

# Famous

**Lisa Kudrow, Halle Berry**  
and other stars reveal their favourite vacation spots

march 2001 volume 2 number 3

canada's entertainment lifestyle magazine

## **Vin Diesel**

**REVS UP FOR**  
***THE FAST & THE FURIOUS***

## **Johnny Depp** **ON BLOW**

**SPOTLIGHT ON:**  
**DAVID ARQUETTE,**  
**ASHLEY JUDD &**  
**ED BURNS**

**A LOOK AT OSCAR HOST**  
**STEVE MARTIN AND**  
**A 2000 AWARDS WRAP**

# **BEST ACTRESS?**

**Oscar nominee and star of *The Mexican* Julia Roberts**  
**talks about reaching her peak**

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JOSEPH FIENNES

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A SINGLE BULLET CAN CHANGE HISTORY.

# ENEMY AT THE GATES

RACHEL WEISZ BOB HOSKINS AND ED HARRIS

PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND MANDALAY PICTURES PRESENT A REPÉRAGE PRODUCTION A FILM BY JEAN-JACQUES ANNAUD JOSEPH FIENNES JUDE LAW RACHEL WEISZ BOB HOSKINS AND ED HARRIS "ENEMY AT THE GATES" RON PERLMAN  
MUSIC COMPOSED BY JAMES HORNER COSTUME DESIGNER JANTY YATES FILM EDITORS NOELLE BOISSON HUMPHREY DIXON PRODUCTION DESIGNER WOLF KROEGER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ROBERT FRAISSE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ALAIN GODARD ALISA TAGER PRODUCER JOHN D. SCHOFIELD  
WRITTEN BY ALAIN GODARD & JEAN-JACQUES ANNAUD PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY JEAN-JACQUES ANNAUD



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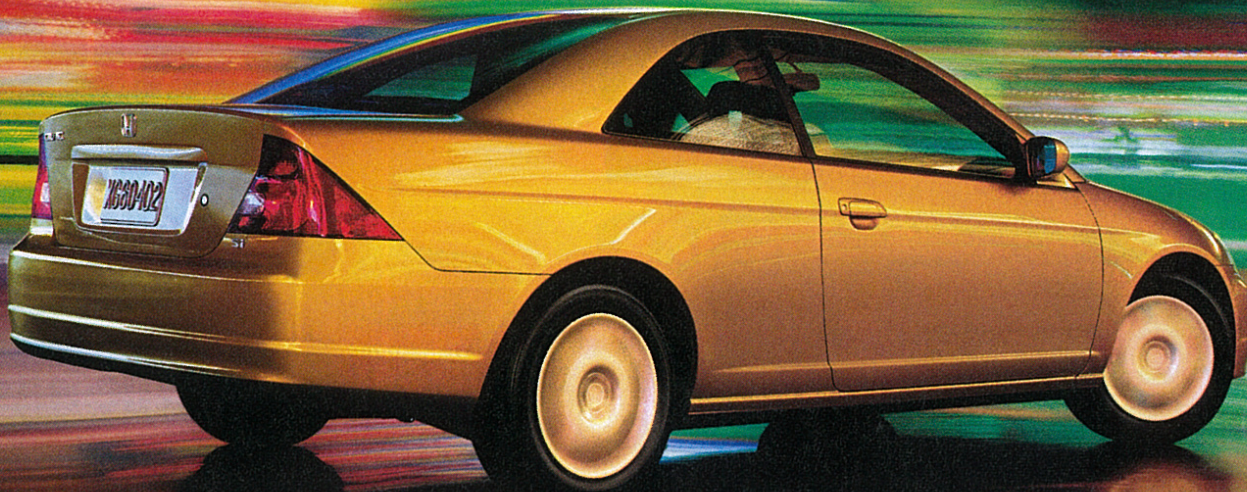
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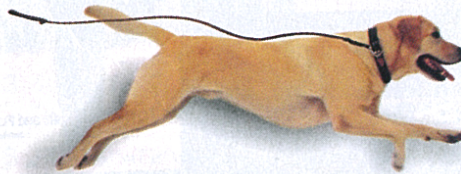
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robert deniro

edward burns



# 15 MINUTES

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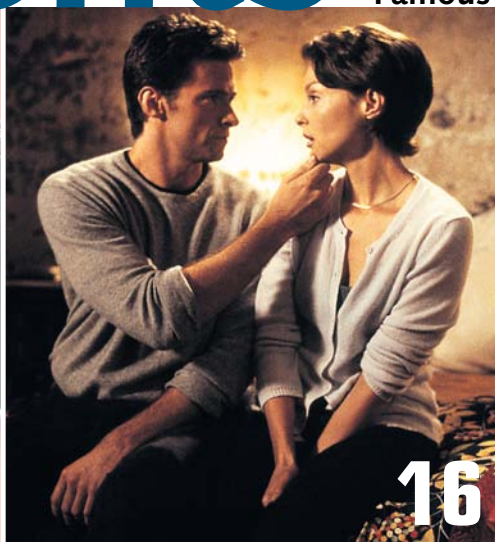
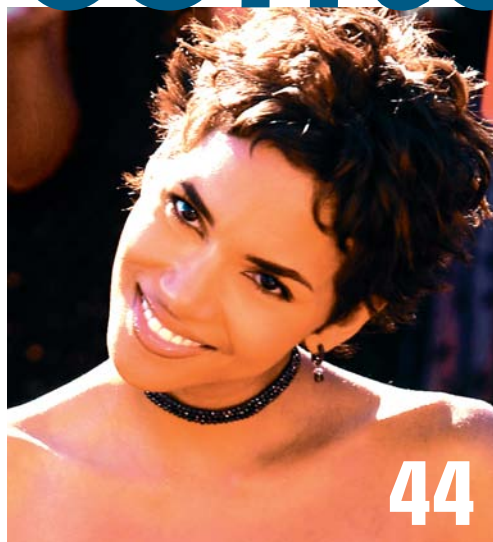
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He's just a part-time tough guy. *The Fast and the Furious* star Vin Diesel explains why he wants to divide his time between playing bruisers and softer roles **By David Giammarco**

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Will Julia Roberts win the Best Actress Oscar for *Erin Brockovich*? And did she mind squeezing into those skin-tight dresses? Hollywood's most powerful woman talks about the role, and the clothes, that could land her an Academy Award **By Earl Dittman**

Also in our special Oscars section, how do this year's nominees compare to the winners of the Golden Globes and other prestigious awards? And, is Steve Martin the right man to host the Academy Awards?

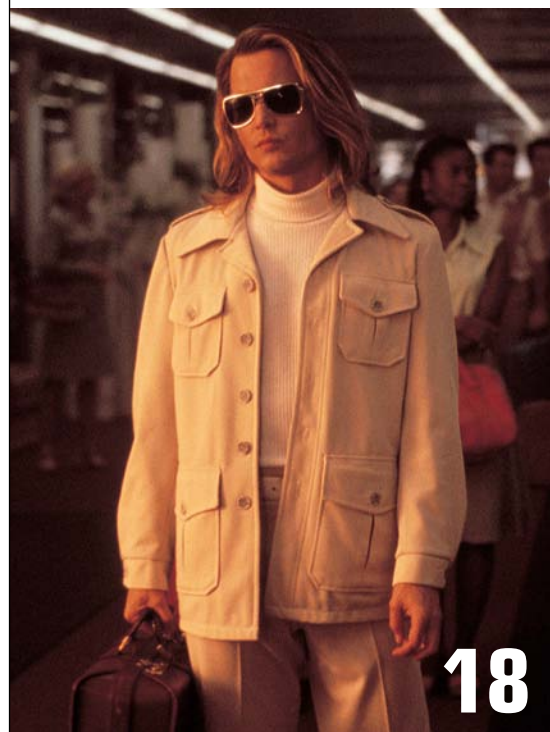
**ON THE COVER** Julia Roberts at the People's Choice Awards. Photo by Rose Prouser, Corbis/Magma/Reuters

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# OSCAR BETTER watch out

She's a feisty one. Our cover girl **Julia Roberts** made it clear she wouldn't take any crap when she spoke with *Famous* writer Earl Dittman about *Erin Brockovich*, the film that may earn the actor her first Oscar. Spirited, and even a bit combative, Roberts seemed like she'd learned a few tricks from the real Erin Brockovich about speaking her mind and standing up for herself. The resulting



interview is a refreshingly honest peek into the most powerful woman in Hollywood. In "Julia's Year?," page 26, she even tells you why so many people think she's a bitch.

That interview is just part of our Oscars 2000 preview. We also take a look at how **Steve Martin** is likely to do as host. We all know he's a brilliant satirist, but hasn't he become a bit too serious over the past few years to make a good emcee? Sean Davidson doesn't think so, and tells you why in "And the Host Job Goes To...," page 32. Plus, on page 30, we give you a round-up of all the other important awards that have already been handed out this year — just in case you're having trouble making your picks for the office Oscar pool.

**Johnny Depp** probably could have been a Mel Gibson or a George Clooney. He's good-looking enough, he certainly has the talent, and he's been around long enough to amass a devoted following. But he chose to take a different path. He's picked oddball films (*What's Eating Gilbert Grape*, *Ed Wood*) instead of mainstream ones, and he's moved to France, making it harder to remain in Hollywood's line of sight. But that didn't stop the producers of the new cocaine drama *Blow* from casting him as their lead. For "The High Life," page 18, Depp spoke with David Giammarco about the film, his life in Europe and his baby girl.

**Vin Diesel**. Take a look at the guy. He's big, bald, kinda mean looking. Who would have guessed that beneath that burly exterior resides a screenwriter who has actually had his short films screened at Sundance and Cannes? Now the star of the critically acclaimed *Pitch Black*, and the not-so acclaimed *Boiler Room*, plays a street-racing gang leader in *The Fast and the Furious*. Diesel tells David Giammarco why his tough image might not be completely accurate in "Diesel Powered," page 22.

— Marni Weisz

## Famous

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From the producing team of "Deuce Bigelow" and "Big Daddy"

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**TRAILER TRASH  
WIG WEARIN'  
ACID WASH  
JEAN LOVIN'  
ROCK CONCERT  
T-SHIRT SPORTIN'  
HERO**



# JOE DIRT

COLUMBIA PICTURES PRESENTS A HAPPY MADISON/ROBERT SIMONDS PRODUCTION "THE ADVENTURES OF JOE DIRT" CHRISTOPHER WALKEN  
DENNIS MILLER MUSIC BY WADDY WACHTEL SUPERVISION BY MICHAEL DILBECK EDITOR PECK PRIOR PRODUCTION DESIGNER PERRY ANDELIN BLAKE DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN R. LEONETTI  
CO-PRODUCER IRA SHUMAN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS ADAM SANDLER, JACK GIARRAPUTO WRITTEN BY DAVID SPADE & FRED WOLF PRODUCED BY ROBERT SIMONDS DIRECTED BY DENNIE GORDON

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COLUMBIA  
PICTURES



Combine the fact that, according to Statistics Canada, Albertans see more movies per year than anyone else in Canada with the news that, in 2000, Famous Players' two existing Paramount theatres were the most successful cinemas in the country, and you might want to start lining up now for tickets to the new Paramount Calgary, opening March 23.

Always located in the downtown

core of a large city (the others are in Toronto and Montreal), Famous Players' Paramount theatres are considered the chain's flagship cinemas. Keeping with that urban philosophy, Calgary's Paramount will be located in the Chinook Shopping Centre right in the heart of the city.

In addition to being big, bright and state of the art, each Paramount includes a massive IMAX 3D theatre.

The Paramount Calgary will also house a TechTown interactive games centre and a variety of concessions including Baskin-Robbins, Pizza Hut and New York Fries.

According to those Stats Can numbers, Albertans go to the movies an average of five times per year. Next in line are B.C. film fans who make the trip four times a year, while the average Canadian takes in a flick 3.7 times

per year. Why are movies so popular in Alberta? We'd suggest that the frigid climate forces people inside, but the province with the lowest rate of theatre attendance is Newfoundland, with 1.7 trips per annum, and we all know our youngest province is no tropical hot spot. Perhaps it's Alberta's economy...or the fact that The Flames haven't made the playoffs since 1996. —MW

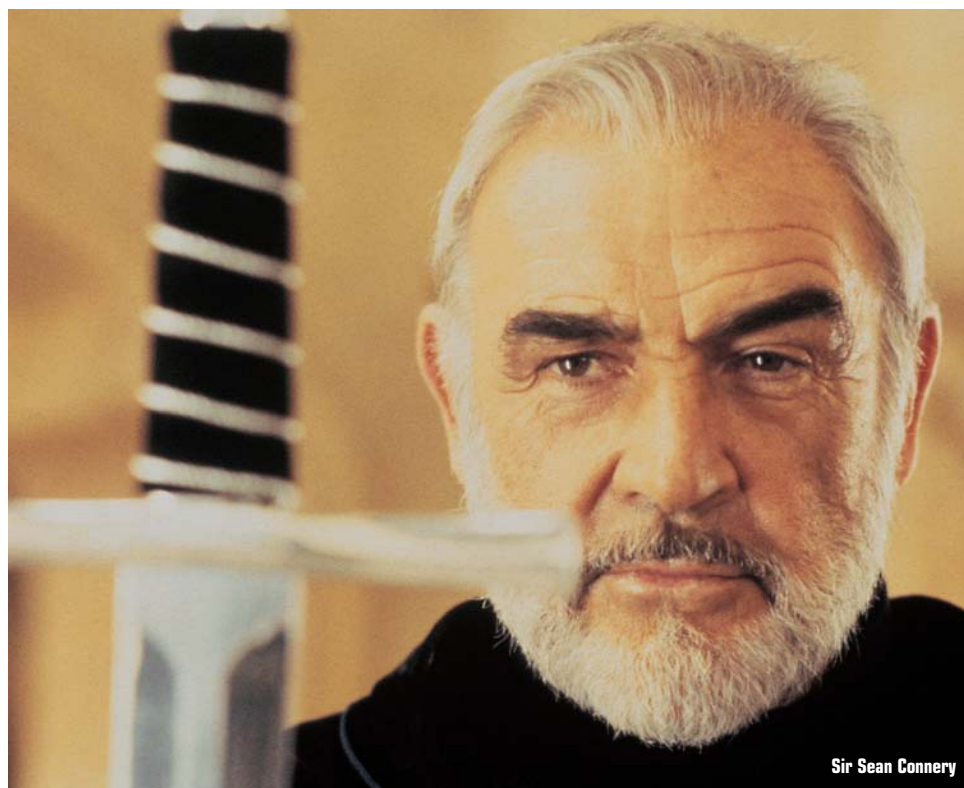
## KNIGHT LIFE

Britain has been awarding knighthoods, or the female equivalent, the damehood, to a lot of celebrities these days. Sean Connery, Elton John, Elizabeth Taylor, Paul McCartney, writer Arthur C. Clarke, composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and singer Shirley Bassey have all been made knights or dames by the Queen. Even Steven Spielberg received an honorary knighthood this past January.

But, according to ancient doctrine, knights must follow a strict code of principles, a few of which we've outlined below: **DEFENSE** Knights are supposed to fight for England and the crown. Meaning if the Vikings, Moors or French cross the channel it's up to guys like Elton John and Paul McCartney to saddle up and charge into battle. Of the celebrity knights, only Sean Connery seems up to the job — we've at least seen him swing a sword in the movies, and he appears to know what he's doing. But something, maybe it's his "Scotland Forever" tattoo, tells us he's not completely behind the idea of keeping the U.K. in one piece.

**TRUTH** Bad news for publicists, agents, biographers and other squires — knights aren't allowed to lie. Please start telling the absolute truth in all press releases and interviews.

**COURAGE**...as in, Sir Sean and Sir Elton, the courage to admit that you're bald and give



Sir Sean Connery

up with the hair plugs and toupees.

**EXCELLENCE** Whether he's executive producing *Men in Black 2* or hammering out the dents in his armour, a knight is expected to do an A-plus job. Always. Every single time. Nothing less than the absolute best is acceptable. That means Arthur C. Clarke

must go back to writing novels, Steven Spielberg must make another three *Indiana Jones* movies and Shirley Bassey must record more new songs. Conversely, Elton John can't do any more Disney soundtracks and Andrew Lloyd Webber must retire. —SD

## CALL FOR TEEN FILMMAKERS

If you're a teen who got a camcorder for Christmas and don't know what to do with that footage of your dog dressed in a tutu, the Toronto International Teen Movie Festival is currently accepting submissions. The festival will take place from October 27 to November 4, 2001, and the trio behind the event — Naomi Hiltz, Jonathan Hiltz and Myles Shane — claim it is the only festival in the world that is exclusively for teens. Submissions can be in any format (8mm, digital, Betacam, etc.) and can be live action or animated, fiction or documentary. For details, pop onto [www.hiltz2.com](http://www.hiltz2.com). —MW





PAUL WALKER VIN DIESEL  
JORDANA BREWSTER MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ

# THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

FEATURING THE HIT SINGLE  
"FURIOUS"  
FROM JA RULE

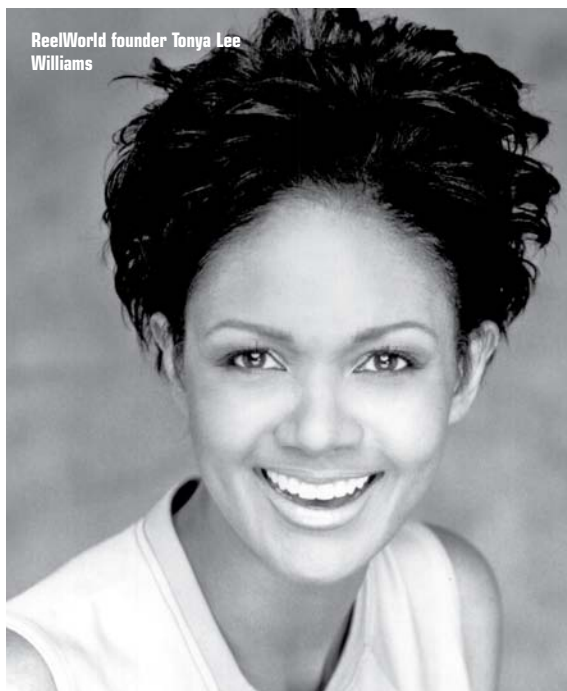
UNIVERSAL PICTURES PRESENTS A NEAL H. MORITZ PRODUCTION A ROB COHEN FILM "THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS" PAUL WALKER VIN DIESEL MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ  
JORDANA BREWSTER RICK YUNE CHAD LINDBERG JOHNNY STRONG TED LEVINE MUSIC BY BT MUSIC SUPERVISORS GARY JONES HAPPY WALTERS EDITED BY PETER HONESS ACE  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER WALDEMAR KALINOWSKI DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY ERICSON CORE EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS DOUG CLAYBOURNE JOHN POGUE PRODUCED BY NEAL H. MORITZ SCREEN STORY BY GARY SCOTT THOMPSON  
SCREENPLAY BY GARY SCOTT THOMPSON AND DAVID AYER **COMING SOON** DIRECTED BY ROB COHEN A UNIVERSAL PICTURE



www.thefastandthefurious.com AOL Keyword: The Fast and The Furious

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ReelWorld founder Tonya Lee Williams

## GET REEL

**N**on-white filmmakers face “grim” and “frightening” prospects in this country, says actor Tonya Lee Williams, because they don’t get the same chance to make and exhibit movies as their white colleagues. And so, the long-time *Young and the Restless* star teamed up with other performers of colour — film and TV talent such as Graham Greene, Yaphet Kotto and Sandra Oh — and founded the ReelWorld Film Festival, an annual four-day fête set up to spotlight movies by native, black and Asian directors, which debuts April 5.



filmmakers such as *Peggy Su*, a truly multiracial comedy by black director Frances-Anne Solomon about a Chinese family living in 1962 England.

