On being bored with *The X-Files*: "If they wanted to revamp the whole show and the characters, that's interesting. But seven years of trying to find my sister is enough already. For me as an actor, there's nothing left." — *Entertainment Weekly*, April 2000



Look like an Egyptian

Famous Players' new Paramount Calgary borrows a theme from movie palaces of old **BY SEAN DAVIDSON**

There's a reason that the same names — Tivoli, Roxy, Paramount, Capitol, Strand — are so consistently popular with the owners and builders of movie theatres. A little less than a century ago, as the movie biz grew out of its nickel-and-dime adolescence into an adulthood bankrolled by the Hollywood gold rush, the showmen of the 1910s and '20s moved their business out of cramped, makeshift nickelodeons into newly constructed, impossibly lavish movie palaces. Theatre owners have been trying to recapture the grandeur of those glory days ever since.

Gigantic cinemas like the 2,500-seat Chinese Theatre in L.A. and New York's 6,200-seat Roxy were designed specifically to screen new multiple-reel feature films and — with their giltwork, Baroque finery and servile army of ushers — gave the act of movie going an air of much-needed class. Palaces were frequently decorated in the style of exotic locales such as Turkey, Egypt, Spain and Persia and, although they've since gone the way of drive-ins and Betamax, are a big part of movie history.

Something similar happened in the 1990s. Moviegoers grew tired of seeing films in small, aging multiplexes, attendance dropped, and exhibitors responded by building bigger and snazzier theatres.

Such as the recently opened Paramount Calgary at Chinook Centre, a giant Famous Players cinema built with the movie palaces of old in mind. The \$32-million complex houses 17 screens, seats 4,128 and is elaborately decorated with all things Egyptian — scarabs, hieroglyphics, cobras and a giant pharaoh's mask.

"People like the idea of the exotic and the Nile," says Joanne Fraser, vice president of corporate affairs at Famous Players. "And so it's sort of a link to the past because these are the future of movie palaces we're building." In addition to 16 stadium-style cinemas, the Paramount Calgary also features a 3D IMAX theatre, numerous concession stands and a TechTown video arcade.

The theatre is just the latest in Famous Players' massive four-year expansion program, during which the Canadian entertainment giant has spent hundreds of millions on 41 similar complexes across the country. Calgary's is the third Paramount theatre, after Toronto and Montreal, and Famous Players recently added a SilverCity complex, complete with a giant fire-breathing dragon, to the West Edmonton Mall.

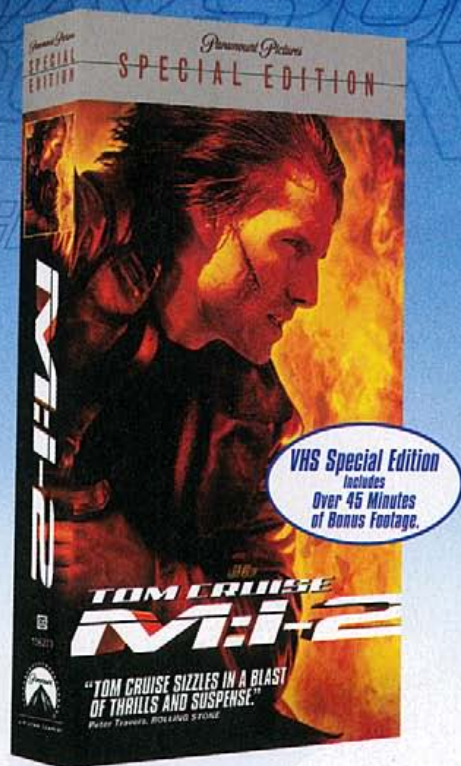
Ron Rivet, executive director of design and construction, says that people are often surprised by the company's increasingly grandiose designs for its theatres. But

because the Chinook Centre shopping mall had just gone through major renovations, designers and artists had to think up new ways to make the theatre stand out from the other storefronts. "It had to be in keeping with the rest of the shopping centre," says Rivet, but, "we also had to find a way to stand out."

Each Paramount has been fairly elaborate, but the Chinook Centre site gave designers a chance to do things on a larger scale than before — like the theatre's crowning attraction, a pharaoh's mask perched atop the popcorn stand. Every 30 minutes — when it's turned on — the mask opens up to display a music and laser show that recounts King Tut's death, mummification and passage into the afterlife. It's what the designers call "the main event."

And yes, although the movie biz has changed a lot since the first Paramount, Rivet still sees a connection between the movie palaces of the silent era and the megaplexes of today. Back then, movie going was "an event, it was a night out, it was a big deal. We're essentially doing the same thing today but in a different way," he says. People are still looking for what he calls "the wow factor."

"They're not just going to a movie theatre to see the film," he says. "They want to be entertained." **i**



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HACKING with Jackman

First he was Wolverine in the comic book flick *X-Men*. Then he got all mushy for the romantic comedy *Someone Like You*. And now he plays an ex-con computer hacker in the John Travolta thriller *Swordfish*. Perhaps it's Hugh Jackman's range that's making him one of the fastest rising stars in Hollywood **BY SEAN DALY**

Hugh Jackman was a lot like many teenagers growing up in Sydney, Australia. He enjoyed playing sports, dreamed of becoming a television talk-show host and kept a poster of Olivia Newton-John tacked to his bedroom wall. He never imagined that two decades later he'd be sharing lunch with the Aussie recording star, and confessing his adolescent crush.

The meeting was arranged by mutual friend John Travolta, who co-stars with Jackman in this month's action-thriller *Swordfish*. "He said, 'Come on and have a cup of coffee with me during lunch,'" Jackman recalls, blushing. "So I walked in



Jackman hacks around in *Swordfish*

and there was Olivia. I can't believe I told her [about the poster]. But she thought it was sweet. It was all very innocent, really."

Jackman, still a relative newcomer to Hollywood, is quickly becoming a sex symbol in his own right — thanks in large part to his starring role opposite Ashley Judd in this spring's romantic comedy *Someone Like You*. Still, he admits being a bit star-struck by Travolta at first. "When I first met John, my heart skipped a little bit," he remembers. But by the time filming wrapped in January, the two had become the best of friends, often dining together in Travolta's extravagant trailer between takes.

"It kind of reminded me of the Four Seasons," remembers Jackman, who coincidentally is relaxing in that very hotel on this Los Angeles morning. "You sit down, they put the cloth down.... You feel very cared for. We had 20 minutes for lunch one day and it felt like four hours."

The star treatment is a new experience for Jackman, 32, who began his career in live theatre where he earned numerous honours and awards for playing Joe Gillis in the musical *Sunset Boulevard*. He was also seen in the 1999 TV version of *Oklahoma*. But he is best known for his role as Wolverine in last year's sci-fi blockbuster *X-Men*.

To play the comic book mutant superhero, Jackman spent many hours in the makeup chair being fitted with ratty hair and deadly claws. But it was a disguise that had an up side. "The best thing about that movie," he says, "is that nobody on the street recognizes me from it. So I am afforded the luxury of living a very normal life and working on great things, but I can still get courtside seats to a Lakers game."

That "normal life" will likely change with the release of *Swordfish*.

In the latest offering from director Dominic Sena (*Gone in 60 Seconds*), Jackman stars as computer hacker Stanley Jobson, who has just been released from prison after wreaking havoc on a sinister high-tech surveillance operation at the FBI. "He was hacking into a program that the government had set up to have access to every email that ever gets sent, so it was kind of a Big Brother sort of thing," Jackman explains.

Now a free man, Stanley finds himself penniless, unable to contact his family and forbidden from getting within 50 yards of any computer. That's when he meets Gabriel (Travolta), a charismatic spy who, along with partner Ginger (Halle Berry),



Jackman with Halle Berry in *Swordfish*

seeks out Stanley's help to steal billions of dollars in illegal government funds.

"It's a really smart story," says Jackman, who was sold on the project after reading just the first two pages of the script. "I simply loved the opening monologue. I tried to imagine John Travolta doing it and I thought 'If the rest of this movie lives up to half of the promise of the first few pages, this is gonna be amazing.'"

But for Jackman, the real selling point of *Swordfish* was the opportunity to work with co-stars Travolta and Halle Berry. "I tried to explain it to someone the other day," he says. "John's someone I grew up with. When I was a kid I was just mesmerized by everything he did. And since he's come back I have been an even bigger fan."

Back in the '70s, while Travolta was busy making box-office history in *Grease* and *Saturday Night Fever*, Jackman was growing up the youngest of five children in a strict Anglican household. He attended the tiny Knox Grammar School in a suburb of Sydney, where he got his first taste of acting playing Henry Higgins in *My Fair Lady*. But he didn't seriously consider a career in show business, and, after graduating from high school in 1986, took a year off to travel.

Jackman eventually earned a degree in journalism from Sydney's University of Technology. But instead of pursuing his dream of becoming a talk-show host, he chose to go back to school — this time to study drama at The Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts. Soon after, he was offered a starring role on the TV prison drama *Corelli* opposite his future wife, Deborah-Lee Furness.