Says Williams, “Here’s a black filmmaker, Canadian, who made an entirely Asian movie. That’s the kind of story we really want represented.”

ReelWorld will also screen a selection of animation, shorts and music videos, and will host a series of seminars and forums in the hopes that directors can network with producers, would-be investors and other filmmaking professionals. Tickets and more information about the festival are available at the website ([www.reelworldfilmfest.com](http://www.reelworldfilmfest.com)) or by calling 416.598.7933. —SD



## CROUCHING SPIDER

**In one of the first photos released from the set of the Spider-Man movie, Tobey Maguire (*Wonder Boys*, *The Cider House Rules*) models the elaborate ensemble that he will wear as the web-slinging superhero. The suit was created by Academy Award-winning designer James Acheson (*Restoration*, *Dangerous Liaisons*) and is one solid garment, from the boots to the head. The pattern was computer-generated to create a 3D effect, but the actual suit consists of more than 120 individual silkscreens, each meticulously shaded or highlighted. The web pattern itself was molded out of latex, painted with metallic finishes, and hand glued to the costume. The movie is slated for a spring 2002 release.** —MW

## hearsay

**engaged** Former *Happy Days* star and teen pin-up Scott Baio will tie the knot with his long-time girlfriend Jeanette Jonsson later this year, ending a bachelorhood that included flings with Brooke Shields, Pamela Anderson and Heather Locklear. Likewise, Ed Burns and model Christy Turlington will walk down the aisle in November, and Lauren Holly is engaged yet again. The actor and ex-wife of actors Danny Quinn (son of Anthony Quinn) and Jim Carrey will marry her current beau, a New York investment banker, sometime this spring. Smart money says she’ll be single again by 2002.

**in court** Lawyers for Oliver Stone and Warner Bros. will argue before a Louisiana state court this month to have the long-running “Natural Born Copycat” case thrown out. Stone and the studio were named in a wrongful death suit in 1996, following the armed robbery of a convenience store by two teens who were inspired, according to the plaintiffs, by Stone’s bullet-riddled 1994 movie *Natural Born Killers*. Does that mean *Nixon* is to blame for corruption in Washington? Or *Wall Street* for insider trading?

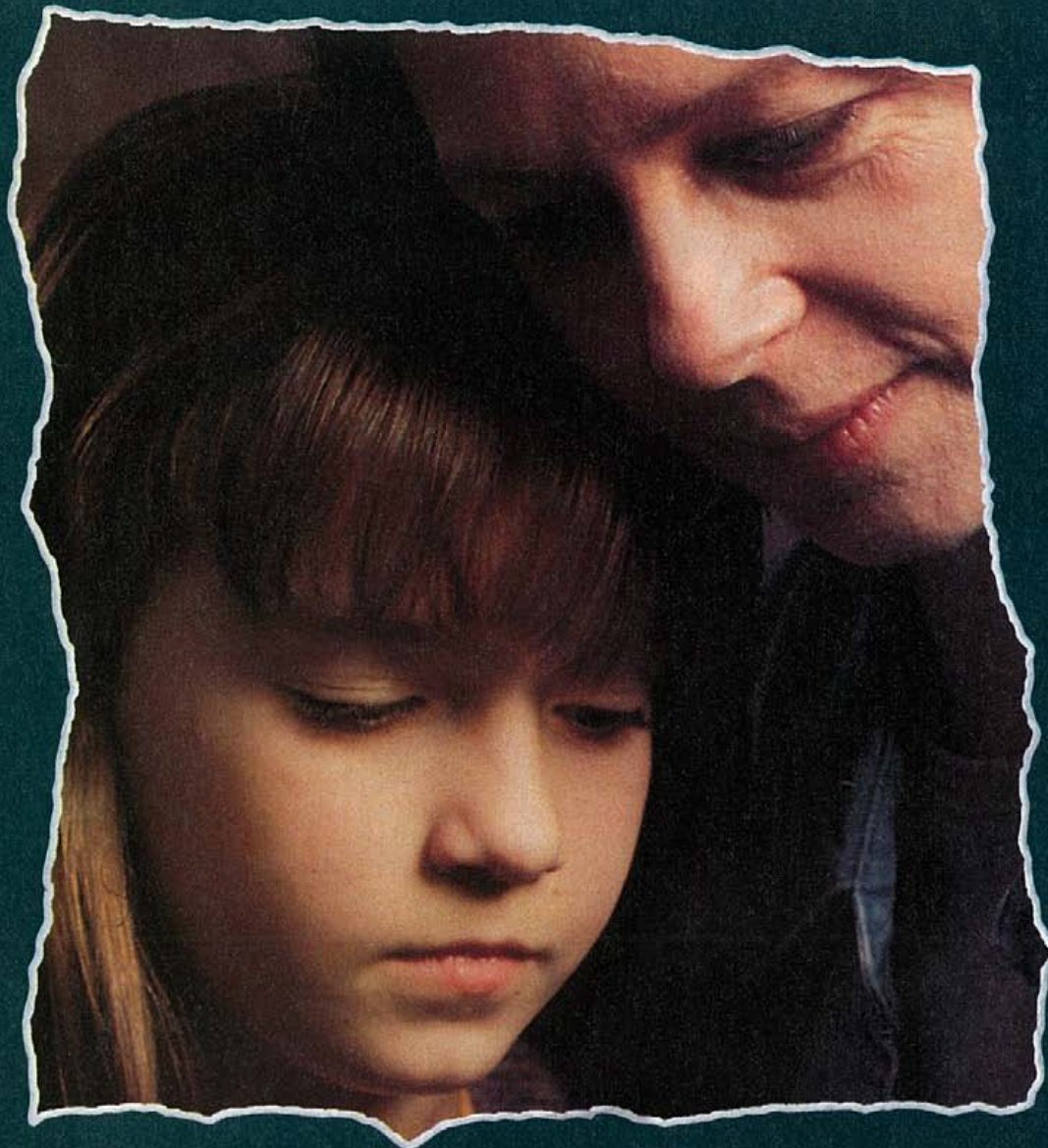
**on the air** Only in Australia, where everything is apparently upside down, could a song by Gwyneth Paltrow almost reach Number One. The “Cruisin’” single from her regrettable karaoke opus, *Duets* was a smash hit Down Under and almost hit the top spot on the Aussie singles chart. It was edged out by another soundtrack hit, “Teenage Dirtbag,” from the teen romance *Loser*.



**quoted** “Why is it that people define me as a right-wing misogynist?” asked Mel Gibson in an interview with London’s *Radio Times* magazine. “It’s baffling. I’m not like that at all. I guess it’s because I’m Catholic, have ideas on birth control and used to joke about keeping women barefoot, pregnant and in the kitchen.” Yes Mel, that might have something to do with it.

**vetoed** *South Park* creators Trey Parker and Matt Stone will not be allowed to portray George W. Bush’s daughters as lesbian lovers in their proposed new sitcom, a satire about the first family called *That’s My Bush*. Comedy Central quickly killed the show’s proposed sapphic angle after getting irate emails demanding they lay off 19-year-old twins Jenna and Barbara Bush. —SD





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David Spade  
in *Joe Dirt*

MARCH 2

## THE MEXICAN

**Who's In It?** Brad Pitt, Julia Roberts  
**Who Directed?** Gore Verbinski (*Mouse Hunt*)  
**What's It About?** Pitt plays a hapless gangster who wants to go legit, if only so his girlfriend (Roberts) will stop nagging him. But before he can quit his life of crime, his boss sends him on one last job — to retrieve an antique, and apparently cursed, pistol from south of the border. **See Julia Roberts cover story, page 26.**

## SEE SPOT RUN

**Who's In It?** David Arquette, Paul Sorvino  
**Who Directed?** John Whitesell (*Calendar Girl*)  
**What's It About?** A New Jersey postal worker (Arquette) adopts a dog, unaware that the pooch — who sniffed out drugs for the FBI before entering the witness protection program — is being stalked by two hitmen.

MARCH 9

## DEUCES WILD

**Who's In It?** Fairuza Balk, Matt Dillon  
**Who Directed?** Scott Kalvert (*The Basketball Diaries*)  
**What's It About?** Described as "*West Side Story* without the music," it's the story of teen street

gangs and star-crossed love in 1950s Brooklyn. Balk (*The Waterboy*) plays the leader of a tough, all-girl gang who falls for the alpha male of a rival gang. Expect switchblades, poodle skirts and Brill Cream.

## GET OVER IT

**Who's In It?** Kirsten Dunst, Ben Foster  
**Who Directed?** Tom O'Haver (*Billy's Hollywood Screen Kiss*)  
**What's It About?** Dumped by his girlfriend, high school senior Berke (Foster) joins the school's cast of *Romeo and Juliet* in a bid to win her back. But instead he notices, and falls for, cast member Kelly (Dunst), his best friend's kid sister. Melissa Sagemiller, who also stars in this month's *Soul Survivors*, plays Berke's ex.

## 15 MINUTES

**Who's In It?** Robert De Niro, Edward Burns  
**Who Directed?** John Herzfeld (*2 Days in the Valley*)  
**What's It About?** De Niro's tough cop and Burns' fire investigator team up to catch an attention-seeking murderer who kills, it seems, only to get his "15 minutes of fame." Not surprisingly, the case sets off a media frenzy and the investigators are forced to deal with an abrasive talk-show host, played by *Frasier*'s Kelsey Grammer.

## JOE DIRT

**Who's In It?** David Spade, Dennis Miller  
**Who Directed?** Dennie Gordon (debut)  
**What's It About?** Acid-tongued *SNL* alum Spade is Joe Dirt, a white trash janitor trying to find his parents. Through a series of flashbacks, Dirt recounts his rough childhood and how he was abandoned by his folks (Rosanne, Gary Busey) while on a trip to the Grand Canyon. Latter-day head banger Kid Rock co-stars as Dirt's nemesis. Miller plays the host of a radio chat show.

MARCH 16

## THE DISH

**Who's In It?** Sam Neill, Patrick Warburton  
**Who Directed?** Rob Sitch (*The Castle*)  
**What's It About?** It's true. As Apollo 11 flew toward the moon and history in 1969, the tracking station in Australia had a blackout and "lost" the NASA rocket. In *The Dish*, four Aussie scientists scramble to fix the problem and find Apollo before word gets out.

## SOUL SURVIVORS

**Who's In It?** Melissa Sagemiller, Casey Affleck  
**Who Directed?** Steve Carpenter (debut)  
**What's It About?** Having survived a terrible car wreck, a young woman (Sagemiller) is plagued by visions of her dead boyfriend (Affleck). Is she just hallucinating?

## ENEMY AT THE GATES

**Who's In It?** Jude Law, Ed Harris  
**Who Directed?** Jean-Jacques Annaud (*Seven Years in Tibet*)  
**What's It About?** During the Battle of Stalingrad, Russian sniper Vassili Zaitsev (Law) bags more than 140 invading Germans and becomes a national hero amid the horror of World War Two. But when word reaches Berlin, the Nazis send their best sharpshooter (Harris) on a mission to hunt him down. Based on a true story.

## SAY IT ISN'T SO

**Who's In It?** Heather Graham, Chris Klein  
**Who Directed?** James Rogers (debut)  
**What's It About?** This romantic comedy from the producers of *American Pie* and *There's Something About Mary* illustrates the perils ►►



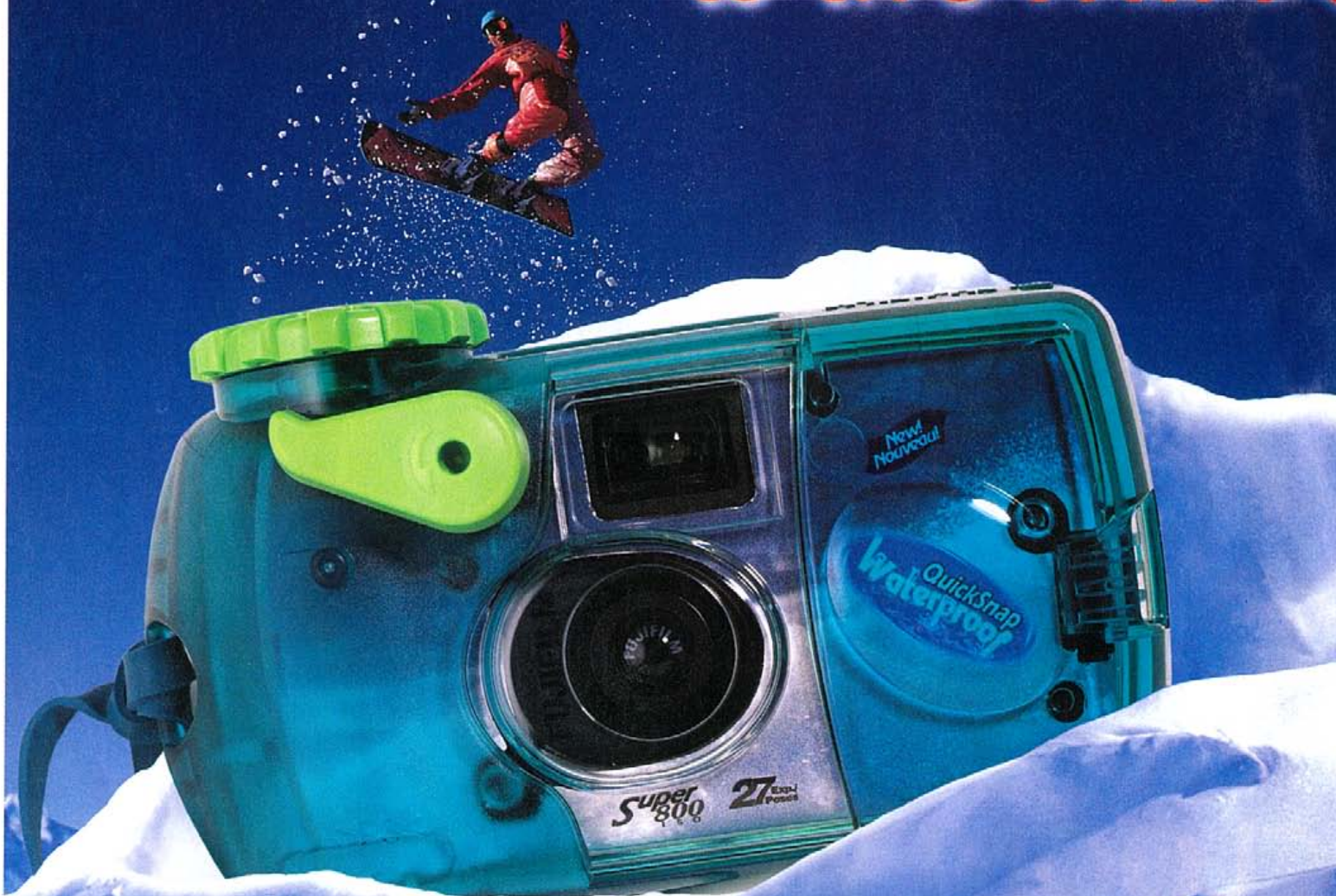


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Graham and Klein  
in *Say it isn't So*

▶▶ of accidental incest. Klein (*American Pie*) plays a young guy who falls in lust with his ideal woman (Graham), only to discover that she might be his sister. Eewww.

## EXIT WOUNDS

**Who's In It?** Steven Seagal, Isaiah Washington  
**Who Directed?** Andrzej Bartkowiak (*Romeo Must Die*)

**What's It About?** Hard to believe it took this long for someone to use that title. Seagal (*Fire Down Below*) tries to restart his sagging career by returning to the kind of tough-cop roles that made him a hit 10 years ago. Hooking up with the makers and cast of *Romeo Must Die*, the pony-tailed one plays a cop rooting out corruption in the inner city.

## ABOUT ADAM

**Who's In It?** Stuart Townsend, Kate Hudson  
**Who Directed?** Gerard Stembridge (*Guiltrip*)  
**What's It About?** A young man (Townsend) meets and seduces a waitress (Hudson) before moving on to woo her two sisters and brother.

MARCH 23

## THE HEARTBREAKERS

**Who's In It?** Sigourney Weaver, Jennifer Love-Hewitt  
**Who Directed?** David Mirkin (*Romy and Michele's High School Reunion*)  
**What's It About?** Weaver and Love-Hewitt play a mother-daughter con artist team living in Palm Springs. Their attempt to grift a young



Love-Hewitt and Weaver  
in *The Heartbreakers*

bartender (*Dogma*'s Jason Lee) goes awry when he and the daughter fall in love.

## JUST VISITING

**Who's In It?** Jean Reno, Christina Applegate  
**Who Directed?** Jean-Marie Poiré (*Les Visiteurs*)  
**What's It About?** Poiré directs the English-language version of his 1993 comic fantasy about a medieval knight (Reno) and squire who are sent forward in time to modern-day America. Applegate (*Mafia!*) co-stars as both Reno's 11th-century girlfriend and present-day friend.

## BLOW DRY

**Who's In It?** Alan Rickman, Natasha Richardson  
**Who Directed?** Paddy Breathnach (*Ailsa, I Went Down*)  
**What's It About?** This makes three, count 'em three, movies in recent memory about competitive British hairdressers. Following *The Big Tease* and Barry Levinson's *Everlasting Piece* comes this comedy from *The Full Monty* screenwriter, Simon Beaufoy. Rickman and Richardson play a divorced couple locked in a fierce competition over a national hairstyling competition.

## THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS

**Who's In It?** Vin Diesel, Paul Walker  
**Who Directed?** Rob Cohen (*The Skulls*)  
**What's It About?** The four-cylinder version of *Gone in 60 Seconds*, this teen crime movie follows two rival L.A. street gangs that illegally race souped-up sports cars. Walker (*The Skulls*) stars as an undercover cop who infiltrates one of the teams, while Diesel plays a gang leader. **See Vin Diesel interview, page 22.**

MARCH 30

## SOMEONE LIKE YOU

**Who's In It?** Ashley Judd, Greg Kinnear  
**Who Directed?** Tony Goldwyn (*A Walk on the Moon*)  
**What's It About?** After she's dumped by her boyfriend (Kinnear), a jaded TV executive (Judd) starts writing a sex column for a men's magazine, comparing male behaviour to that of apes, dogs and other wildlife. So it makes sense that Judd's womanizing roommate is played by Hugh Jackman, last seen as Wolverine in *X-Men*.

## SPY KIDS

**Who's In It?** Antonio Banderas, Carla Gugino  
**Who Directed?** Robert Rodriguez (*Desperado*)  
**What's It About?** The world's two greatest secret agents (Banderas, Gugino) have fallen in love, quit their jobs and started a family. But when the spies-turned-parents are kidnapped by a former nemesis, it's up to their son and daughter



O'Connell in *Tomcats*

(Daryl Sabara, Alexa Vega) to save them.

## TOMCATS

**Who's In It?** Jerry O'Connell, Jake Busey  
**Who Directed?** Gregory Poirier (debut)  
**What's It About?** A group of buddies make a bet in which the last one to get married wins the pot. Seven years later it's down to two guys — Michael (O'Connell), who desperately needs the cash to pay off a gambling debt, and Kyle (Busey), a notorious womanizer who looks to have the edge. That is, until Michael brings Kyle's ex-girlfriend (Shannon Elizabeth) back into the fold.

APRIL 6

## GINGER SNAPS

**Who's In It?** Emily Perkins, Katharine Isabelle  
**Who Directed?** John Fawcett (*The Boy's Club*)  
**What's It About?** It could be the best indie Canadian werewolf movie ever. Shot in Toronto amid a storm of controversy, *Ginger Snaps* is the story of a teen girl (Isabelle) who morphs into a furry killing machine after she's attacked in the woods by a werewolf. **See Katharine Isabelle interview, page 42.**

## BLOW

**Who's In It?** Johnny Depp, Penélope Cruz  
**Who Directed?** Ted Demme (*Beautiful Girls*)  
**What's It About?** Depp plays George Jung, the real-life, small-time American drug dealer who, in the 1970s, hooked up with Colombian drug lord Pablo Escobar and helped make cocaine readily available to disco queens and junkies throughout the U.S. **See Johnny Depp interview, page 18.**

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

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# Meet the Parents

Robert DeNiro

Ben Stiller

## Meet the Parents



"Hilarious!  
Impossible Not To Laugh!"  
-Peter Travers, ROLLING STONE



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## SOMEONE LIKE YOU



Greg Kinnear with Judd in  
*Someone Like You*

### ASHLEY JUDD

**Now appearing in...** *Someone Like You*, in which she plays Jane Goodale, a TV producer who, after being dumped by her boyfriend (Greg Kinnear), develops a theory comparing men to bulls, apes and dogs. Her philosophy catches on, and she's asked to write a column on the subject.

**Bio bits:** So you think growing up in the famous singing Judd family would be all champagne and private schools? Wrong. When Ashley Judd was born in Los Angeles on April 19, 1968, her mom, Naomi Judd, was a nurse who had yet to make it big in the music industry. Her older sister, Wynonna, was also a long way from fame, and until mom and sis got their first break in the early Eighties, things were tough. When Ashley was just four, Naomi separated from her husband, Michael Ciminella. The Judd girls spent the next decade moving across California and Kentucky, never staying in one place for more than a year. The family often lived in dilapidated shacks with no electricity or running water, but Ashley doesn't remember it as a bad childhood. Her imagination and love of books

always made for better entertainment than TV. Ashley was 14 when The Judds' first album became a hit and life changed. Now there was enough money for her to attend the University of Kentucky, where she majored in French. When she graduated, Ashley was tempted to become a Peace Corps volunteer, but her sister convinced her to go to Hollywood instead. The first screen role she was offered came in the 1992 Christian Slater movie *Kuffs*, but it involved nudity, so she turned it down. The producers were impressed, though, and offered her a bit part so that she could get into the Screen Actors Guild. She has since done (tasteful) nude scenes in other movies, including the 1999 box-office hit *Double Jeopardy*. She now lives on a 1,000-acre wooded retreat in Tennessee.

**Love life:** Dated Michael Bolton, Matthew McConaughey and Robert De Niro. ● Currently engaged to racecar driver Dario Franchitti.

**Sample roles:** Lexie in *Where the Heart Is* (2000), Elizabeth in *Double Jeopardy* (1999), Rebecca in *Simon Birch* (1998), Kate in *Kiss the Girls* (1997), Carla in *A Time to Kill* (1996), Norma Jean Baker in *Norma Jean & Marilyn* (1996), Ruby in *Ruby in Paradise* (1993)

**Interesting tidbits:** Attended 12 schools in 13 years. ● Was offered Pamela Anderson's role on TV's *Home Improvement*, but turned it down so she could concentrate on movies.

**Hobbies:** running, rock climbing, hiking, reading the dictionary, basketball

**On her migratory childhood:** "Someone could lament, 'Oh my gosh. This girl went to 12 schools in 13 years,' but I don't. Somebody once asked me what I wanted to be when I grew up, and I said, 'Me, but more so.' And by that, I meant that I wanted to continue to have the variety in my adult life that I was privileged to have as a child." — *Interview*, August 1996

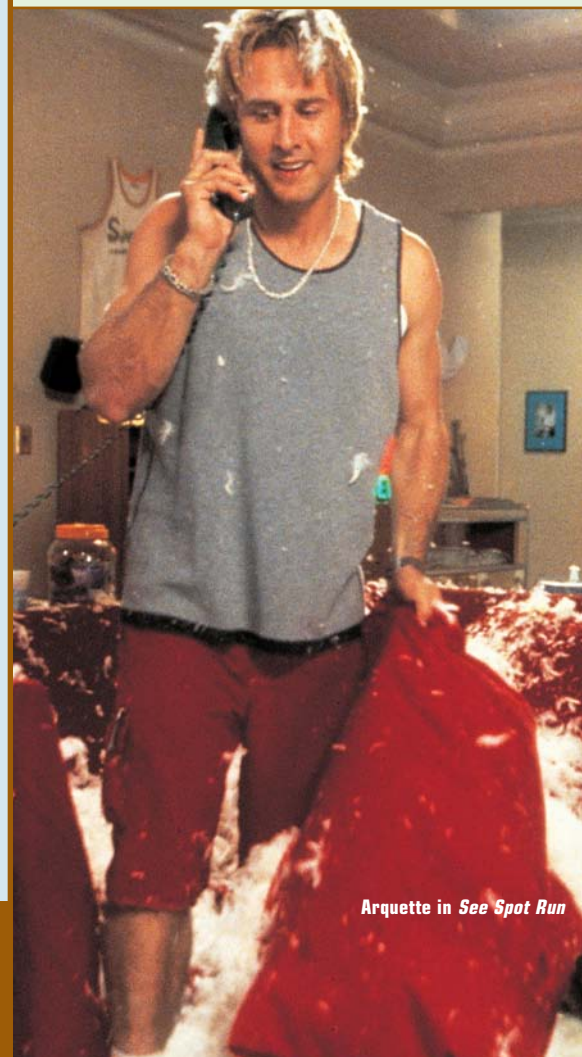
## SEE

### DAVID ARQUETTE

**Now appearing in...** *See Spot Run*, a Vancouver-filmed comedy about a drug-sniffing pooch that's placed in the witness protection program after being targeted by a couple of hitmen. The dog is adopted by a New Jersey postal worker (Arquette) who has to defend the furry little guy when those hitmen come a-knockin'.

**Bio bits:** What is it about acting families and communes? Just like the Phoenix clan (River, Joaquin, Summer, et. al.) the Arquettes spent the better part of the 1970s living on a commune, this one in Virginia.

Born in Winchester, Va., on September 8, 1971, David is the youngest of his acting siblings — Richmond (*Fight Club*), Alexis (*Bride of Chucky*), Patricia (*Little Nicky*) and Rosanna (*The Whole Nine Yards*). Even his parents, Mardi and Lewis, were thespians. Mom taught acting and ran a storytime theatre on the commune, while Lewis Arquette (*The China Syndrome*,



Arquette in *See Spot Run*



# aring in...

## SPOT RUN

*Tango & Cash*, *Scream 2*) was into the more serious stuff. In fact, when the family up and moved to Los Angeles in the late '70s it was so that Lewis could be closer to the action. He soon snagged a role on TV's *The Waltons*, playing cantankerous boss J.D. Pickett.

David made his acting debut at Fairfax High School in a production of *The Seventh Son*. He agreed to be in the play only because he thought he was going to be paid. When the production closed and there was no cheque, David was livid, so his teacher gave him \$100 out of his own pocket. After he made it big, Arquette returned to the school and repaid the generous instructor.

Soon after graduation, Arquette made his professional acting debut as Two-Bit in a 1990 TV version of *The Outsiders* (the part played by Emilio Estevez in the movie). Film roles in 1992's *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and 1994's *Airheads* followed, but Arquette's breakthrough role came as Deputy Dwight "Dewey" Riley in 1996's *Scream*. The slasher send-up was also where he met his future wife, *Friends* star Courteney Cox.

**Sample roles:** Gordie in *Ready to Rumble* (2000), Deputy Dewey in the *Scream* trilogy (1996, 1997, 2000), Dr. Tucker in *Muppets from Space* (1999), Rob in *Never Been Kissed* (1999), Terry in *Dream with the Fishes* (1997), John in *Johns* (1996), Bobby in *Beautiful Girls* (1996), Carter in *Airheads* (1994), Benny in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* (1992)

**Love life:** Dated actress Ellen Barkin in 1995. ● After a two-year courtship, married actress Courteney Cox in June 1999, in a lavish ceremony atop San Francisco's posh Nob Hill.

**Interesting tidbits:** He played in a rock band called EAR2000 ● Is a huge wrestling fan. ● Made *People's* Worst Dressed List in 1999. ● Had "A deal's a deal" engraved inside Courteney's wedding ring.

**On his honeymoon:** "First we went to a tennis camp with the family right after the wedding. Then we went to the Caribbean for the beach and relaxation. Then right at the tail end we went to Busch Gardens, Disney World and Islands of Adventure, the Universal theme park, and we rode all these amazing roller coasters." — *ETOnline*, February 2000.

## 15 MINUTES

### EDWARD BURNS

**Now appearing in...** *15 Minutes* with Robert De Niro. Burns plays a fire department investigator who teams up with a New York City detective (De Niro) to catch a killer who's out to collect his "15 minutes of fame."

**Bio bits:** Edward Burns was one of the many indie film success stories to come out of the mid-'90s — somehow managing to write, direct, produce and star in 1995's critically acclaimed *The Brothers McMullen* despite having no budget and no real experience.

Born January 28, 1968, in New York City, Burns grew up with his blue-collar, Irish-Catholic family in the suburbs of Long Island. His dad was a cop and his mom worked for the Federal Aviation Administration. Burns' first ambition was to be a pro basketball player. But in high school the straight-A student began writing and, strongly encouraged by his dad, started to experiment with fiction, plays, poetry and screenwriting.

Hoping to write and make movies, he attended, but dropped out of, three different New York colleges, starting at Oneonta College as an English major, switching to State University in Albany, and finally taking a shot as a film major at Hunter College in Manhattan. Burns got poor grades, mainly because he was spending all his time writing and attempting to sell screenplays, and soon returned to Long Island. He worked as a bus-boy and lived in his car before he somehow landed a job as a production assistant on *Entertainment Tonight*.

At *ET*, he got a crash course on the ins and outs of showbiz and began work on *The Brothers McMullen*, a talkative comedy about three brothers and their troubled relationships. Burns borrowed most of the equipment, drafted his friends and family to help out and shot the film in his spare time at his parent's house. It took eight months and cost just \$25,000.

But even once the movie was done, Burns had no luck selling it. So he cornered and sweet-talked Robert Redford, founder of the Sundance film festival, when the veteran actor appeared on *ET* in 1994. Redford agreed to



Burns takes aim in *15 Minutes*

screen *McMullen* at the 1995 fest and the movie was a smash hit, winning the Grand Jury Prize, a distribution deal from Fox Searchlight and earning \$10-million at the box office.

Since then Burns has stood in as the actor/writer/director/producer on two more movies — casting himself alongside Cameron Diaz in 1996's *She's the One* and with Lauren Holly in 1998's *No Looking Back*. His career got another boost when he was tapped for a supporting role in Steven Spielberg's World War Two epic *Saving Private Ryan*.

**Sample roles:** Private Reiben in *Saving Private Ryan* (1998), Charlie in *No Looking Back* (1998), Mickey in *She's the One* (1996), Barry in *The Brothers McMullen* (1995)

**Love life:** Dated Heather Graham. ● Has been romantically linked to Lauren Holly. ● Is engaged to model Christie Turlington.

**Interesting tidbits:** *Brothers McMullen* co-star and then-girlfriend Maxine Bahns lived with him in his car. ● Now lives in the Manhattan loft formerly owned by John F. Kennedy Jr.

**On his sudden success:** "After *McMullen* I think people wanted something different from me and I'm like, look, I'm taking baby steps here. You can't expect me to make *Citizen Kane* the first time out. I made a 16mm film and didn't know what I was doing and got lucky. I'm not so arrogant as to think I'm a great filmmaker." — *Premiere*, April 1998



# the high life

WITH THE LEAD IN THE MUCH-ANTICIPATED DRUG DRAMA *BLOW*, A BEAUTIFUL BABY GIRL AND A NEW LIFE IN PARIS, JOHNNY DEPP IS HAPPIER THAN EVER

BY DAVID GIAMMARCO

**N**ot since Brian De Palma's *Scarface* has there been this much cocaine per frame in a single film. But while *Blow* has a similar theme as that brutal 1983 cocaine drama, and the recent *Traffic* for that matter, without the

true events depicted in *Blow*, those movies could never have been conceived.

Directed by Ted Demme (*The Ref*), *Blow* dramatizes the real story of how coke was first mass marketed in the U.S. in the 1970s, with Johnny Depp playing legendary dealer George Jung, one of the biggest drug traffickers of the era. Based on Bruce Porter's

book of the same name, *Blow* follows Jung's journey from small-town America to the jungles of Medellin, Colombia, where he becomes the first American to partner with Colombian cartel leader Pablo Escobar and begins smuggling cocaine into the United States. At the height of Jung's reign, the former high school football star was



responsible for bringing 85 per cent of the cocaine into the States, in what turned into a \$35-billion-per-year business.

Depp was fascinated by the character of Jung, who, he says, was more than just a drug dealer. "George Jung became a pirate really...living on the outskirts of society," explains Depp, as he lights up a self-rolled cigarette in his Manhattan hotel suite. "He didn't believe in the system or politics or rules or bosses. He just wanted to go out there and live...and he ended up changing the course of an entire generation as a result."

The bulk of the story flows from the hippie innocence of the '60s to the money-chasing haze of the '80s, where Jung pursued what he thought was the American Dream. Rather than become just another construction worker, like his father (played by Ray Liotta), Jung moves to California where he enjoys sun, romance and the profitable pleasures of selling marijuana, until a bust puts a temporary stop to his rise.

In prison, Jung meets an insider in Colombia's rising drug trade. When released, he's introduced to Pablo Escobar (Cliff Curtis), the billionaire godfather of international cocaine trafficking, who has a plan to export tons of cocaine to American shores, bringing the burgeoning disco era a far more expensive, addictive and hip form of high. Jung is also introduced to a beautiful, self-indulgent party girl named Mirtha (Penélope Cruz), whom he soon marries. Ultimately, she gives birth to what becomes the greatest love of his life, his daughter Kristina Sunshine Jung.

Soon enough, Jung is literally rolling in money, so much so that he has to buy a new house just to store the wall-to-wall cash. But even as he and the Colombian coke supply usher in a new era of American decadence and broken morals, Jung begins to have second thoughts, wanting to be something more than just a criminal in his daughter's eyes. Eventually the Feds catch up to him, and he's doomed to a life in an upstate New York prison cell, where he still sits today.

But Depp views *Blow* as more than simply a grand tragedy about blowing all of your dreams for greed. He sees it as a heart-breaking love story between a father and a daughter, something which certainly resonated with new father Depp. The 37-year-old actor, who for a time was more famous for bad-boy behaviour and a string of broken engagements (Winona Ryder, Kate Moss) than his eclectic film work, confesses that parenthood has transformed him



Depp with Jordi Mollà in *Blow*

"I certainly don't miss turning on the television and seeing kidnappings, murders and horrible disasters — natural and otherwise," says Depp. "America is just out of control."

forever. "Now that I have a daughter, it's the first time that I've ever thought about repercussions...and the future," he reflects. "I can't understand what I was doing before. I felt like there was a fog in front of my eyes for 36 years. And the second she was born, that fog just lifted. Without question, this is the greatest thing I've done in my life."

Depp truly does seem happier these days. Not only is he "madly in love" with his French singer companion Vanessa Paradis, the mother of 18-month-old Lily-Rose Melody Depp, but he says life is so much more enjoyable now that he resides full-time in France. Depp and Paradis share a Paris apartment there, as well as a \$2-million property on France's Cote d'Azur. Depp, who left Los Angeles two years ago, says he sometimes misses certain things about America, "but for the most part life is far more civilized in Paris..."

"I mean you don't have to deal with the

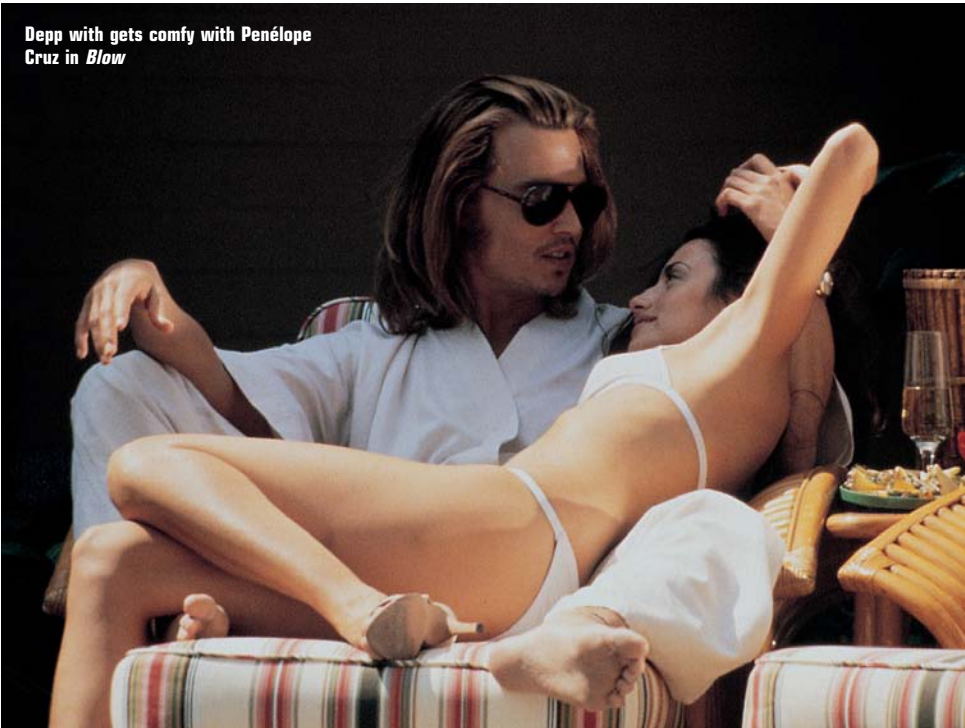
paparazzi like you do here...they respect your privacy," he continues. "And I certainly don't miss turning on the television and seeing kidnappings, murders and horrible disasters — natural and otherwise... America is just out of control."

In fact, Depp says he won't let his daughter be schooled in the U.S., and instead wants her to be educated in Europe. When he speaks of Lily-Rose, a wistful smile spreads across his face. It's pretty easy to see that he is one doting dad. "I know I probably sound like a cliché new father," offers Depp somewhat apologetically, "but I never in my life thought that it was possible to feel such a deep love and incredible connection to this amazing and beautiful little girl."

So what surprises Depp most about being a dad?

"Just the fact that it's *me*," he admits, shaking his head in disbelief. "I mean the fact that *I'm* a dad is the most shocking





Depp with gets comfy with Penélope Cruz in *Blow*

►► thing. But believe me, I wouldn't change it for the world."

Depp laughs thinking about this new chapter in his life. But it's a role he has dedicated himself to with the same passion and intensity that he's brought to his on-screen roles. In fact, Depp's smile reveals his dedication to his role in *Blow*, as he's still sporting his character's gold teeth. Only these aren't your typical temporary Hollywood prosthetics, Depp actually had the gold teeth specially made and bonded to his own pearly whites. "It's a pretty violent process to take them off," says Depp, "so I guess I'll have to be keeping them on for a while."

Depp is one of the few Hollywood stars to have achieved respect and industry clout without the help of any major box-office hits. When his peers turn right, he swerves left. When they zig, he zags. He's chosen offbeat films like *Ed Wood*, *What's Eating Gilbert Grape* and *Dead Man* and turned down the leads in such commercial fare as *Titanic*, *Interview with the Vampire* and *Speed*. "It's tempting to accept a big paycheck, but I don't see the point of doing something that has been done better thousands of times," Depp says.

"Always there's that one [role] that calls, 'Hey Johnny, this is the one'.... It's the [role] that is never the easiest. I mean there were films that I did which I felt, after they

were done and about to come out, 'Why wouldn't people want to go see this?' But they prefer big action things and explosions. They prefer formula."

And while Depp continues to defy the fame formula, he's actually never been busier. In the past couple years, he's starred in *Sleepy Hollow*, *The Astronaut's Wife*, *The Ninth Gate*, *Chocolat*, *Before Night Falls* (in a dual role) and now *Blow*. And soon, he'll play Chuck Barris in a film about the *Gong Show* host's bizarre life, which supposedly included a stint with the CIA.

Depp grins, somewhat perplexed, at how he's managed to maintain a relatively A-list career all these years, despite his below-the-radar film choices. "Basically, I've built a career at being a failure," he admits rather matter-of-factly. "It's not like my films are huge forces at the box office. I mean it's not like I planned it that way, but I guess I'm always shocked when I get jobs at major studios. There's a certain Top 5 or Top 10 actors list in Hollywood, and I don't think anyone has fluctuated more than I have in terms of being on and off that list..."

"I just don't think Hollywood likes me very much," he surmises with a shrug. "I don't know...I just got that feeling. Maybe I'm just being paranoid." **i**

*David Giammarco is an entertainment writer based out of Toronto and Los Angeles.*

# famous trivia

- 1 In which 1998 movie did *Deuces Wild* star Fairuza Balk play a racist skinhead?
- 2 Which *Joe Dirt* star almost died from head injuries sustained from a 1988 motorcycle accident?
- 3 *Spy Kids* star Antonio Banderas directed his first movie in 1999. Name it.
- 4 Liv Tyler stars in next month's comedy *One Night at McCool's*. Who is the 24-year-old actress's famous rock star father?
- 5 How much did *Town & Country* star Warren Beatty make for his first movie, 1961's *Splendor in the Grass*: \$750, \$3,000, \$15,000 or \$50,000?
- 6 Which NBC talk show did *Someone Like You* star Greg Kinnear host from 1994 to 1996?
- 7 Which star of *The Fast and the Furious* provided the voice of the robot in *The Iron Giant*?
- 8 Where was *Blow* star Penélope Cruz born: Mexico, Spain, Guatemala or the United States?

## ANSWERS

1 American History X 2 Gary Busey  
3 Crazy in Alabama 4 Aerosmith's Steven Tyler 5 \$15,000 6 Later 7 Vin Diesel 8 Spain





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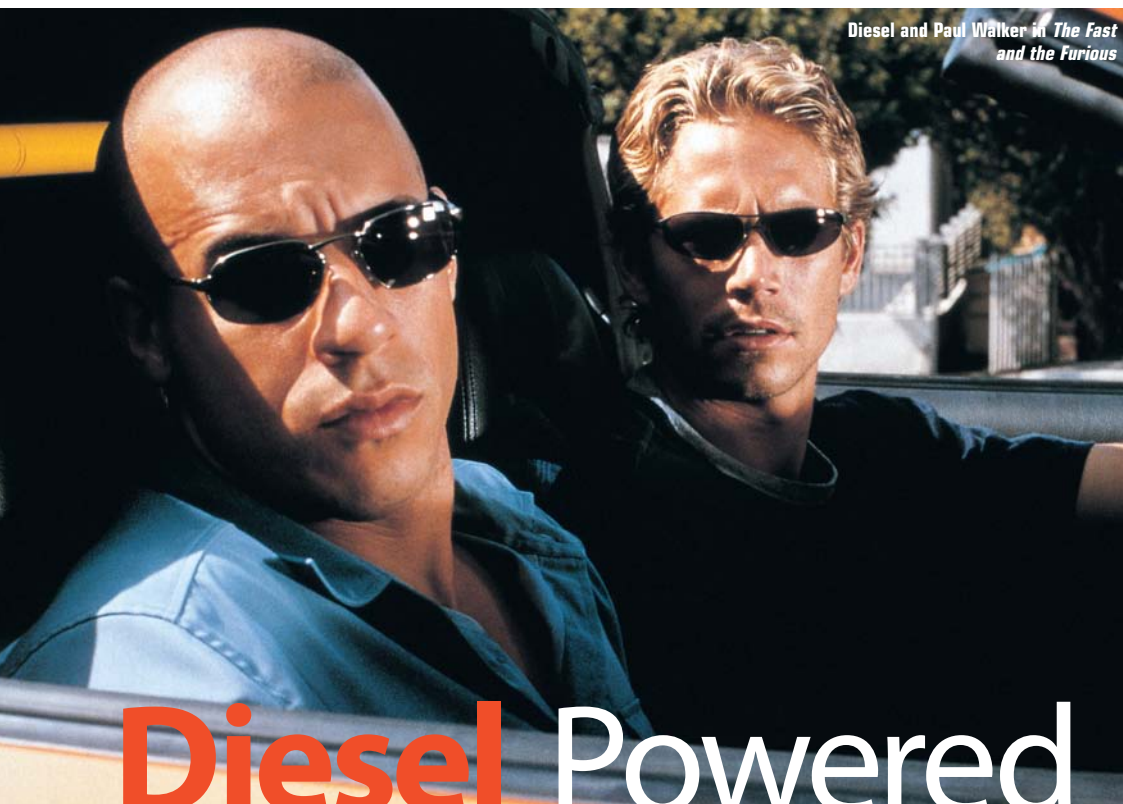
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Diesel and Paul Walker in *The Fast and the Furious*

# Diesel Powered

## PART-TIME TOUGH GUY VIN DIESEL GEARS UP FOR *THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS*

BY DAVID GIAMMARCO

**V**in Diesel hopes people realize that beneath his buff and gruff exterior beats the heart of an artist. The only problem is convincing Hollywood, which keeps trying to peg him as a monosyllabic action hero. Diesel insists he's ready for the fight.

"Because of the way I look and the timbre of my voice, I've always been seen as a certain mold," says Diesel, whose distinct gravelly voice brought the critically acclaimed animated feature *The Iron Giant* to life two years ago. "But I'm always trying to make people see beyond the obvious."

The 33-year-old, six-foot-two New York native hopes that if he can keep alternating Hollywood's demands with those of his own, he'll be around for the long run. That's why Diesel made sure he followed up last year's low-budget sci-fi hit *Pitch Black* — where he played a monosyllabic psycho killer turned hero — with the talking-head stock market drama *Boiler Room*, in which he played a shifty broker gunning for mainstream Wall Street acceptance.

"I wore a tank top throughout *Pitch Black*, and I figured my next role had better be in a suit so I'm not pegged as 'Mr. Action' forever," Diesel says over lunch in a Toronto restaurant. He wears his ambition to bridge both worlds, almost literally, on his sleeve. On one wrist, he sports a studded leather band, and on the other, a pricey stainless-steel Cartier watch.

Diesel will be seen this month back in tough guy mode for the action film *The Fast and the Furious*, in which he plays the tank top-wearing leader of an L.A. street gang. Directed by Rob Cohen (*The Skulls*), *The Fast and the Furious* is a revved-up, high-octane tale of rival Los Angeles street thugs who use drag racing in the latest, highly modified muscle cars as a means of establishing power and territory. Paul Walker (*The Skulls*) co-stars as an undercover rookie cop who infiltrates their ranks.

Diesel will play another bruise this spring when he appears in *Knockaround Guys* alongside Dennis Hopper, John Malkovich, Barry Pepper and Mark Wahlberg. Diesel's

character is a New York tough guy — a role he played off-screen for nine years as a bouncer in various Manhattan nightclubs and bars while he secretly studied acting and wrote screenplays.

"There's a certain level of machismo that most New Yorkers have ingrained in their personality," offers Diesel about the peer pressure he endured while pursuing his artistic dreams. "The whole idea is to be as tough as possible. But I grew up not only with the idea of wanting to be respected, but wanting to be successful — and those two don't always go hand in hand. Some of the people I grew up with, who were further along on the respect chart, ended up in jail or were killed..."

"I mean, that's not to say those are the only kind of people I grew up with though," he adds. "I also grew up with people who were extremely artistic and cerebral. My parents were both very educated and always emphasized the importance of education."

Diesel's father taught theatre in Manhattan and his mother was a psychologist. And by age seven, the aspiring actor was performing on stage and in TV commercials. He majored in English at New York's Hunter College in preparation for what he thought would be a screenwriting career, but dropped out to make a short film about a struggling actor called *Multi-Facial* — which he starred in, wrote, directed and produced, at a time when he didn't have the security of a steady income. "I used to buy a computer on credit card, knowing that I had 30 days to return it and not get charged," Diesel explains. "So I would write furiously for those 30 days and then return the computer to the store. I did it a number of times...it certainly taught me discipline as a writer."

*Multi-Facial* wound up being screened at the Cannes Film Festival in 1995. Two years later, he made another short called *Strays*, which not only played at Sundance, but also caught the attention of Steven Spielberg, who created a role (the compassionate G.I. who gets killed trying to save a little girl) specifically for Diesel in 1998's *Saving Private Ryan*.

Having conquered the acting world, Diesel will now revisit his early days. He's just been given the green light on the semi-autobiographical script *Doormen* — about his bouncer-by-night/writer-by-day experiences. **1**

*David Giammarco is an entertainment writer based out of Toronto and Los Angeles*



# COMING SOON

## Pluto Nash

**Stars:** Eddie Murphy, Rosario Dawson, Randy Quaid

**Director:** Ron Underwood (*Mighty Joe Young*)

**Story:** The year is 2087 and Murphy is the owner of a nightclub on the moon. Sounds peaceful enough. But when he refuses to rat out a ruthless criminal, all of a sudden he becomes the unlikely leader of the lunar independence movement. The film was shot in Montreal last summer.

## The Glass House

**Stars:** Leelee Sobieski, Trevor Morgan, Diane Lane

**Director:** Daniel Sackheim (debut)

**Story:** Two orphaned teens (Sobieski and Morgan) discover that their new adoptive parents (Lane and Stellan Skarsgard) might not be such sweet, caring people. In fact, their new folks may have had something to do with the car crash that killed their old folks. This is director Sackheim's first feature film, but he is no stranger to the mystery genre, having directed episodes of *The X-Files* and *Millennium*.

## Freddy Got Fingered

**Stars:** Tom Green, Drew Barrymore, Rip Torn

**Director:** Tom Green (debut)

**Story:** Canadian ex-pat Tom Green makes his directorial debut with this comedy about a guy who is forced to move back in with his parents and likes it so much that he refuses to move out. Green also stars in, produced and co-wrote the movie with his fellow scribe from *The Tom Green Show*, Derek Harvie.

## Shrek

**Voices:** Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, Eddie Murphy

**Directors:** Andrew Adamson and Victoria Jenson (debuts)

**Story:** It's animated, but with the impressive voice talent, you know this feature is no cookie-cutter cartoon. Shrek (voiced by Myers) is a cynical, swamp-dwelling ogre whose home has been overrun by annoying fairy tale characters. In the course of trying to evict them, he teams up with a smart-ass donkey (Murphy) and meets a beautiful princess (Diaz). The late Chris Farley provided Shrek's voice for a 15-minute test reel produced in 1997, but when he died later that year, fellow *SNL* alum Mike Myers stepped in to replace him.

## Pearl Harbor

**Stars:** Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, Cuba Gooding Jr.

**Director:** Michael Bay (*Armageddon*)

**Story:** To say this \$145-million movie has an all-star cast is an understatement. Aside from the above-mentioned thespians, the film also features Dan Aykroyd, Alec Baldwin, Jon Voight and Tom Sizemore, among others. How do you tell the story of one of the most pivotal battles in American history? Screenwriter Randall Wallace (*Braveheart*) chose to focus on two close buddies (Affleck and Hartnett) who are in love with the same woman, using the events of Pearl Harbour as a backdrop.

## Tomb Raider

**Stars:** Angelina Jolie, Jon Voight

**Director:** Simon West (*Con Air*)

**Story:** Angelina Jolie plays Lara Croft, the most lusted-after computer character ever created, in this cinematic adaptation of the phenomenally successful videogame. Jolie's real-life father, Jon Voight, steps into a familiar role, playing her on-screen dad, famed archeologist Lord Henshingly Croft.

# CONGRATULATIONS TO MELANIE STOTT OF NORTH VANCOUVER, THE WINNER OF OUR VERTICAL LIMIT CONTEST!



Melanie and three friends are heading to Whistler, B.C. for a four-night stay at **The Summit Lodge** in Whistler Village. They'll also enjoy 12 lift tickets courtesy of **IntraWest Resorts** and \$500 in spending money. And since Melanie happens to live so close to our prize destination and doesn't need airfare to get there, **Fujifilm** and **Stitches** decided to give her a \$2,400 voucher to use at Fantastic Travel as well.

Melanie correctly answered our four skill-testing questions. She knew that: K2 is the mountain featured in *Vertical Limit*

- *The Craft* is the occult movie that featured Robin Tunney
- *Silverado* was Scott Glenn's 1985 western
- and director Martin Campbell's last film was *The Mask of Zorro*

Thanks to Columbia Pictures, Fujifilm, Stitches and Whistler Blackcomb for a great contest.  
And thanks to everyone who entered.

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WATCH FOR MORE EXCITING CONTESTS IN UPCOMING  
ISSUES OF *FAMOUS*.

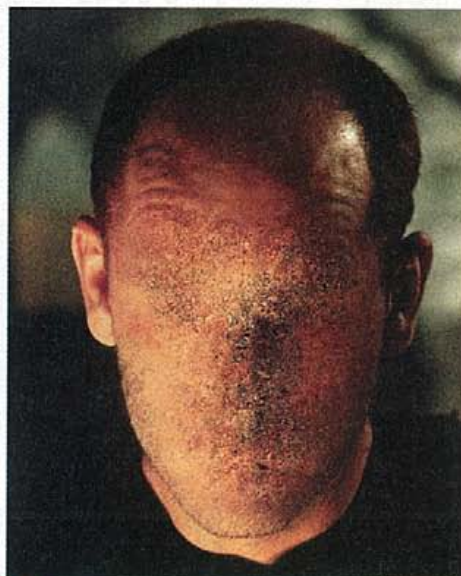


# hollywood head

FACE IT — A GOOD FACE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF BEING BIG-NAME ACTOR BELONGS TO WHICH OF



1



2



3



7



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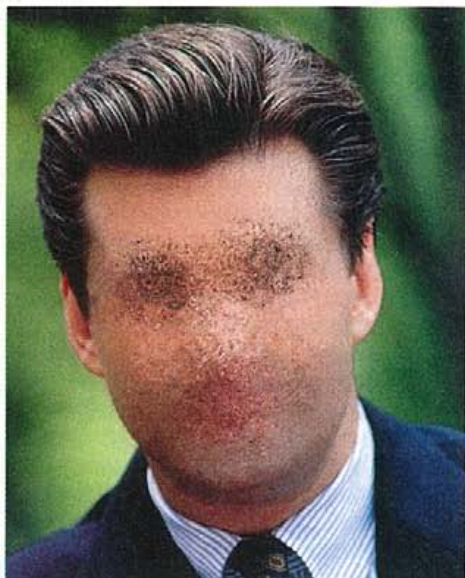


9



# games

FAMOUS. CAN YOU FIGURE OUT WHICH THESE BLURRY MUGS?