"It was my first job," he recalls, sipping a half-empty bottle of juice. "She was really the star of the show so I didn't dream of any-

thing [happening between us]. Even when I started to develop my affection for her, I just kind of pulled away and I, like, wouldn't talk to her for a couple of weeks. I knew we would become good friends, but it was a big surprise that anything else ever happened."

Jackman, who was just 26 at the time, remembers being "a very happy single guy." But he admits, "As soon as we got married, I thought, 'This is such a relief.' Definitely, as most people will attest, [single life] is not what it appears to be."

Happily married for six years, the couple recently decided to begin a family and, in May 2000, adopted their first child — a baby boy named Oscar. The actor says he loves fatherhood, and has even managed to avoid the sleepless nights often associated with having an infant. "From about three months on, he decided to sleep straight through the night," he says. ▶▶

HOLLYWOOD REPORTERS

They live their lives hounded by microphones, blinded by flashbulbs and doomed to answer the same dumb questions over and over. No wonder so many actors hate the press. Funny thing is, like Hugh Jackman, some of today's biggest stars wanted to be journalists before they became thespians. Here are just a few of the Hollywood elite who, together with Jackman, could put out a pretty good Hollywood mag.

■ She doesn't seem to enjoy tussling with the media now, but Julia Roberts started her adult life learning how to get the most out of her interview subjects as a journalism student at Atlanta University.

■ Brad Pitt majored in journalism and advertising at the University of Missouri before dropping out in his senior year to move to California and act.

■ Denzel Washington was a journalism student at New York's Fordham University when his stunning performance in a school production of *Othello* earned him a scholarship to the American Conservatory Theatre.

■ After a stint with the marines, Gene Hackman studied journalism and TV production at the University of Illinois — with some financial help from the G.I. Bill.

■ Meg Ryan, who spent the past year dodging reporters looking for the Russell Crowe low-down, majored in journalism at New York University. She started taking acting jobs to earn some extra money and, soon enough, the press corps' loss was Hollywood's gain.

COMING SOON

Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within JULY

Stars: Ming-na Wen, Alec Baldwin

Director: Hironobu Sakaguchi (debut)

Story: The animation is, as they say in the videogame press, “jaw-dropping.” Even on the little screens of our Mac iBooks, the trailer for this computer-generated sci-fi adventure looks better than those of most live-action movies. But will the story, about humanity’s fight for survival on a devastated Earth, measure up? *Final Fantasy* will either make movie history, or it will land on the pop-culture ash heap next to *Titan A.E.*, *Cool World* and *Heavy Metal 2000*.

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back AUGUST

Stars: Jason Mewes, Kevin Smith

Director: Kevin Smith (*Dogma*)

Story: Smith directs himself and sidekick Mewes in the last of his five films — after *Clerks*, *Mallrats*, *Chasing Amy* and *Dogma* — set in and around Red Bank, New Jersey. Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, Alanis Morissette and George Carlin all put in appearances, along with Mark Hamill, Shannon Doherty and an orangutan.



▶▶ Jackman will certainly need his rest later this year when he heads back to work on the much-anticipated *X-Men* sequel. The first instalment, released in July 2000, earned more than \$157-million in the U.S. alone, making Jackman a cult hero in sci-fi circles and leading to some unusual fan encounters.


“I was in this restaurant in Tribeca [New York City] last Friday night,” Jackman recalls. “It’s one of those places with lots of other actors — I think De Niro owns part of it — and the manager comes over and after about half an hour he took off his shirt and turned around and his whole back was tattooed with Wolverine. He said, ‘You just don’t understand, this has made my millennium.’”

“That guy saying those things was like more praise than any critic [could give],” he says. “You could tell when he went to see that movie, he must have thought, ‘If this is bad, it’s going to ruin my whole imagination.’”

Jackman admits he sometimes has to pinch himself when he thinks of what has happened to his career over the past few years. “The things I dreamed of five or 10 years ago, were things like being on stage at the Royal National Theatre,” he explains.

And he hasn’t ruled out a return to live theatre — especially in the event of a strike this summer by members of the Screen Actors Guild. “I just don’t trust myself to stay away from the stage,” he says. “I have a real love for it, and it feeds me in every way.”

In the long term, Jackman says he would be happy to have a career similar to Australian Mel Gibson. “I think he’s had a real range of things to do. I don’t have an interest in directing like he does — at least not yet — but I have a wide variety of interests.”

For the moment, though, Jackman is satisfied by the perks of being “almost famous.” And Furness, he says, has learned to cope with her husband’s newfound sex-symbol status. “She knew that when she married me,” he jokes. But, in a more serious moment, acknowledges, “My wife is an actress, so she knows the business and the game. I am probably more uncomfortable with it than she is.” 

Sean Daly is the editor and publisher of Showtime Magazine in Los Angeles. His last piece for Famous was an interview with David Spade in the April issue.



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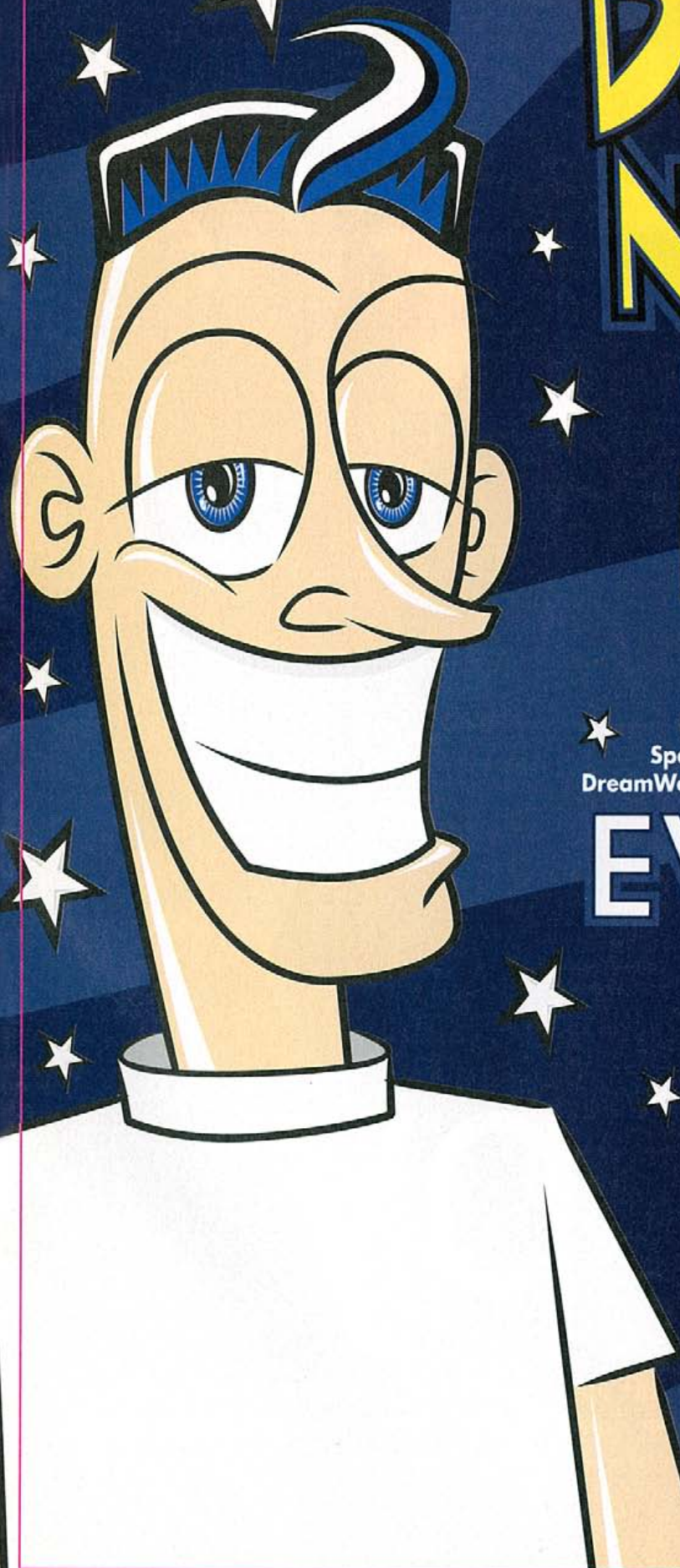
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TRIGGER happy

Angelina Jolie's not embarrassed that she gets off on guns. In fact, learning how to strip and clean a firearm was one of the thrills of making *Tomb Raider*. Here she talks about playing videogame vixen Lara Croft and the love of her life, Billy Bob Thornton

BY EARL DITTMAN

An unabashed “excitement junkie,” Angelina Jolie admits one of the main reasons she signed on to star in last year’s car-theft flick *Gone in 60 Seconds* was the chance to tool down the highway at 125 miles per hour in a Ferrari or Lamborghini. Now comfortably nestled within the confines of a plush Beverly Hills hotel suite, it’s an experience the actress still recalls with titillation.

“I got to play with cars and learn how to drive them really fast — it was incredible,” she beams. “I’ve always been a bit of a tomboy, so I enjoy being able to play the same kind of games that are usually reserved for the guys. One of the greatest things about my job is that I get to learn all these different skills I never thought I’d have the chance to try. I get to live a daring and risky life through the characters I play.”