4



5



6



12



10



11

## answers

- |   |                |    |                 |
|---|----------------|----|-----------------|
| 1 | Halle Berry    | 7  | Harrison Ford   |
| 2 | John Malkovich | 8  | Loni Anderson   |
| 3 | Janet Jackson  | 9  | Richard Gere    |
| 4 | Alec Baldwin   | 10 | Whoopi Goldberg |
| 5 | Julia Roberts  | 11 | Al Pacino       |
| 6 | Jack Nicholson | 12 | Jason Priestley |





**W**hen, in our April 2000 issue, director Steven Soderbergh said of Julia Roberts, "Believe me, she's as good as anybody I've ever seen," our readers could be excused if they dismissed the comment as empty Hollywood promotion. After all, Soderbergh was doing the interview to plug his new movie, *Erin Brockovich*, which, aside from Roberts' involvement, didn't exactly scream "box-office hit" what with its plot about a complicated court case and all. Zzzzzzz... But by the time the movie came out, the critics were in a frenzy and there was already talk of an Oscar for the 33-year-old actress who usually only wins Most Beautiful People contests.

That's not to say that she hasn't been down this road before. Roberts has been nominated for two previous Oscars — Best Supporting Actress for 1990's *Steel Magnolias* and Best Actress for 1991's *Pretty Woman*. The difference this time is, almost everyone thinks she deserves to win.

The real question is: Does this mark a turning point for her? In a career that has consisted primarily of enjoyable but rather unremarkable performances, in enjoyable but rather unremarkable films, will Julia Roberts now redirect her attention to quality pics likely to draw critical, as well as public, acclaim?

Well, we might find out this month when her first post-*Brockovich* film — *The Mexican* — is released. The romantic road-comedy follows a crook, played by Brad Pitt, whose girlfriend (Roberts) wants him to quit his life of crime. But this time Roberts won't have the proven brilliance of a Steven Soderbergh (who also directed *Out of Sight*, *The Limey* and the award-winning *Traffic*) backing her up. Instead, it will be relative newcomer Gore Verbinski who has only one previous directing credit — 1997's family comedy *Mouse Hunt*. But fear not, *The Mexican* is reportedly scoring through the roof with test audiences and Roberts has already agreed to work with Verbinski again, on an as-yet untitled psychological thriller.

Combine the advance buzz for *The Mexican* with a possible Oscar for *Erin Brockovich* and the fact that, right now, she's in the middle of shooting a new Soderbergh movie — a remake of the Rat Pack classic *Ocean's 11* due out in December — and everybody's wondering: Will this be Julia Roberts year?

# JULIA'S YEAR?





Here, Roberts tussles with writer **Earl Dittman**, talks about why people think she's a bitch and revisits *Erin Brockovich*, the role that may earn her an Oscar, honey.

**[q] DANNY DEVITO [WHO PRODUCED ERIN BROCKOVICH] THINKS YOU'RE A SHOO-IN FOR AN OSCAR. WILL YOU VOTE FOR YOURSELF?**

**[a]** "Yeah! Honey, wouldn't you vote for yourself? You see your name on that ballot and it's an easy check mark."

**[q] PEOPLE ARE SAYING ERIN IS THE GREATEST PERFORMANCE YOU'VE EVER GIVEN. DO YOU AGREE?**

**[a]** "It's a combination of things. It's never one element of what makes it 'the best'.... In this case it's a great part and a really great story. And it's the infinitely wonderful Steven Soderbergh and [co-star] Albert Finney. And it's more cleavage than God ever thought to give me! You can never deduce good or bad down to one thing. Therefore, when a movie sucks, it's not just me!"

**[q] WAS ERIN BROCKOVICH A TEST FOR YOU? A WAY TO GET AWAY FROM ROMANTIC COMEDIES AND TRY SOMETHING NEW?**

**[a]** "No, no, no. I just do the movies that are good. If they were all good romantic comedies that's all I'd do."

**[q] DID IT TAKE A LITTLE WORK FOR YOU TO FEEL AT EASE IN ERIN'S TIGHT CLOTHES AND HIGH HEELS?**

**[a]** "Well it's so funny you should say that, darling. [She flashes her own heels.] I love them now. The clothes were a little bit of an adjustment. I have something in my closet that I call a dress. And then she has something in her closet I call a 'dre'. You know, the whole part that covers your ass is just not there.... But you just kinda gotta go with it. Once I got used to it, and the crew got used to it, the whole thing was fun. I'd come into rehearsal in my little T-shirt and my sweat pants and flip flops. I'm like, 'Morning!' And everybody was cool. And then when I would come on the set to shoot, everybody was like, 'What happened to you?' Once we all got comfortable with it, it was easy."

**[q] DID MEN LIKE YOU BETTER DRESSED THAT WAY?**

**[a]** "No, they like me lots all the time."

**[q] SO MUCH HAS BEEN WRITTEN ABOUT YOU. WHAT IS THE BIGGEST MISCONCEPTION?**

**[a]** "Um, that I'm a bitch."

**[q] WHY DO PEOPLE THINK YOU'RE A BITCH?**

**[a]** "Because I'm tall and I'm really smart."



Roberts as  
Erin Brockovich

You know what it is? I'm very opinionated. I have lots of ideas and I'm willing to share them and I'm also willing for someone to say, 'Honey, not your best idea.' I think when you're energetic and aggressive about things it can be intimidating to people who aren't very smart themselves."

**[q] DO PEOPLE TELL YOU THAT YOUR IDEAS ARE NO GOOD WHEN YOU'RE JULIA ROBERTS?**

**[a]** "Well, I've been Julia Roberts for 32 years so I'm pretty down with it. And I think the way that I express myself and my openness to ideas, positive or negative, is pretty clear. [On set,] that comes down to the character and personality of the director, and whether he's man enough to say to his actors, 'That's not working.'"

**[q] IS THE FAME WORTH THE PUBLIC SCRUTINY?**

**[a]** "Well, you know, this is my chosen profession and I really love it. The good has always outweighed the bad. Scrutiny is the comments of a stranger who isn't willing to say it to your face, so what does that amount to? Not a lot really. So I wouldn't trade it. Would I be a dental hygienist and have nobody say bad things about me? No."

**[q] HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE POSITION YOU'RE IN RIGHT NOW?**

**[a]** "I feel really good about it. How do you feel about it?"

**[q] DO YOU FEEL GROWN UP?**

**[a]** "Uh, yeah. I am a grown up. I'm all grown up, honey." ►►





►► [q] DOES IT FEEL DIFFERENT TO EARN \$20-MILLION A MOVIE?

[a] "It doesn't make me a better actor. It doesn't make me work harder or less hard. I'm as on time to work now as when I got paid scale plus ten per cent. Nothing changes because of what you get paid. And the fact that everybody wants to talk about what you get paid. Which, where I come from, is an inappropriate question to ask somebody, no offense."

[q] WHAT ABOUT THE PRESS, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THEM?

[a] "You guys can answer that better than I can. I'm holding firm. What is your perception of me?"

[q] YOU SEEM MORE COMFORTABLE.

[a] "Well, you guys aren't as aggressive as you used to be, quite frankly. I don't respond to two things — stupidity and disrespectfulness. And reporters are showing an increase

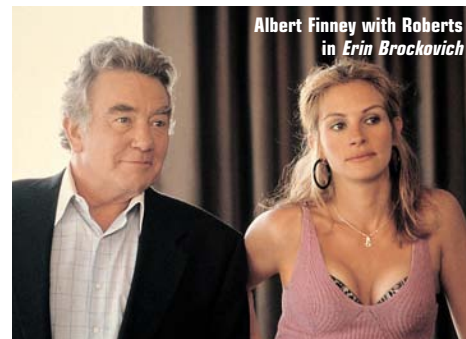
in intelligence and an increase in respect. Honestly, that could change. All I do up here is react. If my response is inhibited or shy or reluctant it's because that's what I'm feeling. I must do to deal with someone. And if I don't feel that way then I can be more myself."

[q] DID ERIN SEEP INTO YOU? YOU SEEM SO LOOSE.

[a] "I wonder if she seeped into you! No, honestly, you come in expecting more bravado now. I'm in a great mood. I went to bed at 10 o'clock last night honey. I'm all systems go."

[q] BUT DID YOU GET SOMETHING FROM HER? A LITTLE FIRE?

[a] "Well, yeah. While you're making the picture you do have that sense of a person. You carry it around all the time. Like, normally, you're waiting around, you really need some caffeine. You've asked for cappuccino. On this particular movie I'd be like 'Where the f-k is my cappuccino? What is the matter with you people? Do we have



Albert Finney with Roberts in *Erin Brockovich*

to wait for the damn millennium? What the f-k is going on?' I don't normally ask for things like that. I'm usually like, 'I'm sorry. Is it coming? I'll get it, don't worry.'"

[q] DO YOU ENJOY BEING AT THE TOP?

[a] "Yeah, sure I do. Why wouldn't I really? I may prefer the bottom?" **F**

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



Pitt and Roberts in *The Mexican*

## THE LOW-DOWN

Julia Roberts' first post-*Erin Brockovich* film, *The Mexican*, hits theatres this month. On the surface, the romantic comedy seems like a bit of a regression for Roberts because it's a genre she's already conquered with flicks like

*Pretty Woman* and *Notting Hill*. But *The Mexican* has a decidedly grittier edge, mixing action and the Mob in with the mushier stuff, and coming up with something more like *Midnight Run* or *Thelma & Louise*. Plus, it's got Brad Pitt.

## THE PLOT

Roberts and Pitt play Samantha and Jerry, a couple on the verge of a breakup. Their problem? Samantha wants her beau, a reluctant Mafia mule, to give up his criminal ways and settle down. Jerry wants the same thing, but his boss orders him, on pain of death, to travel south of the border and retrieve a cursed pistol called "The Mexican." If he goes, Samantha will dump him. If he stays, his boss will kill him. So, Jerry risks rankling Sam and sets out to save his life. But it's Sam who's put in jeopardy when Leroy, a hitman played by *The Sopranos*' James Gandolfini, kidnaps her thinking Jerry will trade the gun for the safe return of his girlfriend.

## BEHIND THE SCENES STUFF

James Gandolfini lost 25 pounds to play Leroy, and then gained it all back before returning to the *Sopranos* set. Apparently, the actor doesn't think his TV character, Tony Soprano, would be as funny if he were a skinny guy. Gandolfini says he lost the weight by working out and sleeping a lot.

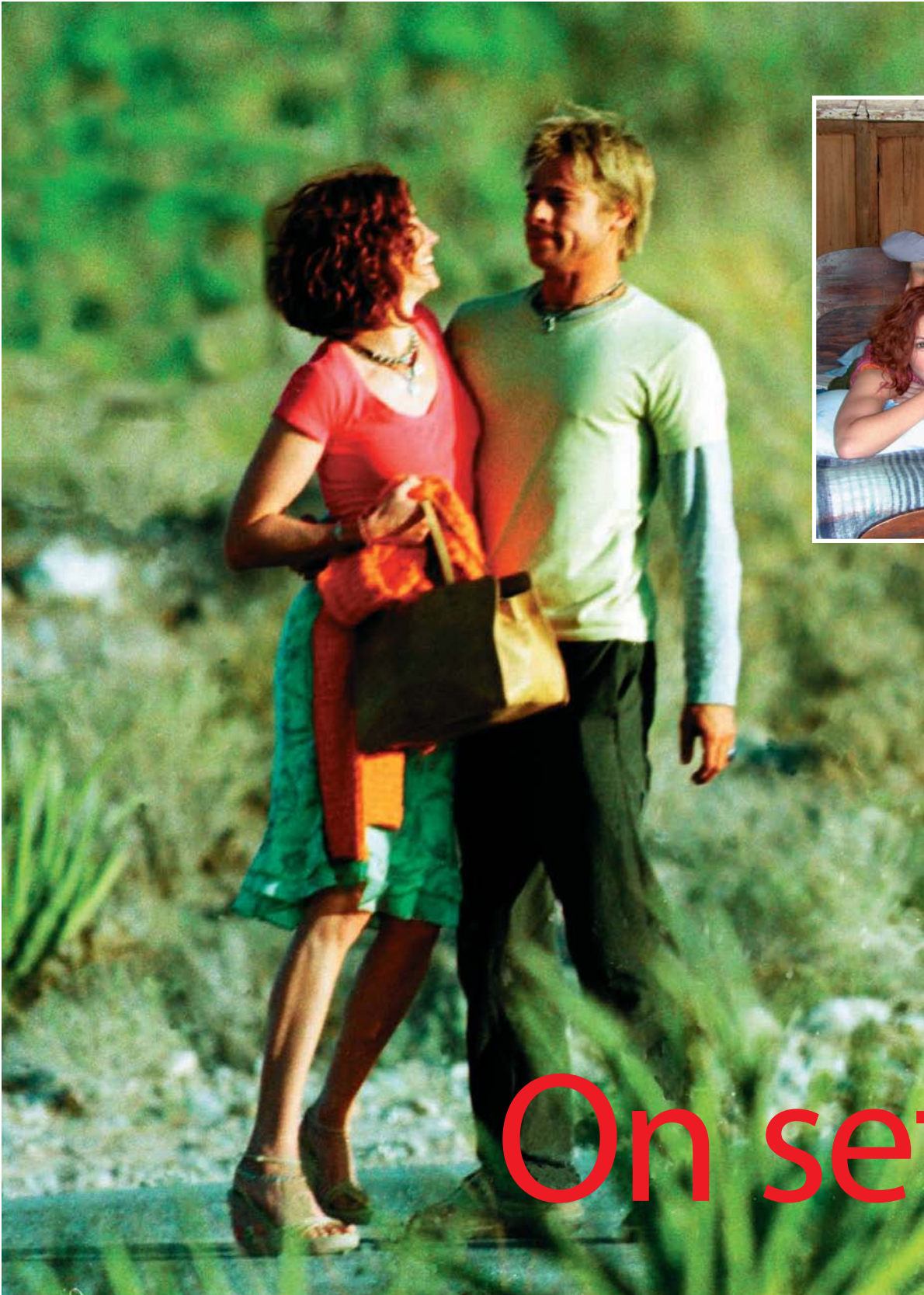
Julia Roberts was involved in a car accident while filming in the tiny city of Real de Catorce in central Mexico. The car she was riding in blew a tire while climbing a steep cobblestone street. No one was hurt.

There were rumours that Pitt and Roberts became "intimate" while working on the film, but we suspect that's just the stuff of bored gossip journalists trying to come up with a story. However, the pair certainly seem to enjoy working together, having already committed to two more joint projects in the next year. They just started work on director Steven Soderbergh's update of *Ocean's 11*, and then they'll re-team for *Replay*, about a 43-year-old man who dies of a heart attack, and then comes back to life as his college-aged self.



Roberts with Gandolfini





It was chummy photos like these, released from the set of *The Mexican* last spring, that got tongues wagging about a possible affair between Brad Pitt and Julia Roberts. The usual denials were issued and two months later Pitt wed *Friends* star Jennifer Aniston. By all reports, they are still happily married, and Roberts seemed blissful with her beau, *Law & Order's* Benjamin Bratt, at last January's Golden Globes.

# On set





# AWARDS WRAP

HAVING TROUBLE MAKING YOUR OSCAR PREDICTIONS?  
TAKE A LOOK AT WHICH FILMS WON THE YEAR'S OTHER TOP HONOURS



Chang Shen (left) and  
Zhang Ziyi in *Crouching  
Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

## NEW YORK FILM CRITICS CIRCLE

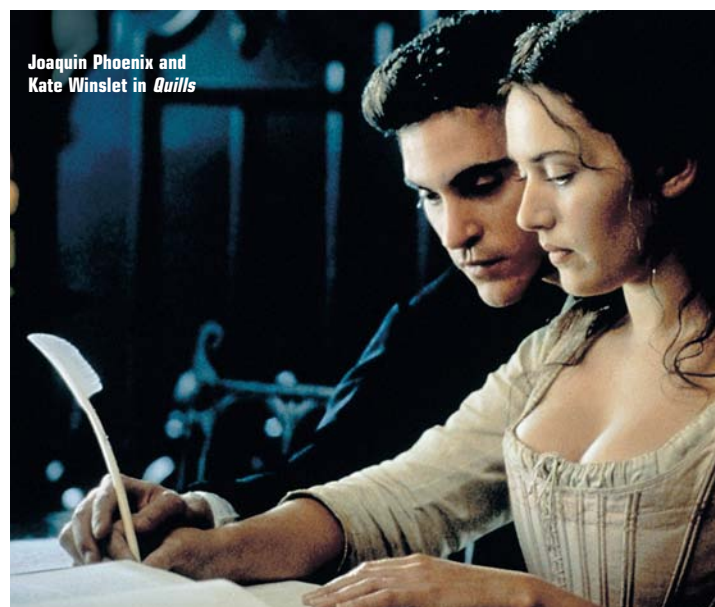
**Best Picture:** *Traffic*  
**Best Director:** Steven Soderbergh for *Erin Brockovich*  
**Best Actor:** Tom Hanks for *Cast Away*  
**Best Actress:** Laura Linney for *You Can Count on Me*  
**Best Supporting Actor:** Benicio Del Toro for *Traffic*  
**Best Supporting Actress:** Marcia Gay Harden for *Pollock*  
**Best Screenplay:** Ken Lonergan for *You Can Count on Me*  
**Best Foreign Language Film:** *Yi yi*

## GOLDEN GLOBES

**Best Picture (Drama):** *Gladiator*  
**Best Picture (Comedy/Musical):** *Almost Famous*  
**Best Director:** Ang Lee for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*  
**Best Actor (Drama):** Tom Hanks for *Cast Away*  
**Best Actor (Comedy):** George Clooney for *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*  
**Best Actress (Drama):** Julia Roberts for *Erin Brockovich*  
**Best Actress (Comedy):** Renée Zellweger for *Nurse Betty*  
**Best Supporting Actor:** Benicio Del Toro for *Traffic*  
**Best Supporting Actress:** Kate Hudson for *Almost Famous*  
**Best Screenplay:** Stephen Gaghan for *Traffic*  
**Best Foreign Language Film:** *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*

## LOS ANGELES FILM CRITICS

**Best Picture:** *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*  
**Best Director:** Steven Soderbergh for *Erin Brockovich* and *Traffic*  
**Best Actor:** Michael Douglas for *Wonder Boys*  
**Best Actress:** Julia Roberts for *Erin Brockovich*  
**Best Supporting Actor:** Willem Dafoe for *Shadow of the Vampire*  
**Best Supporting Actress:** Frances McDormand for *Almost Famous* and *Wonder Boys*  
**Best Screenplay:** Ken Lonergan for *You Can Count on Me*  
**Best Foreign Language Film:** *Yi yi*



Joaquin Phoenix and  
Kate Winslet in *Quills*





Russell Crowe in *Gladiator*

## GENIES

Best Picture: *Maelström*  
 Best Director: Denis Villeneuve for *Maelström*  
 Best Actor: Tony Nardi for *My Father's Angel*  
 Best Actress: Marie-Josée Croze for *Maelström*  
 Best Supporting Actor: Martin Cummins for *Love Come Down*  
 Best Supporting Actress: Helen Shaver for *We All Fall Down*  
 Best Screenplay: Denis Villeneuve for *Maelström*  
 Golden Reel (Best Box Office): *The Art of War*

## TORONTO FILM CRITICS

Best Picture: *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*  
 Best Director: Stephen Soderbergh for *Traffic*  
 Best Actor: Benicio Del Toro for *Traffic*  
 Best Actress: Laura Linney for *You Can Count on Me*  
 Best Supporting Actor: Tie between Tobey Maguire for *Wonder Boys* and Jeffrey Wright for *Shaft*  
 Best Supporting Actress: Zhang Ziyi for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*  
 Best Screenplay: Ken Lonergan for *You Can Count on Me*  
 Best Canadian Film: *waydowntown*

## NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW

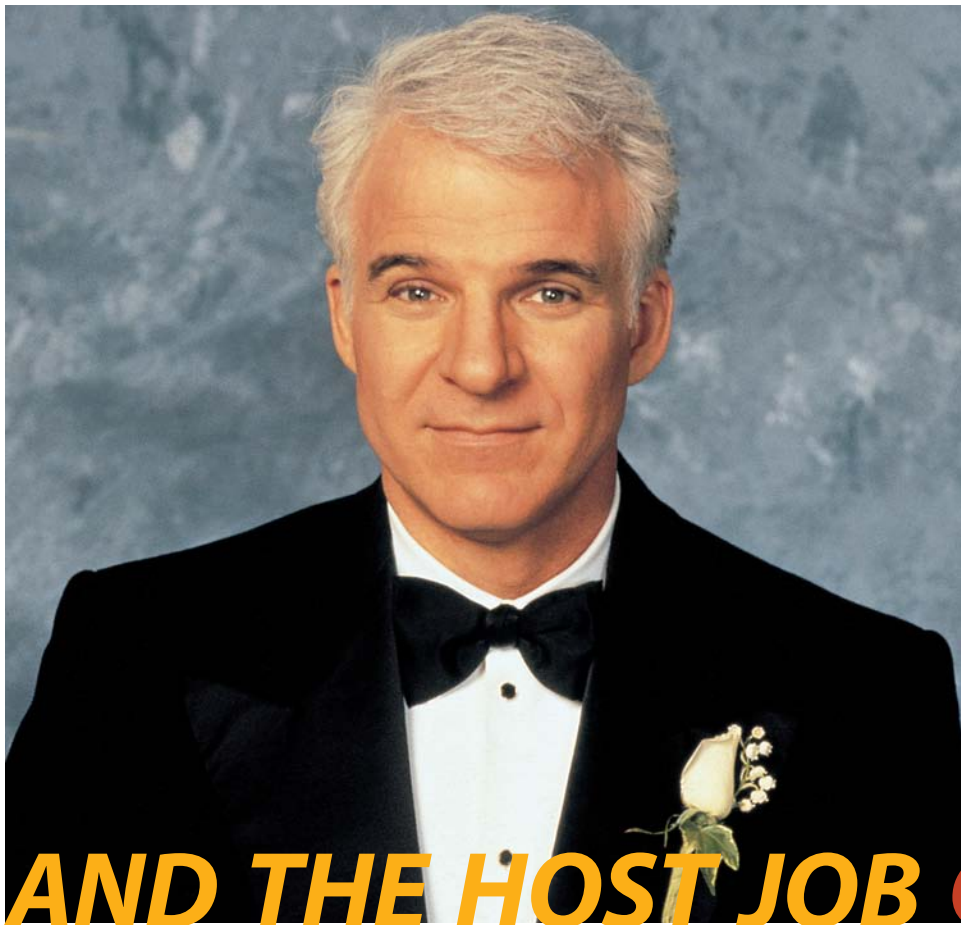
Best Picture: *Quills*  
 Best Director: Steven Soderbergh for *Erin Brockovich* and *Traffic*  
 Best Actor: Javier Bardem for *Before Night Falls*  
 Best Actress: Julia Roberts for *Erin Brockovich*  
 Best Supporting Actor: Joaquin Phoenix for *Gladiator*, *Quills* and *The Yards*  
 Best Supporting Actress: Lupe Ontiveros for *Chuck & Buck*  
 Best Foreign Language Film: *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*



Michael Douglas and Erika Christensen in *Traffic*

OSCAR IMAGE, © A.M.P.A.S.®





# AND THE HOST JOB GOES TO...

**On March 25 we'll find out if Steve Martin has what it takes to emcee the Academy Awards**

**BY SEAN DAVIDSON**

**I**t doesn't sound like a tough job. Stand at a podium, rattle off a few scripted jokes and step aside when the teary-eyed winners run up on stage to get their gold-plated statuettes. Try to keep the show from running more than four hours and don't let Jack Palance do any more push-ups.

Bob Hope made hosting the Oscars look easy. Same goes for Johnny Carson and Billy Crystal. But David Letterman bombed, as did Whoopi Goldberg. Hosting the Academy Awards is certainly a great honour, but it's also an acid test of showmanship and a star's ability to please both TV audiences and the powers-that-be in Hollywood. Will rookie host Steve Martin measure up when the lights and teleprompters click on at L.A.'s Shrine Auditorium March 25th? True, Martin has been on that stage before — he's presented awards on six previous

Oscar broadcasts and put in brief appearances at two others. But there's a big difference between introducing a "Best Picture" clip and being stuck in front of those cameras for the entire, potentially agonizing, show. So what, exactly, makes someone a good Academy Awards host?

Most important, be funny. Sure, that didn't matter as much back in the '30s, when the Oscars weren't the public spectacle they are today. Back then, the annual dinner and banquet was usually hosted by an assortment of Academy officials, local politicians and Hollywood power brokers. Academy president Douglas Fairbanks hosted the first one, followed later by his successor, director Frank Capra. But since the '40s, and the advent of live radio broadcasts, the Oscars have needed someone at the mic who could crack wise. So it's not surprising that the job went to, and stayed with, Bob

Hope. Then at the height of his career, the young comic and movie star first hosted the awards in 1940 and kept the job, off and on, until 1978.

Radio crowd-pleaser Jack Benny twice stepped up to the podium in the '40s and Jerry Lewis, who was apparently funny back then, dished out the yuks in 1956 and '57. (He and Hope were both tapped in 1953 when the Academy took the "risk" of broadcasting the Oscars on television.) Even Donald Duck co-hosted once, appearing in an animated sequence in 1958. Following Hope's four-decade tenure came five shows with Johnny Carson in the late '70s and early '80s, two with Chevy Chase (1987 and 1988) and Billy Crystal's reign through most of the 1990s.

Attempts at playing it straight, such as tough guy Frank Sinatra's turn in 1963, didn't catch on with audiences. Nor did attempts to abandon the anchorman format in the '70s and mid-'80s, when the Oscars were hosted by multiple, and not especially funny, stars like Liza Minelli and Charlton Heston.

Martin has certainly proven his comic skills. But these days he spends more time penning high-minded books and essays, and

his last decent comedy was 1991's *L.A. Story*. Could Oscar's producers have mistakenly overlooked his current work and think they've hired the "wild and c-raazy guy" from *Saturday Night Live*?

Or, do they think his diverse career is an asset? Guys like Hope and Crystal were good at the job because they've seemingly done it all — talk shows, stand-up, movies, wartime USO tours — and, thus, possess that elusive quality of showmanship that gives them the, let's call it "stage cred," to be the ringmaster under Oscar's big top. Unlike the reclusive Letterman who, caught outside the safety of his CBS studio, didn't look like he belonged on stage.

With his pedigree as a song 'n' dance man, director, comedian, writer and producer of film and theatre projects, Martin looks like a perfect fit for the top job on Oscar night. Audiences love him, he can be crass or witty as the occasion demands, and he's able to walk that fine line of poking fun at Hollywood without actually offending anyone. If all goes well, Oscar might have a new best friend. **i**



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# MEL GIBSON RETURNS TO WAR, CLAIRE DANES SKATES AND LISA KUDROW PLAYS RECORD EXEC



Parker

## PARKER KILLS FOR CONNICK

**Claudia Schiffer**, **Sarah Jessica Parker** and **Harry Connick Jr.** have signed to star in (snicker) *Life Without Dick*. Parker, on a break from *Sex and the City*, plays a woman who falls in love with the hitman (Connick) she hires to kill her boyfriend. But when her new love explains that he wants to quit being a killer, she decides to help by finishing his remaining "contracts." Schiffer (*Black and White*) plays Connick's leggy ex-girlfriend.



Danes

## CLAIRE DANES ON ICE

Danish director **Thomas Vinterberg's** next picture, *It's All About Love*, will star **Claire Danes** (*Brokedown Palace*) and **Joaquin Phoenix** (*Gladiator*). It's the near future and the world is about to drown, thanks to the melted polar icecaps, when a world-famous ice-skater (Danes) and her husband (Phoenix) step back from the brink of divorce and make one last stab at being happy together. Why the global warming subplot? Your guess is as good as ours. *It's All About Love* starts shooting next month in the U.K.

## MADONNA'S MOLE

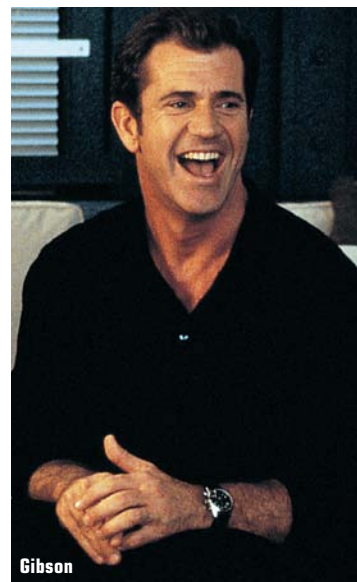
Mixing business with pleasure, **Madonna** will star in the next film by new husband **Guy Ritchie**. Ritchie — the boy genius behind *Snatch* and *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* — will test his filmmaking mettle when he directs his acting-challenged bride in *The Mole*. Madonna (*The Next Best Thing*) will drop her recently acquired English accent to play an American woman who gets caught in a war between two British crime bosses. Filming starts this month.

## LISA KUDROW RAPS

Sometime in 2002, **Lisa Kudrow** will be seen in the rap comedy *Marci X*. Kudrow (*Friends*, *Hanging Up*) has agreed to play a spoiled rich girl who takes over the family business, a gangsta rap label, after her dad is sidelined by a heart attack. Of course she knows nothing about the music biz, and has no idea how to deal with the label's controversial star rapper, likely to be played by *Bamboozled's* **Damon Wayans**.



Kudrow



Gibson

## WAR IS MEL

**Mel Gibson** (*The Patriot*, *Braveheart*) will take a break from killing the tyrannical English and, instead, kill some Viet Cong in his new war movie *The Lost Patrol*. Gibson has signed to produce and star in the Vietnam War epic, set in 1965 during the Battle of Ia Drang and based on the book *We Were Soldiers Once... And Young*. Ia Drang was the first major conflict of the war and dragged on for an entire month as heavily outnumbered U.S. troops fought tree-to-tree with the North Vietnamese. Gibson will be reading a script written and directed by *Braveheart* scribe **Randall Wallace**.

## B R I E F L Y

**Ray Park** (*Phantom Menace*) will put up his dukes in the Marvel Comics adaptation *Iron Fist*. ■ **Pedro Almodóvar** (*All About My Mother*) has stopped work on his English-language debut *The Paperboy* to shoot the semi-autobiographical *La Mala Educación*. ■ **Sharon Stone** (*The Mighty*) is in talks to play screen legend **Lana Turner** in *Stompanato*, the true story of Turner's love affair with a violent gangster in the 1950s. ■ **James Coburn** and **Cuba Gooding Jr.** will star as father and son in the dogsled-racing picture *Winterdance*. ■ **Disney** is making a sequel to *Tron*.



Canada's entertainment lifestyle magazine

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The "Skin Top" and "Skin Bottom" from Shan are made from a nylon and polyurethane blend. And if that barely-there top has you worried, fear not. Those long, dangly fringes are sure to afford you a little bit of extra cover. Nah, maybe not. Shown here in hazelnut. **Suggested price for top: \$185. Suggested price for bottom: \$195.** For a retailer near you call 1.888.687.7101 or check out [www.shan-intl.com](http://www.shan-intl.com).

# Well *su* for

**W**hat does March mean to you? The melting remnants of blackened snow banks? Slick streets covered with gray muck? How 'bout little pieces of stretchy spandex? If you're heading somewhere hot for March Break, it does. And if you don't think last year's bathing suit is going to get you noticed, here are a bunch of brand new designs from two of Canada's top swimwear designers — Shan, a high-end Laval, Quebec, company founded by designer Chantal Levesque in 1985; and Christina, the Montreal-based manufacturer that has been a force in the swimwear industry since 1952.

BY MARNI WEISZ



### ◀ TIED UP

Elegant yet comfortable, Shan's "Ibiza" one-piece (shown here in hazelnut) is made of a polyamide, spandex and polyester blend. With its low back, V-neck front and wrap-around tie, this suit proves you don't have to wear a two-piece to be sexy.

**Suggested price: \$195.**

For a retailer near you call 1.888.687.7101 or check out [www.shan-intl.com](http://www.shan-intl.com).

### SKINNY DIP ▼

From Shan, comes this daring little two-piece dubbed "River." The floral and reptile skin pattern is printed on a polyamide/spandex blend. Funky blue shades not included. **Suggested price for top: \$90. Suggested price for bottom: \$75.** For a retailer near you call 1.888.687.7101 or check out [www.shan-intl.com](http://www.shan-intl.com).





# it-ed *March Break*

## NOT YOUR GRANDMA'S CROCHET ▶

Christina's "Dream Weaver" one-piece is made out of a Tactel Nylon and Lycra blend. Shown here in "oceano," it's also available in black and khaki. Just remember to put sunscreen on under your suit, or you'll end up with a pretty strange tan line. **Suggested price: \$98.** For a retailer near you call 1.800.465.9283 or check out Christina's website, [www.christina.ca](http://www.christina.ca).



## THE TANKINI ▶

Last year's trend of two-piece bathing suits that don't reveal your midriff has made it to the plus-size line with the "Colour Block" from Christina. Referred to as a "two-piece tankini" in the biz, this suit has an off-centre slit in the front to keep it from pinching, while adjustable straps, a contour underwire bra and tummy tamer keep everything in place. Shown here in "ice," it's also available in plum and black. **Suggested price: \$78.** For a retailer near you call 1.800.465.9283 or check out Christina's website, [www.christina.ca](http://www.christina.ca).



## MESHING AROUND ▲

Remember those awful mesh vests that Pat Benatar made famous back in the 1980s? Well, Christina's "Striped Mesh" suit is nothing like them. The designers combined today's fine, curve-hugging mesh with solid bands of Tactel Nylon and Lycra to create this sensual camisole/skirt set. And a high back makes the suit as practical as it is pretty. Shown here in orchid, the line is also available in black, denim and mango. **Suggested price for the suit: \$98. Suggested price for the skirt: \$50.** For a retailer near you call 1.800.465.9283 or check out Christina's website, [www.christina.ca](http://www.christina.ca).

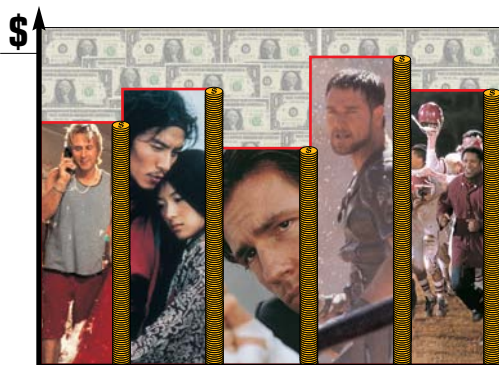


# TAKING STOCK in movies

DOES THE SUCCESS OF THE HOLLYWOOD STOCK EXCHANGE MEAN PAY-OUT HAS BECOME MORE IMPORTANT THAN PLOT?

BY CHRIS TURNER

I'm beginning to think my friends and I are freaks. See, not long ago we were debating the potential of a handful of upcoming movie releases. One friend said the Coen Brothers could do no wrong, so he'd be checking out *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* Another was considering *Snatch* — he'd read a glowing review from a critic he trusted, but ultrahip Tarantino-style noir sometimes grated on him. And I admitted that I was a sucker for historical dramas, so was pretty sure I'd be going to see *13 Days*. The freakish part? We didn't discuss opening-weekend grosses or "box-office legs" at all. I don't think anyone mentioned *revenue* even in passing.



We're a bizarre bunch, all right, talking about movies as if they're something more than commodities. And we wouldn't stand a chance against the "insiders" at Hollywood Stock Exchange ([www.hsx.com](http://www.hsx.com)), that elite group of 700,000 and counting who have set up free accounts at the website and staked millions of "dollars" on their ability to predict a given movie's box-office gross in its first four weeks of release. Every would-be Hollywood player who opens an account at HSX — which has been around since 1996 — gets \$2-million to buy stock in new and upcoming releases. The stocks rise and fall in the weeks leading up to the film's release, as traders speculate about

which will be blockbusters. To do well, you need to know your stuff. I mean, I can barely follow this item from the site's "news" section, ostensibly about the film *Finding Forrester*: "HSX traders expect the Oscar hopeful to open wide with reasonable sales. The film's current MovieStock price of H\$36 indicates a weekend take of approximately \$12-million."

I do know that the H in front of the dollar sign refers to "Hollywood dollars" — the largely pretend currency (it can be used to buy HSX merchandise) that is used to buy and sell stock on the HSX site. And the site helpfully informs me that MovieStock "represents a movie whose price changes based on its expected box office gross." (I can also trade in StarBonds, which represents how a particular actor does at the box office.) As for why I'd be interested in becoming an HSX trader, the site has this to say: "By trading, you actually influence Hollywood. The entertainment industry keeps a close eye on our markets to help them decide which movies to green light."