She found just such an opportunity in Lara Croft, the sexy, gun-toting, butt-kicking heroine of her latest film, *Tomb Raider*. The big-budget, cinematic version of the phenomenally popular videogame required that Jolie not only embark on a strenuous routine of gymnastics, kick boxing and martial arts (the fruits of her physical labours are still very visible beneath a tight white dress), but also train with members of the U.S. Marines Special Forces unit to learn how to handle guns. And unlike many of her politically correct, weapon-wary contemporaries, Jolie actually looked forward to strapping on, and wielding, the firearms.

“It was fun to learn about ’em, to be trained to take ’em apart and put them back together,” she admits. “It’s like driving. You learn how to shoot really well, but you also learn how to use the equipment properly.”

Directed by Simon West (*Con Air*, *The General’s Daughter*) and co-starring Iain Glen, and Jolie’s dad, Jon Voight, *Tomb Raider* follows the exploits of Croft, a pampered British heiress who lives a double life. To the English upper class she’s a traveler who takes prize-winning photographs and visits archeological sites. But Croft’s real passion is plundering long-lost tombs.

However, this time Croft is also pitted against a secret sect of evil-doers known as the Illuminati. Under the leadership of Manfred Powell (Glen), members of the Illuminati are searching for two magical artifacts which, once brought together during a rare planetary alignment, will bestow Powell with godlike power. To stop

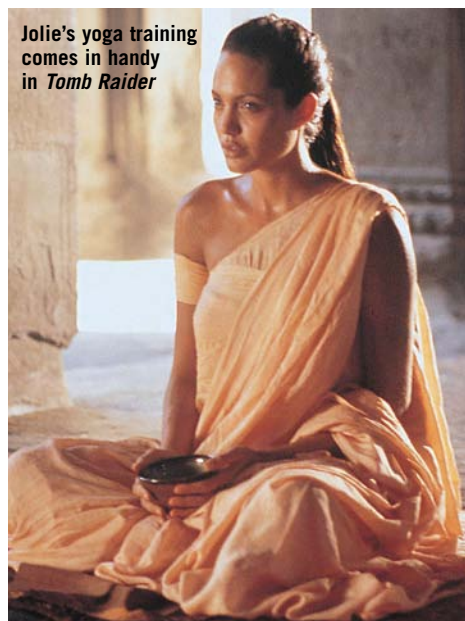
them, Croft must rely on the skill and wisdom she learned from her long-lost father, Lord Croft (Voight).

Before heading off to film parts of *Tomb Raider* in Cambodia and Iceland, Jolie spent months going through a rigorous health and training program in England. “I had to get up and do yoga at seven in the morning, which I thought was just insane! I’m definitely not a morning person,” she laments. “Also, cigarettes, alcohol and sugar were all taken away from me. I thought I was going to go nuts. I felt like the ultimate Miss Goody Two Shoes.”

To smooth out her rough American affectations, Jolie was also sent to a British school for manners. “It’s a whole different way of life. It’s very rigid. I’m glad I was born American, that’s for sure!”

But, she bemoans, the hardest part of the whole experience was being separated from her beloved mate, writer/director/actor Billy Bob Thornton. On May 5, 2000, much to the surprise of many in Tinsel Town, Jolie tied the knot with the 45-year-old *Swing Blade* star. It was her second marriage and his fifth. But even though they had been friends, no one had an inkling the pair was romantically involved before they exchanged vows.

“I think we were able to keep our romance secret because nobody expected it,” she says with a laugh. “Before we got involved, we hadn’t really been single, so we’re just friends. But I always thought he was the most amazing person I’d ever met. And he is. With him, I feel I have so ▶▶



Jolie's yoga training comes in handy in *Tomb Raider*

WANT TO PLAY again?

Videogame buffs can look forward to more movie adaptations

■ **Final Fantasy: The Spirits Within** hits theatres mid-July, trailing *Tomb Raider* by just a month. The big difference here is that, instead of a live-action take on gameland, this one was created with computer animation. Not that you'd be able to tell at first glance — the photo-realism is just astounding. Voice talent includes Alec Baldwin, Steve Buscemi and *Mulan*'s Ming-na Wen. As for the story, it's 2065 and a meteor carrying predatory alien creatures crashes to Earth. Hmmm...sounds pretty similar to this month's David Duchovny film *Evolution*. Do we smell a conspiracy?

■ Milla Jovovich dons big boots to kick some zombie butt in **Resident Evil: Ground Zero**, scheduled for release toward the end of this year. Directed by Paul Anderson (*Mortal Kombat*), this one's about a militia group battling a berserk supercomputer and hordes of flesh-eating zombies.

■ And you thought everyone lived happily ever after. Last year Electronic Arts released the mature action game **American McGee's Alice**, about what happened to Lewis Carroll's precocious blonde upon her return from Wonderland. According to the game's designer, American McGee (no, really, that's his name), little Alice went insane trying to convince people that her adventures in the land of large mushrooms and talking cats were real, and now lives in an asylum. Wes Craven (*Scream*, *A Nightmare on Elm Street*) has already signed on to direct. This one's still in the script stage though, so don't expect to see it in theatres for a couple of years.

■ Plus...there's a movie version of the popular first-person shooter **Duke Nukem** in pre-production, with the latest rumours having wrestler The Rock taking on the lead role. And we're not sure if this one falls into the novel-to-movie or videogame-to-movie category, but **Rainbow Six**, which started its life as a Tom Clancy novel and was then converted into a series of strategic shoot-'em ups, is getting the movie treatment and is expected in theatres by 2002.

►► much meaning in life, and I'm so clear. Billy Bob just made me complete."

From a very early age, Angelina Jolie Voight knew she wanted to act, and the encouragement she received from her parents (Jon Voight and actress Marcheline Bertrand) fueled that desire. But she was also determined to make it on her own merits rather than her father's, so she dropped her last name. Jolie studied at the prestigious Lee Strasberg Theatre Institute and, between minor acting gigs, supported herself with modeling stints in London, New York and Paris.



She first caught the attention of producers and casting directors with the 1995 teen flick *Hackers* (co-starring her first husband Jonny Lee Miller). But it wasn't until she appeared in the critically acclaimed 1997 cable movie *Gia* — as the late heroin-addicted, AIDS-infected model Gia Marie Carangi — that Hollywood really took notice. The role earned her a Best Actress Golden Globe, an Emmy nomination and a spot on *People* magazine's "Sexiest People Alive" list. She followed *Gia* with roles in *Playing by Heart* in 1998, and *Pushing Tin* (opposite Thornton) and *The Bone Collector*, both in 1999. But it was her portrayal of a mental patient in *Girl, Interrupted* — which garnered her another Golden Globe and the Best Supporting Actress Oscar in 2000 — that proved to be her crowning glory. Jolie calls the Academy Award one of the most glorious moments of her life.

"I had always dreamed about winning an Oscar, like my dad, but I never thought it

would happen so early in my career — it was a shocking, life-fulfilling moment for me," she says. "I remember seeing my father's face in the audience, after they called my name, and he was so emotional. Afterwards, he said it meant so much to him, knowing that he had been a great father. That really touched me, because I didn't know how much that would mean to him."

Jolie attended the show with her brother, and the fact that they acted more like lovers than siblings had the gossip columnists going for weeks. It turned out to be just her first of many run-ins with the rumour mongers. Having overcome accusations that she was a homewrecker for "stealing" Thornton away from longtime girlfriend Laura Dern, Jolie recently had to contend with tabloid stories that she initiated an on-set affair with her *Original Sin* co-star Antonio Banderas, right under the nose of his wife, Melanie Griffith. Rumour has it the two weren't faking it while filming a steamy sex scene.

"If people believe it, it will actually make me sad because Antonio is somebody who is absolutely crazy about his wife and loves their baby," she explains. "We were great friends, but there was absolutely nothing like that going on. Nothing. As soon as we signed on to do the movie, we looked at the script and said, 'Okay, there are sex scenes. What do you think the rumours are going to be?' We were surprised that they didn't come sooner.... I just try to ignore crap like that and concentrate on all the good things that have been happening to me."

Good things, like the to-drool-for role in *Tomb Raider* — and perhaps its sequels. Jolie has already signed on to play Lara Croft twice more, if the producers deem a return to the tombs to be profitable.

"I mean, who ever thought I'd be in a massive action/adventure film? Certainly not me," she says. "But I really like doing projects that challenge me, and *Tomb Raider* definitely pushed me to the limit. There were times during filming, though, where a part of me thought, 'God this is insane — I can't believe I'm doing this!' But there was another part of me, when I was in full army gear and had this guy yelling, 'Advance! Advance! Turn left! About face! Duck! Run!,' where I thought, 'Maybe this is me!' After a while, I realized it kinda was." ❶

Earl Dittman is based in Houston, Texas. His last story for Famous was an interview with Brendan Fraser for The Mummy Returns.

famous trivia

1 Which other film did *Swordfish* stars Hugh Jackman and Halle Berry do together?

2 Director John Singleton says that *Baby Boy* is a sequel to which of his movies?

3 How tall is *What's the Worst that Could Happen?* star Danny DeVito?

4 *Evolution* leading man David Duchovny left a doctoral program at what Ivy League university to pursue acting full time?

5 *Tomb Raider's* Angelia Jolie was briefly married to which star of *Trainspotting*?

6 *A.I.: Artificial Intelligence*, the sci-fi movie started by the late Stanley Kubrick and finished by Steven Spielberg, is based on a short story by which writer: Isaac Asimov, Philip K. Dick or Brian Aldiss?

7 Which Canadian rock star went to the same Vancouver school as *Atlantis: The Lost Empire* voice talent Michael J. Fox?

8 Which star of *The Man Who Cried* also appeared in the video for Moby's "Natural Blues"?

ANSWERS

- 1 *X-Men* 2 Boyz n the Hood 3 5'5" 4 Yale 5 Jonny Lee Miller 6 Brian Aldiss 7 Bryan Adams 8 Christina Ricci

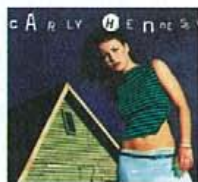
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BROSNAN TIME TRAVELS, BANDERAS PLAYS PHANTOM AND PFEIFFER GOES TO JAIL

BY SEAN DAVIDSON



Pfeiffer

PFEIFFER BEHIND BARS

Never one to shy away from weepy family dramas, **Michelle Pfeiffer** (*The Story of Us*, *The Deep End of the Ocean*) will star as a jailed feminist poet and single mom in the adaptation of the **Janet Fitch** bestseller *White Oleander*. Pfeiffer plays a woman who poisons her ex-boyfriend in a fit of jealousy — condemning herself to prison and her teen daughter to a series of L.A. foster homes in the process. It took months of casting calls in eight different cities, but after a prolonged audition process rookie **Alison Lohman** (*Delivering Milo*) was tapped to play the more-or-less orphaned daughter who becomes a foster kid to five different women, among them **Renée Zellweger** and **Robin Wright Penn**.

BANDERAS SINGS

Antonio Banderas will don the flowing black cape and trademark mask of Broadway's favourite spook when he takes the lead in the big-screen adaptation of the long-running **Andrew Lloyd Webber** musical *The Phantom of the Opera*. This will be the Spanish star's second Webber role, following his 1996 turn next to **Madonna** in *Evita*, and the third Webber production to make it to theatres. The first big-screen adaptation of his work was **Norman Jewison**'s 1973 cover version of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. No word yet on *Phantom*'s director or other cast.



Banderas

COBURN SEEKS GUN

Slot machine strategist and perennial tough guy **James Coburn** (*Affliction*) will star as a war vet out to avenge his murdered daughter in the indie thriller *American Gun*. The story follows the bereaved dad as he traces the murder weapon's history, by its serial number, across the U.S. Little-known director **Alan Jacobs** will make this his third film, following last year's *Just One Night* and his 1994 debut *Nina Takes a Lover*. **Virginia Madsen** of *The Haunting* also stars but, amazingly, **Mena Survari** (*American Beauty*, *American Virgin*, *American Pie*) does not.



Brosnan

BROSNAN VS. THE DINOSAURS

He's got six months until he's due on set at the new James Bond movie, for the fourth and reportedly final time, but **Pierce Brosnan** has two other films to finish before then. *The Tailor of Panama* star has signed to appear in the near-future action picture *Defiance*, about a gang of soldiers fighting a totalitarian government, and will also take the lead in the FX-driven *A Sound of Thunder*. Adapted from the short story by sci-fi icon **Ray Bradbury**, *Thunder* tells the

story of big-game hunters who travel back in time to bag dinosaurs and accidentally change history in the process. Filming is expected to get underway in Montreal later this year.

HUGH'S YOUR DADDY?

Again playing an upper-class ne'er-do-well, **Hugh Grant** (*Bridget Jones's Diary*) has joined **Toni Collette** and **Rachel Weisz** in the cast of the romantic comedy *About a Boy*. Grant will star as a London playboy who only dates single mothers — reasoning that they're ever-desperate for a man and easy to dump when the fun's over. But, of course, all that changes when his fatherly instincts kick in and he becomes attached to the 12-year-old son of his current conquest. **Chris** and **Paul Weitz** (*Down to Earth*) are set to direct. This will be the second movie, after the 1999 **John Cusack** vehicle *High Fidelity*, adapted from a book by **Nick Hornby**.

B R I E F L Y

Bruce Willis will produce and star in *Cross Check*, a detective drama set in Canada and, presumably, about hockey. ■ **David Hyde Pierce** and **Susan Sarandon** will provide the voices for the villains in *Enchanted*, a half-animated Disney fairy tale about a young girl banished to New York City. ■ *Perfect Storm* director **Wolfgang Petersen**'s next film will be *Endurance*, the true story of a disastrous expedition to the South Pole in 1915. ■ **Jennifer Lopez** and **Robert De Niro** are in talks to star in a remake of the 1955 caper musical *Love Me or Leave Me*. ■ Noir thriller *Under the Sun* will star **Billy Bob Thornton** as a small-town sheriff investigating the killing of a transsexual.

FIND OUT WHAT A LIFETIME OF DISEASE

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oh, sunny day

When, exactly, did the sun become our enemy? It seems like stepping out the door without slathering your body in SPF 30, covering your head with a wide-brimmed hat and protecting your eyes with discs of UV-blocking plastic is akin to taking a bath in nuclear sludge. So what can we do about it? Well, try to be kinder to the ozone layer for, say, the next 180 years. And find fun and funky ways to make sun protection more bearable. Here are some of the season's hottest trends for the most important summer accessory — sunglasses.

—MW



>> The wrap-around design of Diesel's Plasma Flux provides ultimate sun protection. \$225 at Sunglass Hut



>> Gucci combines plastics with a cats-eye shape for a retro look. \$219 at Sunglass Hut



>> Oakley's Sport Specific M Frames feature a low-profile nosepiece for a less obstructed view. \$285, for locations check www.oakley.com

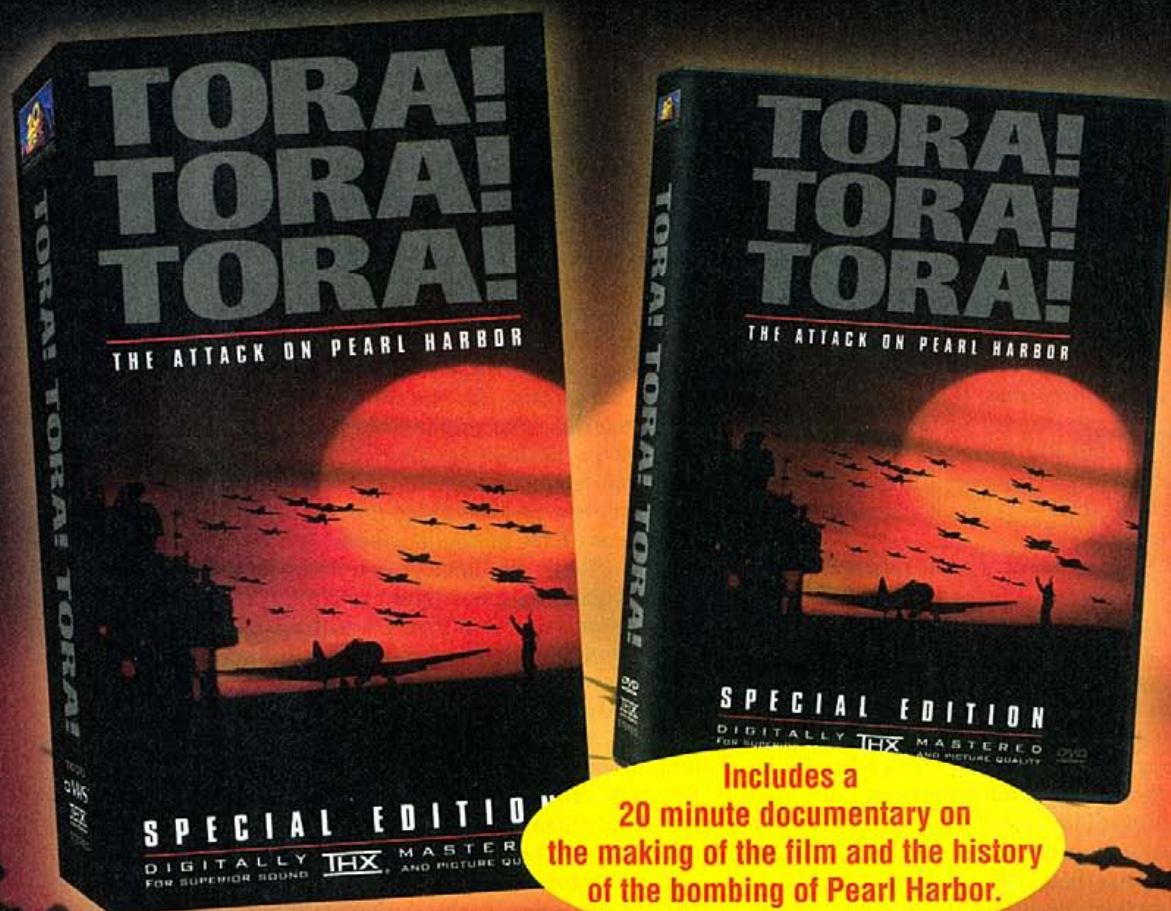


>> Celebs like Lenny Kravitz and 'NSYNC have worn Christian Dior's rectangle wrap. \$315 at Sunglass Hut

>> ToGo glasses come in a variety of other patterns — zebra, tiger, polka dot. \$20 at The Bay



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Loving Rufus

Rufus Wainwright releases his second album of mostly love songs. But will this unabashed romantic ever get the boy? BY MICHAEL WHITE



The Beatles’ philosophy that “All You Need is Love” may seem diminished in the cynical climate of 21st-century pop culture, but Rufus Wainwright believes in love so completely that he seemingly can’t write about anything else — even if most of it is of the unrequited kind.