This is apparently not hot air — *The Globe and Mail* reports that Hollywood execs have admitted to using HSX as an early indicator of a given project's promise, and big-shot agents reportedly quote their clients' StarBond prices to genuine, offline producers as evidence of their value. What's more, the site has been accurate enough — predicting, for example, the out-of-nowhere popularity of *The Blair Witch Project* — that it now sells its data to the entertainment industry as market research. The triumph of commerce over art is complete: Not only are actual Hollywood players thinking strictly about box office, so are run-of-the-mill moviegoers.

This victory was ushered in, I think, by the convergence of two media trends: The increasing use by major media outlets, both on- and offline, of box-office grosses as the primary ranking mechanism for movies; and the primarily internet-driven (but also

**BUY! SELL!  
DOUBLE-CLICK!**

If the HSX whets your appetite for make-believe stock market excitement, here are three other sites where you can test your trading chops.

## Wall Street Sports

[www.wallstreetsports.com](http://www.wallstreetsports.com)

Instead of the latest blockbuster, you can buy shares in linebackers, goalies and pro golfers. Like HSX, Wall Street Sports tracks the ups and downs of pros from the NBA, NFL, NHL and PGA. When we logged on, Toronto's Vince Carter was trading at \$288 per share. Not bad, but down sharply from his 52-week high of \$989. It's free to play and top traders can win prizes like computers and DVD players.

## Virtual Stock Exchange

[www.virtualstockexchange.com](http://www.virtualstockexchange.com)

Just like the real trading floor, without the ugly jackets. Players use pretend money to trade the same stocks that are on the Dow and NASDAQ and, again, can win prizes if they beat the street. So go ahead, invest in that dot-com. What've you got to lose?

## The Stock Market Game

[www.smg2000.org](http://www.smg2000.org)

Aimed mostly at students and teachers, The Stock Market Game is set up to educate about the intricacies of investing, economics and portfolio management. But anyone who wants to learn can take part. Participants get \$100,000 of game money to invest in the NYSE, Amex and NASDAQ. And you don't have to be a Wharton MBA to play, SMG's roster of brokers includes kids as young as nine.

visible on the pages of *faux-insider* magazines like *Entertainment Weekly*) phenomenon that virtually everyone has access to a seemingly inexhaustible supply of information about the celebrity world, making the challenge to know more than other know-it-alls even more tantalizing.

"There's nothing like being a step ahead of everybody else," the HSX site insists. And who wouldn't want to figure out just how far inside they are in the cold, irrefutable terms of the almighty dollar? Well, me, for one — I'd just like to see a good movie.

*Chris Turner is a Toronto-based writer.*



# KNOWING the score

**At a time when movie soundtracks are little more than disjointed compilations, pop musicians are mining classical movie scores for inspiration**

**BY MICHAEL WHITE**

British film composer John Barry is 67 years old and has spent most of the past half-century composing orchestral movie scores in relative anonymity. Yet at least two of the most sublime Top 40 moments of the past few years wouldn't have happened without him.

Both the staccato, surf-like guitar that propels Fatboy Slim's "Rockafeller Skank," and the mournful strings that swell up in the chorus of Robbie Williams' "Millennium," are taken from film scores Barry wrote more than 30 years ago. The former is the theme from *Beat Girl* (1960), Barry's very first score, and the latter is the motif from *You Only Live Twice*, the 1967 James Bond classic.

In a 1999 interview with online magazine *Popcorn*, Barry downplayed his influence, saying, "All these young [musicians] now, I think most of them were James Bond fans, and got attracted to the music via Bond imagery. I think that was the main influence." But these are hardly isolated incidents, and most of them have nothing to do with Bond. In ways both subtle and blatant, vintage movie soundtracks by composers like Barry, Ennio Morricone (*The Untouchables*, *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly*) and Lalo Schiffrin (*The Cincinnati Kid*, *The Dead Pool*) have, for several years, been influencing some of the freshest, most exciting talents in contemporary pop and dance music.

As long ago as 1989, the Beastie Boys were pioneering the possibilities of soundtrack sampling on their landmark album, *Paul's Boutique*, using Bernard Herrmann's knife-wielding string shrieks from *Psycho*, and John Williams' ominous "attack" music from *Jaws*, to add texture to the track "Eggman."

Recently, the practice has moved out of the underground and into the mainstream thanks to the increasing accessibility of sampling technology. This simple but limitless facility has allowed artists to play mix-and-match with the whole of music history, creating combinations that would have once been unthinkable, or physically impossible. Orchestral film scores

are particularly attractive resources because they allow penniless artists, armed perhaps only with the appropriate software, to create huge-sounding works that would have cost a fortune to record with live musicians.

Simon Reynolds, a renowned New York music critic, has devoted much of his work to documenting the evolution of dance music. He says soundtrack sampling has proven especially popular in this area because the film score "offers a model for instrumental musicians that's quite validating, the idea that you can do really creative, powerfully emotive music without necessarily having a lead vocalist or lyrics."

Then there are the artists who don't sample but instead use specific composers as inspiration. One of the earliest, and most commercially successful, examples is the British duo Portishead. Their 1994 debut album, *Dummy*, draws considerable influence from the music of Barry and Schiffrin to essentially create what Reynolds calls a "soundtrack to a movie that doesn't exist."

Among current artists who are borrowing from soundtracks are the enigmatic duo DJ Food, whose new *Kaleidoscope* album makes excellent use of Quincy Jones' "Rack 'Em Up" from the 1964 film *The Pawnbroker*; and the Morricone-obsessed group Broadcast, who appropriated the feel of the Italian composer's most lush, romantic scores to create beautifully skewed love songs on their brilliant debut album *The Noise Made By People*.

At a time when soundtracks are increasingly little more than a collection of hit songs, rather than something created specifically to enhance the emotional content of a film (fact: the two best-selling soundtrack albums in Canada last year were *M-i-2* and *Coyote Ugly*), it's a delicious irony that music from the soundtrack's golden age is helping to push modern pop into thrilling new territory.

*Michael White is a Vancouver-based music journalist who has written for numerous magazines including Mojo and Exclaim.*

## OUTTHISMONTH

**Artist:** 112  
**Title:** Part 3  
**Label:** Arista/BMG

**Artist:** Aerosmith  
**Title:** Just Push Play  
**Label:** Columbia/Sony

**Artist:** Melanie B  
**Title:** Hot  
**Label:** Virgin

**Artist:** Eric Clapton  
**Title:** Reptile  
**Label:** Warner Bros.

**Artist:** Shawn Colvin  
**Title:** Bonefields  
**Label:** Columbia/Sony

**Artist:** Daft Punk  
**Title:** Discovery  
**Label:** Virgin

**Artist:** G. Love & Special Sauce  
**Title:** The Electric Mile  
**Label:** Epic/Sony

**Artist:** Gladys Knight  
**Title:** At Last  
**Label:** MCA/Universal

**Artist:** Maxwell  
**Title:** Now  
**Label:** Columbia/Sony

**Artist:** Semisonic  
**Title:** All About Chemistry  
**Label:** MCA/Universal

**Artist:** Pam Tillis  
**Title:** Thunder & Roses  
**Label:** Arista Country/BMG

**Artist:** Train  
**Title:** Drops of Jupiter  
**Label:** Columbia/Sony

**Artist:** Wild Orchid  
**Title:** Fire  
**Label:** RCA/BMG

**Artist:** Hawksly Workman  
**Title:** The Delicious Wolves  
**Label:** Universal



# NOWHERE to hide

Groundbreaking new game faxes you death threats  
and calls you up at work **BY MARC SALTZMAN**

It's 12:41 a.m., Wednesday morning, and I've finally fallen asleep to Bill Maher's acerbic chatter, when the phone rings.

"Marc?" asks a mysterious male voice.

"Uh, ya, who is this?"

"If you know what's good for you, pal, you better stop snooping around Anim-X studios."

"What? Who the hell IS this?!"

Click.

As I slam down the receiver, the distinctive screech of a fax machine blares out of my home office. I grab my robe to investigate. As I open the door, a piece of paper spits out of the machine and floats to my feet. Scribbled in barely legible hand writing, it reads: "Quit the game now, Marc, or it's your neck. Comprenez?"

But don't worry about the lack of instruction, it won't take long to realize you've stumbled upon a sinister government conspiracy. The question is: Do you have what it takes to unravel it?

The savvy game creators behind *Majestic* aim to blur the lines between fantasy and reality, not unlike what happened to Michael Douglas in the movie *The Game*. There are also strong elements of sci-fi and suspense à la *The X-Files*.

*Majestic* is played in self-contained episodes exclusively over Electronic Arts' new website, majestic.EA.com. Prior to playing, gamers submit their email address, instant message info, cellphone and/or fax numbers.

That is, if they're "game." You do have the option to keep the action online in a kind of "inbox" if so desired, but providing ways to be reached outside of the computer is the only way to get the full effect.

To solve the mystery, you have to work out puzzles, chat online with other players (some real, some not, some friend, some foe) and search the web for clues. Electronic Arts has weaved hundreds of fake web pages and articles with authentic ones, while streaming audio and video help push the story along and assist the player in solving monthly mysteries.

*Majestic* is also the first title in computer game history to unfold at a real-time, real-world pace. That is,

if you're told to call a certain telephone number at 3 p.m. tomorrow and talk to "Mike" about hacking into Anim-X's servers, you must call at the strike of the hour.

Unique? Indeed. For everyone? Absolutely not. But if you've got the \$10 bucks a month required to play (first episode is free, by the way) and don't mind getting a phone call during a business meeting

## OUTTHISMONTH

### Daytona USA (Dreamcast)

Use your Dreamcast console to race against up to three other players online in this home version of one of the highest-grossing arcade games of all time. Five new racing circuits provide the forum, but getting to the finish line first isn't all that matters. You'll also be ranked based on driving techniques like powerslides, braking and turns. A split-screen mode lets you go head-to-head against competitors.

### Conker's Bad Fur Day (Nintendo 64)

Okay, here's the deal. Conker is a squirrel, but not your Chip and Dale variety. He's sarcastic, irreverent and a bit of a drinker. This story takes place on the day after a binge when Conker wakes up with a bad hangover and a desire to smack things with a frying pan. Described as a "mature-themed video game" *Conker's Bad Fur Day* might not be for nine-year-olds, but with 15 computer-controlled opponents ready for battle, it'll keep their parents entertained for a while.

### Pokémon Stadium 2 (Nintendo 64)

Travel to the Gym Leaders Castle and engage in 12 new mini-games (including "Hitmontop's Rapid Spin," and "Furret's Frolic") that play out in vibrant 3D.

### Mickey's Speedway USA

(Game Boy Colour)

Pluto's been dognapped by the Weasels and it's up to you to get him back. The chase is on, and it'll take you through a series of classic kart races set in venues across the U.S. You can be Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Daisy or Goofy as you try to rescue your floppy-eared friend.



Game? This is a game?! Yup. It's *Majestic*, the latest — and undoubtedly the most unique and controversial — computer game ever released by Electronic Arts. Rather than sitting down at a TV set or PC to assume someone else's identity for a few minutes or hours, in *Majestic* you play yourself. There's no CD, no manual, no joystick and most importantly, no "off" button.

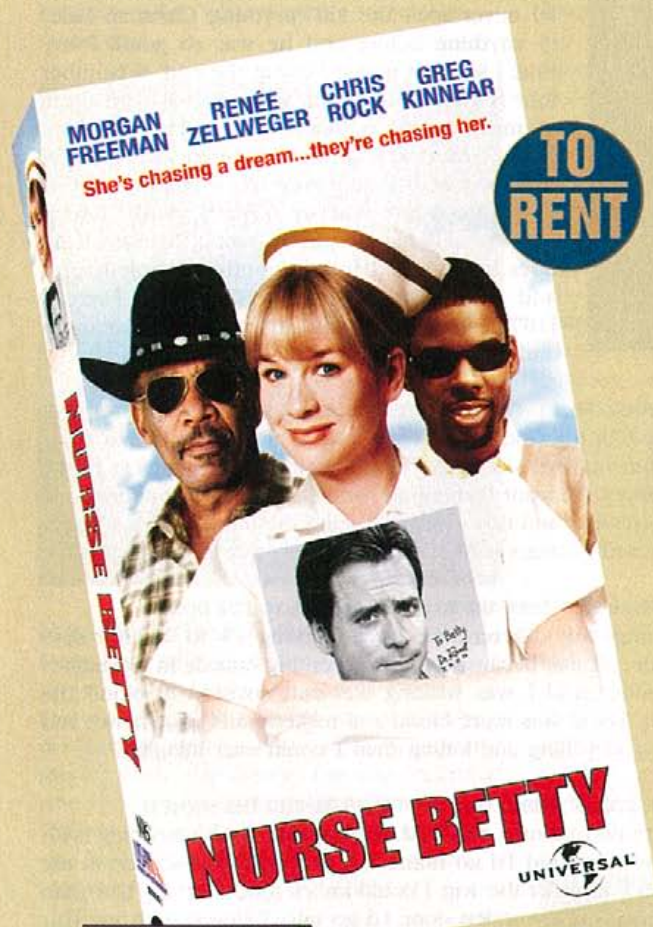
demanding you give up some vital information, then visit majestic.ea.com and be prepared not just to play a game, but to live through one.

Marc Saltzman is a freelance journalist, author of several books and host of two Toronto radio shows: *Edge 102's Cyber Escapes* and *CFRB's Tech Talk*.



# MOVIES TO GO

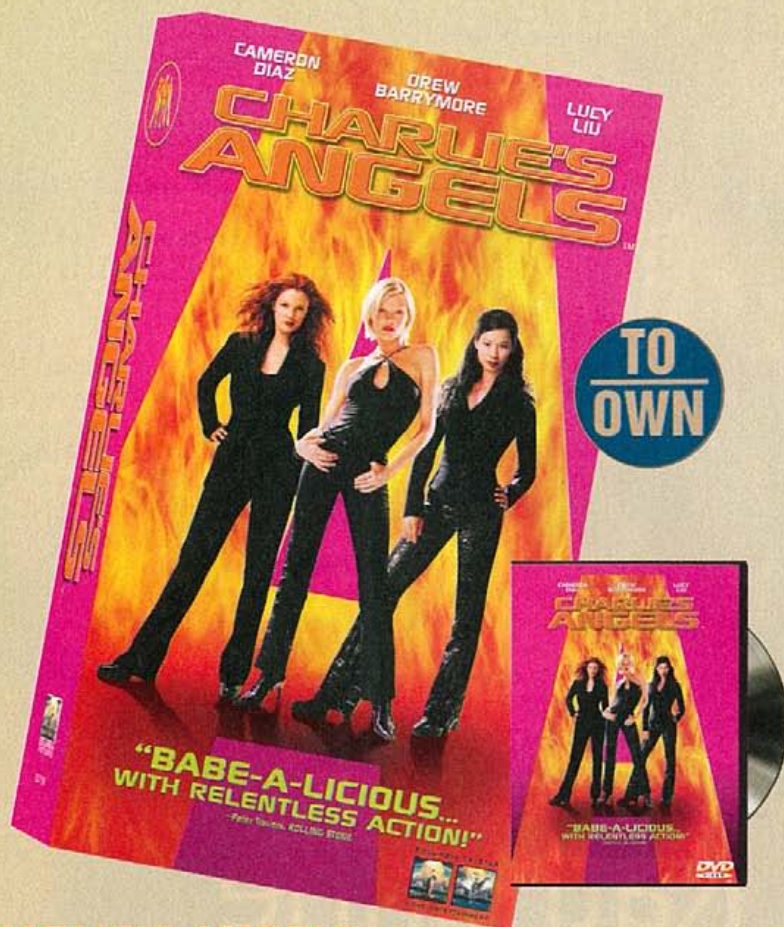
## MARCH 2001



### NURSE BETTY

**Renee Zellweger, Morgan Freeman, Chris Rock, Greg Kinnear.** A woman suffering from post-traumatic stress after witnessing her husband's murder sets off in search of her favourite soap opera star, whom she believes is a real person.

**AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 27**



### CHARLIE'S ANGELS

**Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz and Lucy Liu.** When a soon-to-be billionaire is kidnapped, the Angels leap into action, using their feminine charms and more karate moves than Bruce Lee to rescue him.

**AVAILABLE MARCH 27**



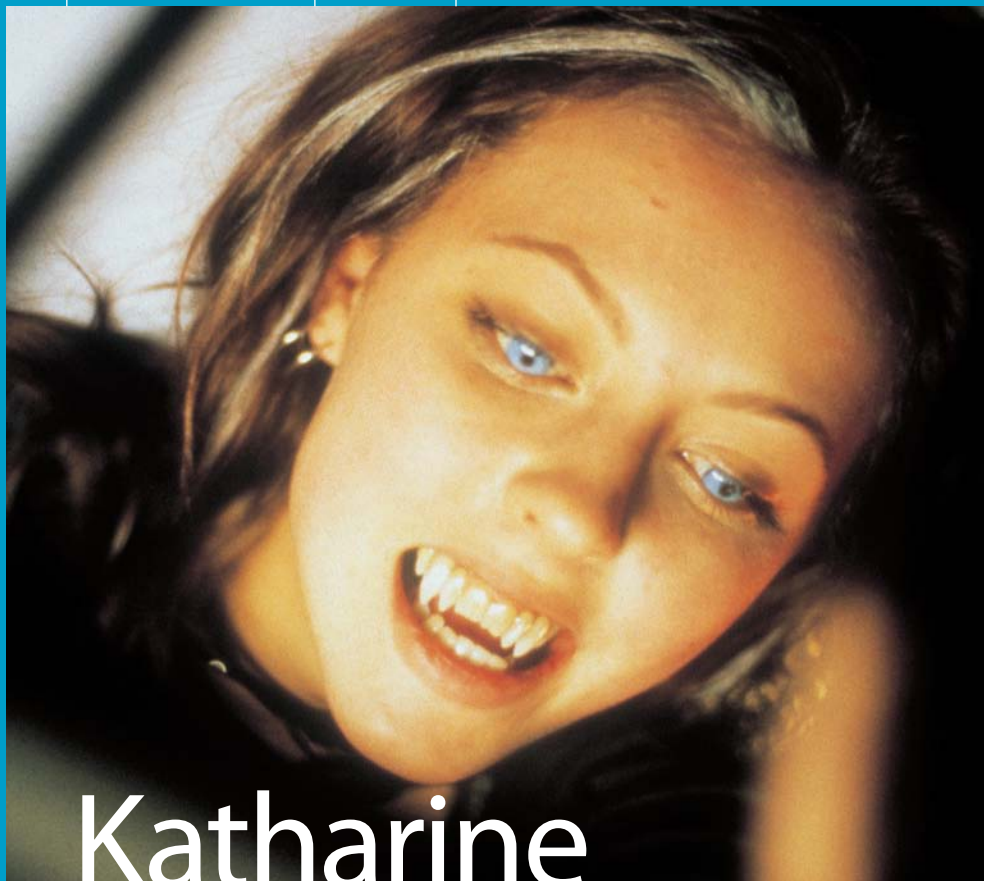
### RED PLANET

**Val Kilmer, Carrie-Anne Moss, Benjamin Bratt, Tom Sizemore, Terence Stamp.** With Earth dying, a team of scientists visit Mars to determine the possibility of establishing a new colony. But what they find isn't very welcoming.