The 29-year-old, Montreal-raised singer-songwriter — named 1998’s Best New Artist by *Rolling Stone* — knows that his hopelessly romantic songs stand apart from most, if not all, of his peers. But he doesn’t seem to care.

Even though desolation seems to be the trend in contemporary art — Wainwright cites Eminem’s lyrics and Lars Von Trier’s bleak film *Dancer in the Dark* as examples — that’s not what interests him. “The main emotion that is rendered is utter disgust, utter shock value,” he says of those artists. “It’s a completely valid thing to do, and I appreciate it, but it doesn’t move me to another place. I’m an escapist. I don’t want to think about the horrors of humanity. I want to think about mythical lands and stuff.”

Wainwright’s new album, *Poses*, out June 5, is virtually an escapist manifesto. Like on his highly acclaimed self-titled 1998 debut, life in these 12 songs is little more than a series of crushes, obsessions and vices — none of which end in the singer’s favour. “Yeah,” he says, laughing, “wallowing once again in the melancholy, but I find a beauty in it, or a silver lining.”

Wainwright’s impeccable talent for poetic details (such as the title track’s protagonist, who ends up “drunk and wearing flip-flops on Fifth

Avenue”) is another feature that separates him from the hordes. As is so often the case in pop, what makes him special is also what has made him more of a critical than commercial success.

Poses should change that. To be sure, the album retains the unlikely, classical songwriting influences (Cole Porter, George and Ira Gershwin) for which Wainwright is known. But whereas his debut made few contemporary nods, *Poses* manages to vie for the ears of pop-radio listeners without blowing its integrity. And his singing is still second to none.

“There are certain things about pop that I like,” he admits. “There are one or two Britney Spears songs that I don’t necessarily want to sound like, or sing like that, but there’s things to admire. I’m not so far away from that realm.”

Poses was written, for the most part, during a recent stay in Wainwright’s birthplace of New York, where he took up residency at the city’s infamously seedy Chelsea Hotel. “This album for me is really my mid-20s, life in the city, finally-I’m-not-living-with-my-mother-anymore record,” he explains. “It was all, ‘Let’s go out and be among people and have a fun time.’ But some of the songs themselves, like “Poses” — that’s sort of about the destruction of a young man in the city — there’s a dangerous element to it at times.”

Wainwright’s ability to simultaneously dramatize and make fun of his neuroses is also demonstrated on album highlights like “Cigarettes and Chocolate Milk,” named for the least of his many bad habits. (“I am a naughty boy at times,” he chuckles. “I *have* seen death cross the room a couple of times.”) “One Man Guy” would seem to be a declaration of his much-publicized homosexuality. In fact, the song (written by Wainwright’s dad, folk icon Loudon Wainwright III) is a declaration of loneliness. The “one man” is the singer himself.

Whatever the record-buying masses ultimately make of his unique, multi-leveled creations, Rufus Wainwright has complete confidence in his talent, and the longevity it will afford his career.

“At this point,” he says, “to be an individual and to be different is an asset for survival. I have no complaints.”

Michael White is a freelance writer based in Vancouver, B.C.

OUTTHISMONTH		
Artist:	Big Sugar	
Title:	Brothers & Sisters Are You Ready	
Label:	Universal	
Artist:	Foxy Brown	
Title:	Broken Silence	
Label:	Def Jam/Universal	
Artist:	The Cash Brothers	
Title:	How Was Tomorrow?	
Label:	Rounder/Universal	
Artist:	Copyright	
Title:	The Hidden World	
Label:	BMG Canada/Vik	
Artist:	The Cult	
Title:	Beyond Good and Evil	
Label:	Atlantic/Warner	
Artist:	Lonestar	
Title:	Already There	
Label:	RCA Country/BMG	
Artist:	Willie Nelson	
Title:	Rainbow Connection	
Label:	Island/Universal	
Artist:	Roland Orzabal	
Title:	Tomcats Screaming Outside	
Label:	EMI UK	
Artist:	Radiohead	
Title:	Amnesiac	
Label:	EMI UK	
Artist:	Jessica Simpson	
Title:	Irresistible	
Label:	Epic/Sony	
Artist:	Stereo MC's	
Title:	Deep Down and Dirty	
Label:	Island/Universal	
Artist:	Sugar Ray	
Title:	Sugar Ray	
Label:	Atlantic/Warner	
Artist:	Lucinda Williams	
Title:	Essence	
Label:	Mercury/Universal	
Artist:	Trisha Yearwood	
Title:	Inside Out	
Label:	MCA Nashville/Universal	



PICKING

the bones

Lara Flynn Boyle chows down on some meaty treats at Calgary's Belvedere

Women of Canada, prepare to be peeved.

Apparently, teeny tiny Lara Flynn Boyle maintains her wispy, wafer-thin figure by consuming copious amounts of gooey beef ribs made with lots of beer and brown sugar.

At least, she did when she was in Calgary last year filming the romantic comedy *Speaking of Sex* with Bill Murray, James Spader and Catherine O'Hara.

"She must have been in eight or 10 times over two weeks," recalls Clayton Morgan, owner and proprietor of The Belvedere, one of Calgary's best restaurants. "She would always start with the spinach salad with fennel, crumbled stilton, candied walnuts, wine poached pear in a port-orange dressing, and she'd smoke Marlboros like crazy. She wasn't big on desserts, but she always had the short ribs with the parsnip purée cake."

Along with the parsnip, the ribs were served with steamed vegetables and, according to Morgan, the actress "always finished everything on the plate."

"I guess it dispels the rumour that the thin film actresses don't eat at all," he adds.

Morgan describes the star of TV's *Twin Peaks* and *The Practice* as quiet and unassuming, always casually dressed and polite. "You wouldn't even know she was in the room," Morgan says. And one of the many

times she enjoyed the short ribs, she wasn't.

"She called one night and said, 'We don't feel like going out tonight, can you guys do up a couple of the rib dishes for takeout?' Then she sent one of the crew over to pick it up and take it back to the hotel where she was staying," says Morgan, who thinks he remembers that the other person in her party that night was on-again, off-again boyfriend, Jack Nicholson.

Sous chef Lori Litwack says the ribs are very tender because they're cooked for four hours. "They're slightly sweet with an underlying richness because they're made with beer," Litwack explains. "There's also a bit of citrus flavour, and they're kind of caramelized from the sugar. The sauce that we serve with it also has citrus and port, so it's really rich in flavour."

The Belvedere, which opened about two years ago, is located in the heart of downtown Calgary. The restaurant specializes in contemporary cuisine and has won numerous awards, including the Concierge Guild Silver Spoon Award two years running. They've also served Billy Murray, Cuba Gooding Jr., Cheryl Crowe and Lucy Liu.

—Marni Weisz

For reservations call 403.265.9595.

ingredients

TO SERVE FOUR

The Belvedere's Four-Hour Short Ribs

Beef short ribs, bone in and trimmed of fat	4 lbs.
Canola oil	1/4 cup
Diced onion	1 large
Diced carrots	2 medium
Diced celery	3 stalks
Chopped garlic	1/3 cup
Guinness beer	6 cups
Orange juice (pref. fresh-squeezed)	1 1/2 cups
Light soy sauce	1/2 cup
Red wine	1 1/2 cups
Brown sugar	1 cup
Ground cumin	1/4 cup
Bay leaves	3
Salt	1 tbsp.
Black pepper	2 tsp.

Port and orange sauce

Clarified butter	1 tbsp.
Chopped shallots	1/4 cup
Brown sugar	2 tbsp.
Fresh-squeezed orange juice	2 oranges
Port	1/4 cup
Veal glaze or demi glaze	2 cups

method

Preheat oven to 175 C. Heat oil in two large frying pans. Season ribs with salt and pepper. Sear ribs on meat side in hot oil until very brown. Transfer ribs to large roasting pan, placing meat side down. Add onion, carrots and celery to pans. Sweat vegetables until soft. Add garlic and sauté until fragrant. Add half of the red wine and stir to remove any brown bits from the bottom of the pan. Pour vegetables and the rest of the wine over the ribs. Add the remaining ingredients, along with some beef stock or water to ensure ribs are covered. Cover tightly with a lid or foil. Heat on top of stove until liquid comes to a simmer. Transfer to oven and braise for three to four hours, until beef is fork tender. Can be made three days in

advance and is actually better when eaten the next day. Gently reheat ribs in their braising liquid in a pot on top of the stove. **For the sauce:** In a sauce pot, caramelize shallots and sugar in butter. Add orange juice and port. Simmer until reduced by three-quarters. Add veal glaze and simmer until reduced by approximately half.



Lori Litwack (left) dines with executive chef Alan Groom

CALLING all gamers

Ahh...another use for your cellphone. Now you can play videogames over the net **BY MARC SALTZMAN**

Unless you've been living under an eight-track for the past few years, you must have noticed that many of our beloved gadgets are converging — be it TVs on which you can surf the net, videogame systems that play DVDs or digital cameras that read MP3s. So why shouldn't your cellphone play games?

It already does. Both solo and multiplayer games are all the rage for wireless cellphone users. And with Java technology and even faster high-speed access just around the corner — coupled with the estimate that more than 100 million North Americans will be using internet-ready cellphones by 2004 — expect the ubiquitous yuppie toy to be the next major platform for gamers on the go.

While selections may be few and the graphics primitive, there are a lot of fun and free (except for the cost of airtime while you play) diversions out there. But keep in mind they require a Wireless Application Protocol (WAP) cellphone, which allows you web access. The following are some of your best options when stuck in the back of a cab or waiting for a delayed flight at the airport.

From JAMDAT (www.jamdat.com) comes the fight-to-the-death combat challenge *Gladiator* (no relation to the Russell Crowe movie), in which players take to the sandy floor of ancient Rome's Colosseum to fight for freedom and valor. Too bloody? JAMDAT also offers *Rock, Paper, Sizzer*, a silly jaunt "into trailer park living where your Uncle Jim settles disputes with you by playing Rock, Paper, Scissors." Uh, yah.

Alien Fish Exchange and *DataClash* are the two most popular games from Britain's Ngame (www.ngame.com). The former, a

cross between *Pokémon* and Tamagotchi, already has more than 200,000 players breeding and selling 47 varieties of fish in their personal tanks. If that seems too tame for you, opt for the cyber-combat and strategy of *DataClash*, and use sneaky tactics to battle other players on the network.

San Diego-based Indiqu (www.indiqu.com) offers a handful of text-based games such as *quPoker*, *Code Breaker* (similar to Mastermind), *World Quest* (Hangman), *Tic Tac Toe* and *Touch Trivia*. While these are single-player games, you can compete for the national high score. Indiqu is also reading *Smash!*, a single-person colour game similar to the arcade classic *Break-Out*, in which players use a paddle to keep a ball from hitting the ground while destroying bricks up above. It should be available once companies begin selling Java-enabled phones — possibly by mid-year.

If these sound a bit too simple for you, Wirelessgames.com is working with role-playing veteran Steve Jackson to develop a fantasy adventure game based on his *Sorcery* gamebooks.

And hold the line — next-generation wireless phones from Motorola, due out this fall, will be able to play brand-new games developed by Sega, the world's third-largest videogame console maker.

More to come? You bet your bitmaps.

This mobile medium may have been a little slow taking off because each phone network uses its own exclusive technology, but wireless giants Ericsson, Motorola and Siemens recently announced plans to create a universal platform that would let developers write games for many phone carriers, whether they be in North America, Europe or Japan.

And you thought *talking* on your phone while driving was a health risk!

Marc Saltzman is a freelance writer, broadcaster and author of five books.

OUTTHISMONTH

Floigan Brothers (Dreamcast)

A slapstick adventure set in an expansive 3D junkyard — home to brothers Moigal and Hoigal. An evil developer wants to drive the brothers off their garbage-ridden land and it's up to you, controlling small-but-smart Hoigal, to steer dumb-but-strong Moigal through the game and save the Floigan homestead.

NBA Street (PlayStation 2)

Who wants to play basketball inside a stuffy arena when you can play outside on a sunny L.A. rooftop or slide around Boston's snowy streets? Oh wait, we're talking about a videogame. Oh well, at least you can have the *illusion* of being outside with this first streetball challenge for PlayStation 2. All movements — from off-the-board no-look passes to dizzying crossover dribbles — are based on "real-life physics" according to the press release. Play alone or with a pal.

Extermination (PlayStation 2)

You are U.S. Special Forces marine Dennis Riley battling frigid temperatures and blinding blizzards to reach a top-secret military station in Antarctica. But when you get there you find that, uh-oh, a biological disaster has unleashed a virus that attacks both organic and non-organic matter. And, to make things worse, mutant creatures abound. Fear not — you have a really big gun equipped with a grenade launcher, flame thrower and night scopes.

Sonic Adventure 2 (Dreamcast)

It's been 10 years since gaming's most famous blue hedgehog — okay, only blue hedgehog — hit the scene. And Dreamcast is celebrating the anniversary with this new Sonic game featuring brand-new split-screen action for two players. Familiar characters like Knuckles and Tails are joined by a host of new personalities, and the new internet ranking option allows you to post your score online with the click of a button.



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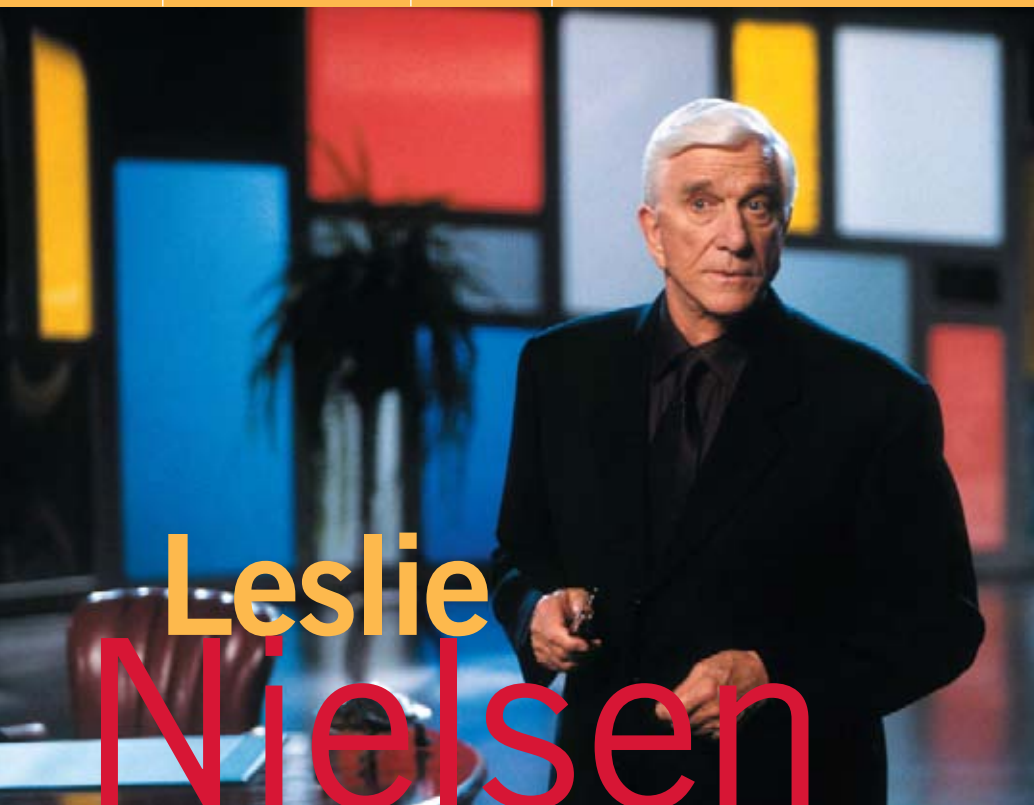


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Leslie Nielsen MAKES HIS PICKS

If anyone has made a career out of spoofs, it's Regina-born, Edmonton-raised, Leslie Nielsen.

Known as a serious actor for much of his career (Commander Adams in 1956's *Forbidden Planet*, Captain Harrison in 1972's *Poseidon Adventure*), his life took a sharp turn toward Crazytown when he was cast as Dr. "Don't call me Shirley" Rumack in 1980's *Airplane!* The ingenious send-up of the 1970s *Airport* disaster flicks finally gave Nielsen the chance to "stand up in front of the camera and say, out loud, 'I can be funny.'"

Since then he's spoofed cop movies with the *Naked Gun* trilogy, action flicks with 1996's *Spy Hard* and even Stanley Kubrick's seminal sci-fi with last year's *2001: A Space Travesty*.

So when the folks at The Comedy Network needed someone to host *Liography*, their new satire of A&E's popular *Biography* series, the 76-year-old topped their wish list. Now in its second month, the show has already profiled such borderline-fictitious Canadians as The Fiendly Giant and Anne Surly.

Nielsen was in Toronto to spread the word about *Liography* when he spoke with *Famous* about his favourite flicks, being profiled on the real *Biography* and the legalities of making fun.

WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"At the top of my list I would have **Gandhi** [1982]. It's the life story of a remarkable world leader who believed in peaceful change, he didn't believe in violence whatsoever. It was very moving. • For number two, I love **Man on the Moon** [1999] about the life of Andy

Kaufman. The work of Milos Forman is quite remarkable, as is Jim Carrey. And it was an unusual presentation. • For number three, I happen to love the first **Naked Gun** [1988]. Aside from the fact that I was starring in it, it's funny and it was really very well done. Part of the *Naked Gun* humour, or *Airplane!* humour, is they never tell the audience what's funny. They put what is funny up on the screen and you find it for yourself. Which is a nice way to treat grown-up people. • Then there's a tie for number four and five between **Touch of Evil** [1958] and **Citizen Kane** [1941], just because of the extraordinary talent of Orson Welles. A lot of his acting was very theatrical and very ham bone. But in both of those films he did monumental acting jobs. And two more different characters you could not find, which is what acting is all about in a sense."

DO THE PEOPLE AT BIOGRAPHY KNOW, OR CARE, ABOUT LIOGRAPHY?
"Oh, I have no idea."

YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO GET THEIR PERMISSION TO SPOOF THE SHOW?
"You don't have to clear a spoof or a parody with anybody. There's no legal recourse because it's recognized as a spoof, therefore it's not real and it does not have any merit in truth."

HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING THE SUBJECT OF A REAL BIOGRAPHY?

"I thought it was very nice, but I think I'm a pragmatist. I think they were going down the list of the people they thought would be acceptable and finally they got to me. It was very nice and people enjoyed it. I love [*Biography*] myself. You have a chance to get some idea of who the person is. There is also a chance to put in just a hint of the darker side of the person's nature, just an implication."

IS THAT THE FORMULA YOU FOLLOWED FOR LIOGRAPHY?

"Oh, *Liography* is no-holds barred and wherever your imagination takes you because it's about people who never existed. You can play with the formula and eventually you can say, 'But in the life of Richard Button there was a dark side, when he drank too much and fell out of the saddle.'"

YOU'VE LIVED IN PHOENIX FOR YEARS. ARE YOU STILL A CANADIAN CITIZEN?

"Oh yeah. And I'm proud of it too.... There are so many commendable qualities about Canadians — a fierce sense of independence and a wacko sense of humour. I love people who have senses of humour. When I come back home here nothing goes over anybody's head."

WHO WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY YOU IN THE MOVIE OF YOUR LIFE?

"Anyone who has a nice set of bow legs. I'm bowlegged — I got rickets up north from a lack of vitamin D. [Though born in Regina, Nielsen spent the first three years of his life in Fort Norman, N.W.T., near the Arctic Circle.] We ran out of nourishing food in the winter up there. If not, Arnold Schwarzenegger, because he's big and nobody will mess with me."

IF YOU HAD TO LIVE INSIDE ANY MOVIE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"*The Wizard of Oz*, because I love the way Judy Garland sings."

—Marni Weisz

new RELEASES

GET CAST AWAY, FIND PROOF OF LIFE OR TAKE THE PLEDGE

JUNE 5

CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON

Stars: Chow Yun Fat, Michelle Yeoh

Director: Ang Lee (*The Ice Storm*)

Story: In the most celebrated foreign-language film in history, Chow Yun Fat stars as a great martial artist who has sworn to protect a sword dubbed *Green Destiny*. When the exalted blade goes a-missing, he and his ladyfriend (Yeoh) must get it back from a very young — and female, no less — fighting machine named Jen (Zhang Ziyi). The plot doesn't do it for you? Then just sit back and enjoy the gorgeous cinematography and awesome fight choreography.

JUNE 12

WAYDOWNTOWN

Stars: Fab Filippo, Don McKellar

Director: Gary Burns (*Kitchen Party*)

Story: In this frenetic flick from Canadian director Burns, four friends make a bet to see who can stay indoors the longest. Theoretically, there's no reason for them to ever go outside since they live, work and shop in a series of downtown buildings connected by underground tunnels and malls. Of course, fresh air can be nice. Shot in the labyrinth of urban sprawl that lies beneath Calgary.



From left: Turturro, Nelson and Clooney in *O Brother, Where art Thou?*

O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?

Stars: George Clooney, John Turturro

Director: Joel Coen (*Fargo*)

Story: The Coen Brothers (director Joel and producer Ethan) originally billed this as a loose retelling of Homer's *The Odyssey* but later admitted they'd never read the ancient epic. No matter, the result is an appropriately episodic tale of three convicts (Clooney, Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson) who escape from a chain gang and head across the Depression-era deep South in search of hidden treasure.

CAST AWAY

Stars: Tom Hanks, Helen Hunt

Director: Robert Zemeckis (*Forrest Gump*)

Story: Chuck Noland (Hanks) is a career-minded FedEx executive who's about to pop the question to his long-time girlfriend (Hunt) when he's called away on business, and his plane plummets into the ocean. After miraculously surviving, Noland washes up on a desert island and slowly realizes that his chances of being rescued are remote.

FEVER

Stars: Henry Thomas, Teri Hatcher

Director: Alex Winter (*Freaked*)

Story: Ever wonder what happened to the guy who played Bill in *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*? Well, he became a director and has turned out some pretty interesting little flicks. The last one was *Freaked* about a snotty Hollywood star who agrees to shill for a chemical company in South America but ends up getting stuck in a freak show. In this one, *E.T.*'s Henry Thomas plays a struggling artist who suffers a mental breakdown and then fears he may have committed a murder.

JUNE 19

SAVE THE LAST DANCE

Stars: Julia Stiles, Sean Patrick Thomas

Director: Thomas Carter (*Swing Kids*)

Story: Stiles plays a ballet dancer from the Midwest who moves to Chicago and is introduced to hip-hop by an inner city kid (Thomas).

PROOF OF LIFE

Stars: Meg Ryan, Russell Crowe

Director: Taylor Hackford (*Devil's Advocate*)

Story: When her husband (David Morse) is kidnapped by Colombian rebels and held for ransom, an American woman (Ryan) turns to a professional negotiator (Crowe) to free him. Question is, will she still want her husband back after she falls under the spell of ol' Russell's alpha-male rescue pro?

UNBREAKABLE

Stars: Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson

Director: M. Night Shyamalan (*The Sixth Sense*)

Story: When a security guard, played by Willis, is the sole survivor of a devastating train wreck, the question becomes: Is it possible

Stiles in *Save the Last Dance*



for a man to be indestructible? Jackson plays a comic book aficionado who thinks he knows the answer.

STATE AND MAIN

Stars: Alec Baldwin, Philip Seymour Hoffman

Director: David Mamet (*Winslow Boy*)

Story: When a Hollywood film crew descends on a little Vermont town, the star of the film (Baldwin) has an affair with a schoolgirl played by Julia Stiles. (In a Woody Allen-esque example of life imitating art, 43-year-old Baldwin is now apparently dating 22-year-old Jennifer Love Hewitt.) William H. Macy plays the film's director, Hoffman its writer and Sarah Jessica Parker is the leading lady who refuses to bare her breasts.

THE PLEDGE

Stars: Jack Nicholson, Robin Wright Penn

Director: Sean Penn (*The Crossing Guard*)

Story: Jack Nicholson plays a retired detective obsessed with finding the killer of a young girl. Oscar-winner Benicio Del Toro is one of the suspects and Wright Penn plays the mother of a suspiciously similar little girl.



Sam Shepard (left) and Nicholson in *The Pledge*

stargazing

By Dan Liebman

GEMINI

May 23-June 21

Toddlers play a role this month. Maybe it's a babysitting gig, or perhaps you're involved in projects aimed at the infant market. On the other hand, luxury is definitely not in the cards — red carpets are rolled up, not out. And if traveling, prepare for some pretty rustic settings. Domestic disputes are resolved by the 30th.

CANCER

June 22-July 22

Add zing to your summer wardrobe with brightly hued outfits — bold touches generally send out the right signals. Nostalgia overlaps with contemporary themes. A childhood friend may send a surprise email, or perhaps you share old-fashioned comfort foods with the marvelous new person in your life.

LEO

July 23-August 22

You need lots of stamina to tackle a month of exams, megaprojects and high-maintenance family reunions. Is it any wonder you're craving carbs? Be careful not to confuse flattery with compliments. You need to be sure of motives, especially in the work environment. It's a good month for occasional splurging.

VIRGO

August 23-September 22

Surroundings get a little stuffy and relationships seem a little stale. It's up to you to introduce some creative touches into the former and some novel ones into the latter. This summer can be one of the most carefree on record, so get rid of as many obligations as you can before the end of June.

LIBRA

September 23-October 22

Much of the month has an old-Hollywood mood about it. Glitzy parties, posh settings and a juicy scandal or two make for a memorable June. Recent feelings of being in a professional rut change when you're given an opportunity to expand. You're up for the challenge, but don't wait too long to prove it.

SCORPIO

October 23-November 21

The month starts on a tranquil note and ends with a period of frantic negotiation. In between is a time of achievement. You never thought of yourself as a renaissance person, but somehow you manage to excel in both the arts and sciences. Superiors are impressed, to say the least.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22-December 22

Get ready to play tour guide. The month brings a variety of out-of-town guests — not all of them invited. Around the 17th, memorabilia collectors may find a rare item. A partner is ready to make an important compromise, but with all those arrivals the timing may be less than perfect.

CAPRICORN

December 23-January 20

Don't waste a moment, Capricorn. Given the position of your ruling planet Saturn — which is related to ambition — June can be a bonanza month for entrepreneurs. You can also figure out why romance has been sluggish. But take the initiative. It's up to you to make up for lost time.

AQUARIUS

January 21-February 19

You're inclined to take health risks. It's really not beach weather, so put away those skimpy outfits. Right now you flourish in a new environment. Travel is a good idea, but so is changing the look of your bedroom or office cubicle. Finally, be cautious about putting your signature on documents, especially after the 24th.

PISCES

February 20-March 20

Self-indulgence is out, hard work and long hours are in. But the payoff can be handsome since someone in a powerful position is quietly watching your every move. Okay, not every move. In romance, your creative side is emphasized, and your partner, especially after the 21st, is happy to respond in kind.

ARIES

March 21-April 20

Your patience is stretched, especially after the 15th. While you have even less tolerance than usual for phonies you really need to listen more closely to older loved ones. Doing so is for your benefit as well as theirs.

TAURUS

April 21-May 22

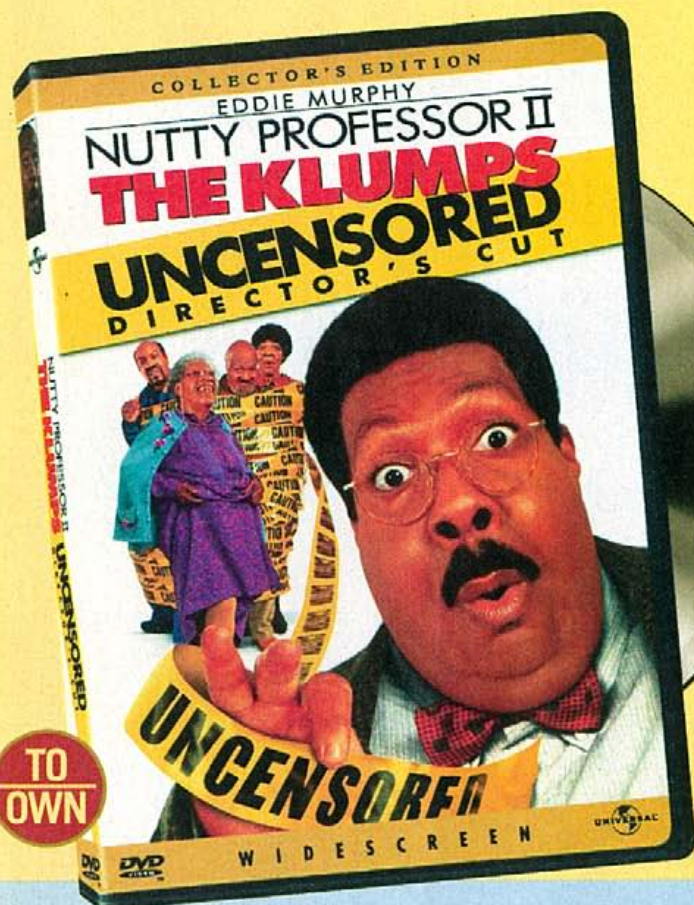
You may not remember those old screwball comedies, but this month you're living one. June is populated with quirky characters. The dialogue gets pretty witty, too. In fact, some of your patter is so snappy that you should record it for future reference.



KATIA SMIRNOVA

junebirthdays	1st	Alanis Morissette
	2nd	Dana Carvey
	3rd	Tony Curtis
	4th	Angelina Jolie
	5th	Mark Wahlberg
	6th	Sandra Bernhard
	7th	Liam Neeson
	8th	Jerry Stiller
	9th	Michael J. Fox
	10th	Elizabeth Hurley
	11th	Gene Wilder
	12th	Ally Sheedy
	13th	Tim Allen
	14th	Yasmine Bleeth
	15th	Helen Hunt
	16th	Laurie Metcalf
	17th	Joe Piscopo
	18th	Roger Ebert
	19th	Gena Rowlands
	20th	Nicole Kidman
	21st	Juliette Lewis
	22nd	Meryl Streep
	23rd	Frances McDormand
	24th	Michele Lee
	25th	Carly Simon
	26th	Chris O'Donnell
	27th	Julia Duffy
	28th	Kathy Bates
	29th	Gary Busey
	30th	Monica Potter

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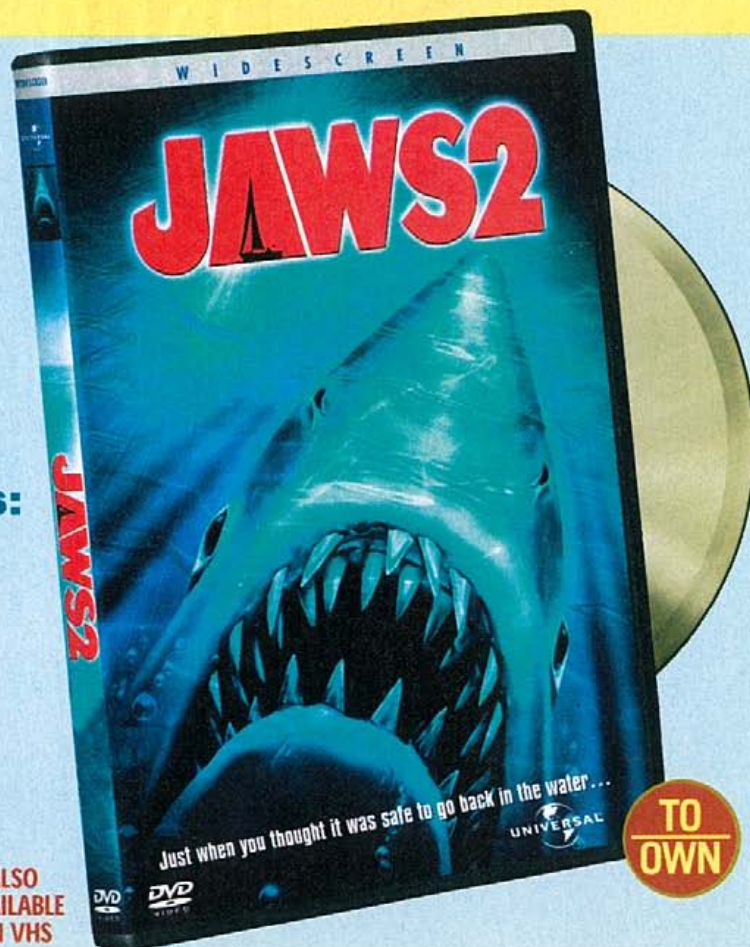
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10

STARS TALK ABOUT PLASTIC SURGERY

BY SUSAN GRANGER

LONI ANDERSON *"I had breast reduction surgery and I'm so happy I did. They were taking over my life. During my forties, my breasts suddenly began to grow and grow. I think of it now as a science-fiction movie.... You wake up one morning and, 'Oh, no!' I was pretty happy with my C-cup, that moved to a D-cup, that moved to a double-D, that moved into an E, and pretty soon your life is a bra."*

JANE FONDA *"Look, I may have had it and I may not. I think, what's the big deal? I never said I would never have plastic surgery. I said you have to make friends with the aging process and with your wrinkles, and you have to do everything you can."*

HEATHER LOCKLEAR *"Once I hit 45, when things start to fall apart, I will have no qualms about taking a nip and a tuck here and there. If I have to choose between [my husband] Richie waking up one morning and saying to me, 'Gee, you're a fascinating woman,' or 'Gee, you look sexy and fantastic,' I'll go for hearing him tell me I look sexy and fantastic."*

OPRAH WINFREY *"I have not had any plastic surgery, and if I have some plastic surgery, I'll tell you about it. Don't believe any plastic surgery story until you hear it from me."*

JENNY MCCARTHY *"Sure, I've had breast implants. They cost me \$1,500. I can't tell you the number of times I've considered having them removed, so I'd caution girls to think twice before making the commitment. Of course, if you want to pose for *Playboy*..."*

MEG RYAN *"I know people who have had plastic surgery and it looks great on them, but I'd have a hard time doing it. What if my face didn't move the same way again? I couldn't get a tattoo either. What if I got tired of it? I'm scared of the permanence of both those things."*

JENNIFER ANISTON *"Who am I to say at this age that I will never get a facelift, never have my eyes done?"*



SAMUEL L. JACKSON

"You gotta do what you gotta do. I've had tooth enhancement. Let's just call it that. I grew up in the South during the '50s during segregation, and we didn't have very good dentists. Consequently, I had bad teeth for a very long time. I never had to have braces but my parents probably couldn't have afforded anything like that anyway."

JENNY JONES *"After five operations to clean up botched breast implants, there's no way I'd ever, ever recommend them to anyone."*

ANGIE DICKINSON *"I've had some plastic surgery. Anybody can look at me and tell. But people can have too much. The trouble is, usually you don't look better. So, you're damned if you do and damned if you don't. That's the bottom line."*

SAMUEL L. JACKSON HOSTS THE 2001 ESPY AWARDS IN LAS VEGAS. PHOTO BY ETHAN MILLER/REUTERS



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