**AVAILABLE MARCH 27**







# Katharine Isabelle MAKES HER PICKS

**T**he first time movie fans heard about a little werewolf film called *Ginger Snaps* was back in the spring of 1999, just after the Columbine massacre. The media was on the look out for images of teen violence and here was a seemingly inane Telefilm-funded teen slasher pic in pre-production in the Toronto area. In a front-page story, *The Toronto Star* questioned whether such a film deserved public funding, sparking a cross-country debate. But by the time young Vancouver actress Katharine Isabelle was cast in the lead role of Ginger — a 16-year-old whose first period coincides with a werewolf attack and subsequent transformation — the furor had died down. And when the movie premiered at last fall's Toronto International Film Festival, it was clear this was no brainless slasher pic. "A whip-smart, darkly funny teen horror film," raved *Film Comment*, while *The Hollywood Reporter* called it "a mischievous and subversive second feature from Canadian director John Fawcett." This spring, film fans across the country can finally see what the fuss was about as *Ginger Snaps* gets its theatrical release. For Isabelle, who made her big-screen debut at age five as Isabella Rossellini's daughter in *Cousins*, this was an opportunity not to be missed. The fact that the amateur equestrian coincidentally owns a horse named Ginger, whom she describes as "quite a bitch too," sealed the deal. Here, the 19-year-old lets you in on her most-loved flicks, discusses the tough shoot and tells you what it was like to see the film for the first time.

## WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"Number one is **Casablanca** [1942]. The characters are so well developed. It's beautifully shot, everything is just so gorgeous — the shadowing and the effects. It's funny and it's sad and it's romantic, and I love the story. • Number two is **Apocalypse Now** [1979] because it's so bizarre. I love the part where [Robert Duvall] makes them go surfing and there's bombs blowing up everywhere. I want to see the documentary about the making of it [*Hearts of Darkness*] because apparently everyone just went totally insane. • My third choice is **Empire of the Sun** [1987]. It's about this little boy in a POW camp in World War Two, and he's running errands for everybody, trying to be the cool kid in the camp. I'd never seen the kid [a young Christian Bale] in anything before and he was so good. Every time I see that movie I cry at the end. • Number four is **The Philadelphia Story** [1940] with three of my favourite actors — Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and Jimmy Stewart. I'm totally obsessed with Jimmy Stewart. • Number five is a tie between **Harvey** [1950], with Jimmy Stewart and his imaginary rabbit, 'cause all he does is go around and make other people happy, and **Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory** [1971] 'cause chocolate rivers, Oompa Loompas and lickable wallpaper — you can't beat that."

## WHAT WAS YOUR REACTION WHEN YOU FIRST READ THE SCRIPT FOR *GINGER SNAPS*?

"I was, like, 'Oh my God I have to do this.' Ginger isn't all that exaggerated from my bad side. I'm a double Scorpio so I can be pretty heavy at times. It meant something to me, the whole coming-of-age thing, and puberty and this werewolf being the monster that invades your body and changes it. That's sort of how it is for most girls."

## HOW DID THE SHOOT COMPARE TO OTHER MOVIES YOU'VE DONE?

"It was completely different. We were working 18- to 20-hour days and we were all sick because we were working outside in November and December. And I was soaking wet and covered in blood the whole time. There was more blood and makeup and prosthetics and screaming and yelling and killing than I could ever imagine."

## WHAT'S THE ODDEST THING THAT HAPPENED BEHIND THE SCENES?

"The whole two months was odd. I'd wake up in the morning with blood in my ears, and I'd go home at night with this shellac in my hair to flatten it under the wig. I could knock louder on my hair than I could knock on a wooden door. I'd go into 7-Eleven with my hair shellacked and blood dripping everywhere asking for a bottle of Tylenol. And they're like, 'Uh, I don't think Tylenol's gonna help you.'"

## WHAT DID YOU THINK WHEN YOU SAW THE FILM AT THE TORONTO FILM FESTIVAL?

"I was so surprised. When we were shooting I kept thinking it could go either way. It could either be really, really great and really dark and creepy, or it could be a little cheesy, just because it's a werewolf movie. It turned out brilliant. I was actually really surprised that everyone laughed at everything we said. Like, apparently, it's a comedy, and I didn't play it that way. But everyone just cracked up through the whole movie."

—Marni Weisz



# new RELEASES

MEET NURSE BETTY, VISIT WONDERLAND OR GET BEDAZZLED

## The Contender (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Jeff Bridges, Joan Allen

**Director:** Rod Lurie (*Deterrence*)

**Story:** When the Vice President of the United States dies, the President (Bridges) nominates a female senator (Allen) to take his place. But the President's foe, a Republican congressman (a brilliant performance by Gary Oldman), disagrees with the choice and sets out to destroy her by revealing what may be a scandalous sexual past.



Garcia in *Bootmen*

## New Waterford Girl (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Liane Balaban, Andrew McCarthy

**Director:** Allan Moyle (*Pump up the Volume*)

**Story:** In a small Nova Scotia town, a teenage girl (Balaban) dreams of moving away so that she can pursue her dream of writing. McCarthy, who you'll remember from 1980s flicks like *St. Elmo's Fire* and *Pretty in Pink*, plays a teacher who helps cultivate her talent, and develops romantic feelings for her in the process.

## Nurse Betty (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Renée Zellweger, Morgan Freeman

**Director:** Neil LaBute (*Your Friends and Neighbors*)

**Story:** Zellweger plays Betty, a slightly insane Kansas waitress, whose husband gets knocked off by a couple of hitmen (Freeman and Chris Rock). The trauma sends her on a cross-country trip to L.A. where she plans on hooking up with the true love of her life, Dr. David Ravell (Greg Kinnear), a fictitious character from her favourite soap opera.

## Wonderland (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Molly Parker, Shirley Henderson

**Director:** Michael Winterbottom (*I Want You*)

**Story:** The film examines four days in the life of three lonely sisters in south London and the various people who inhabit their lives. *Wonderland* was nominated for the Golden Palm at the 1999 Cannes Film Festival.

## Bedazzled (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Brendan Fraser, Elizabeth Hurley

**Director:** Harold Ramis (*Analyze This*)

**Story:** It's a remake of the 1967 romantic comedy that starred Dudley Moore as a hapless soul who makes a deal with the Devil (then played by Peter Cook), so he can catch the girl of his dreams. This time it's Fraser who sells his soul to a Devil in shapely form of Elizabeth Hurley.

## Bootmen (Feb. 27)

**Stars:** Adam Garcia, Sam Worthington

**Director:** Dein Perry (debut)

**Story:** Set in Australia's working class town of Newcastle, two brothers attempt to chase their individual dreams — one as a tap dancer and the other in business. But when one of the brothers gets involved with a local thug, their whole family is in trouble.

## Almost Famous (Mar. 13)

**Stars:** Patrick Fugit, Billy Crudup

**Director:** Cameron Crowe (*Jerry Maguire*)

**Story:** Based on director Cameron Crowe's early years in journalism, Fugit plays a teen rock fan who gets the chance of a lifetime when he's asked to go out on tour with a band called Stillwater and write about them for *Rolling Stone*.



Hurley and Fraser in *Bedazzled*



Patton and Washington in *Remember the Titans*

## The 6th Day (Mar. 13)

**Stars:** Arnold Schwarzenegger, Michael Rappaport

**Director:** Roger Spottiswoode (*Tomorrow Never Dies*)

**Story:** A helicopter pilot (Schwarzenegger) survives what should be a fatal crash and returns home to discover that he's been replaced by a clone, and is being chased by a team of hitmen sent to finish him off. Canadian Wendy Crewson plays Arnie's wife.

## Remember the Titans (Mar. 20)

**Stars:** Denzel Washington, Will Patton

**Director:** Boaz Yakin (*Fresh*)

**Story:** When an all-black school integrates with an all-white one in the early 1970s, the question is: Who will lead the team — the coach of the white team, or the coach of the black team? The black coach (Washington) officially gets the gig, but the white coach (Patton) puts his resentment aside as the pair work together to help the team win. Based on a true story.

## Lucky Numbers (Mar. 20)

**Stars:** John Travolta, Lisa Kudrow

**Director:** Nora Ephron (*You've Got Mail*)

**Story:** Set in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in the late 1980s, Travolta plays a down-on-his-luck weatherman who concocts as scheme to win the lottery. Kudrow plays his girlfriend, who just happens to be the one who picks the lottery balls on air.

## Charlie's Angels (Mar. 27)

**Stars:** Drew Barrymore, Cameron Diaz, Lucy Liu

**Director:** Joseph McGinty Nichol (debut)

**Story:** When a soon-to-be billionaire is kidnapped, the Angels (Barrymore, Diaz and Liu) leap into action, using their feminine charms and more karate moves than Bruce Lee to rescue him. Despite the alleged behind-the-scenes sniping, this movie earned raves and made box-office history when it brought in \$40-million on its opening weekend in November, the most ever for a non-summer, non-holiday release.



# 10 STARS

## TELL YOU WHERE THEY RUN AWAY

Halle Berry poses for photographers at last year's Emmy Awards



BY SUSAN GRANGER

**HALLE BERRY** "Maui's Grand Wailea Spa is the best. Lounging at a spa might seem self-indulgent to some people, but I look at it as part of my job. As an actress, my face and my body are my livelihood, so it's very important how I take care of them. The key is to live as natural and healthy a life as you can. I'd like to avoid those tummy tucks and plastic surgery that older actresses have to face. With these treatments, I'm hoping to age more gracefully."

**KELLY MCGILLIS** "I discovered Key West when we were sailing from Miami to San Diego to deliver a motorboat that my yacht-broker husband had sold to a couple of amateur sailors. We lost an engine a few miles off the Florida Keys and had to push the boat into Key West for repairs. While we were waiting for a part, we stayed there 10 days and decided not to leave. Now, I'm the co-owner and sometimes waitress at Kelly's Caribbean Bar/Grill & Brewery. I live where I ran away to play."

MICHAEL GERMANAUPI



**LISA KUDROW** "San Francisco.

It's an old-town city with

lights and beautiful views and

fog. It's a great place to play.

It's very sexy."

## TO PLAY

**KIRSTIE ALLEY** "It's my waterfront 'cottage' in Maine. Actually, it's a 15-bedroom, 14-bathroom former inn that I bought in 1991. It overlooks Penobscot Bay. My idea of leisure time is cooking for 20 people, like making a clambake. The house is 16,000-square feet and I decorated it all on a three-month shopping spree in Los Angeles. I worked as a decorator before I became an actor."

**SUSAN SARANDON** "When Tim [Robbins] and I want to run away to play, we get a hotel room. We'll have room service, read the paper and find a great movie on TV."

**TRACEY ULLMAN** "The French countryside. No one talks to me because they hate chirpy London girls with a sense of humour. Heaven!"

**BRIDGET FONDA** "I love dolphins. I've been able to swim with them at the Texas Marine Mammal Standing Network in Galveston [Texas]. That was the first time I actually played in the water with them. But I've seen the Amazon River dolphins in Peru and I've gone to Puget Sound in Washington to observe killer whales, which are actually a type of dolphin."

**JANE SEYMOUR** "We spend most of the year in Los Angeles but we have a home in Bath, England, at St. Catherine's Court, with a magnificent view of Avon Valley. I bought the place in 1983 and have been restoring it ever since. I think one should preserve houses like these for the next generation. My belief is: You don't own things in life, you borrow things. I am just a part of the history of St. Catherine's Court."



Lisa Kudrow and son Julian attend the premiere of *Blue's Big Musical Movie* in Los Angeles

RUSS EINHORN/UPI

**HARRY HAMLIN** "My special place to play is a 35-acre island in Ontario's Muskoka Lakes region, which my family has owned since the beginning of the century. It's accessible in the summer, only by boat, and inaccessible in the winter. My grandfather brought my grandmother there [by canoe, in 1910] because he was so taken with the place. He fell in love with the place and wound up buying the whole island."

**MARIANNE FAITHFULL** "My retreat is an 18th-century cottage in rural Ireland. It's called Shell Cottage and I rent it out when I'm not there. I was on acid when I first saw it in 1967 with Mick Jagger. I thought I had hallucinated the whole thing. Can you believe, while the rest of the country was starving, the Duke of Leinster was importing shells from around the world for this folly?"



# stargazing

By Dan Liebman

PISCES

February 20-March 20

A fascinating assignment waits in the wings, so don't be shy about submitting your application. What you lack in experience you make up for in common sense and, for a change, *chutzpah*. A mild case of spring fever has you dreaming of romantic trips. But the exotic locale you seek is closer to home than you realize.

ARIES

March 21-April 20

Aries and *someone* — partner? co-worker? guy around the corner? — are heading for a mid-month showdown. Though inevitable, it could prove healthy to clear the air. Urges to travel and shop continue, but there's no need to rack up a three-page credit card bill. Bargains aplenty await you.

TAURUS

April 21-May 22

Last month saw you taking the romantic initiative. Now do a 180 and allow — make that *encourage* — your partner to take the lead. At work, the biggest challenge is organizing others while keeping on top of your own tasks. Friends may seem boring at the start of the month, but they knock you over with a late-March shocker.

GEMINI

May 23-June 21

Experimentation is the current theme, which doesn't mean you have to razzle-dazzle the world. In fact, the trick is to play around with a low-key approach. Your homefront buzzes with activity. It won't be unusual for guests to arrive for dinner and stay for breakfast. A late-month windfall brightens your mood.

CANCER

June 22-July 22

Your energy level continues to be strong. What a pity it would be to waste your drive on trivial things. It's an excellent time for making a real contribution, whether to the environment or to the lives of young people. As for romance, get out your oven mitts and prepare for a situation that's nearly too hot to handle.

LEO

July 23-August 22

For the first time in months, you and a partner see eye-to-eye on a difficult family issue. And when that happens, you're floored by the simplicity of the solution. As winter shifts into spring, you could find yourself in a creative rut. Brightening up your surroundings is probably all that's needed.

VIRGO

August 23-September 22

It's a month for concentrating on relationships. If romance seems stagnant, it could be a healthy sign that it's time for a mini-break, either together or alone. Your work environment improves by late March, thanks to your initiatives. Finally, relatives are infinitely happier when everyone agrees to disagree.

LIBRA

September 23-October 22

Intuitive Libra has a good shot at predicting how budding relationships are going to work out — short-term and fun, or long-lasting and complex. (You're also pretty sharp at guessing this year's Oscar winners.) Fiscal affairs require attention; you'd be smart to get your tax papers in order by the 31st.



KATIA SMIRNOVA

SCORPIO

October 23-November 21

Sure-footed Scorpio is a whiz when it comes to jobs that involve marketing and advertising. Romance is on a steadier course thanks to your partner's efforts to shift priorities. Projects involving genealogy are the highlight of the month. Encourage older relatives to share some family history — and watch out for the skeletons.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22-December 22

It may not always seem like it, but someone *is* there to listen to you. The trick, though, is to match your message with the right set of ears. The month favours a fashion makeover or changes in your décor. In either area, your eclectic style works fabulously. Finally, by the end of the month, your work load eases up.

CAPRICORN

December 23-January 20

Your diplomatic efforts may be misinterpreted as interference — so no matter how noble your intentions, it may be wise to back off. You bring classic touches to the various artistic projects with which you're involved. As far as finances go, prospects are better than they were last year.

AQUARIUS

January 21-February 19

Continue to emphasize health and fitness — for yourself and those you care about. Get an early start on spring cleaning, and you may discover a treasure in the closet. And speaking of closets, someone you like is ready to come out of one — revealing a pent-up secret. You'll know just what to say when the time comes.

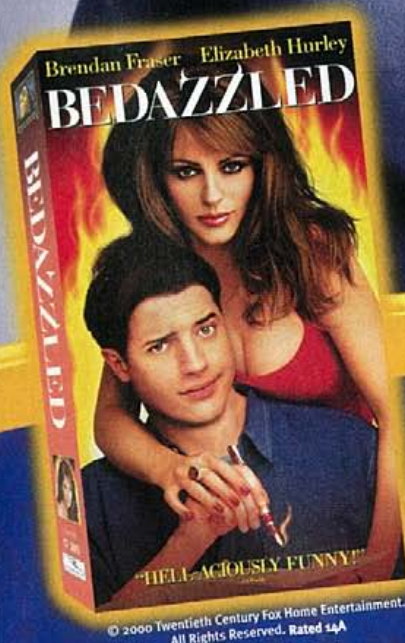
## MARCH birthdays

- |                          |                           |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1st Ron Howard           | 17th Gary Sinise          |
| 2nd Jon Bon Jovi         | 18th Queen Latifah        |
| 3rd David Faustino       | 19th Glenn Close          |
| 4th Catherine O'Hara     | 20th Holly Hunter         |
| 5th Dean Stockwell       | 21st Matthew Broderick    |
| 6th Rob Reiner           | 22nd Lena Olin            |
| 7th Rachel Weisz         | 23rd Eric Idle            |
| 8th Aidan Quinn          | 24th Lara Flynn Boyle     |
| 9th Juliette Binoche     | 25th Sarah Jessica Parker |
| 10th Sharon Stone        | 26th Martin Short         |
| 11th Thora Birch         | 27th Mariah Carey         |
| 12th Liza Minnelli       | 28th Dianne Wiest         |
| 13th William H. Macy     | 29th Elle Macpherson      |
| 14th Michael Caine       | 30th Eric Clapton         |
| 15th Judd Hirsch         | 31st Ewan McGregor        |
| 16th Bernardo Bertolucci |                           |





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JERRY  
**O'CONNELL**

SHANNON  
**ELIZABETH**

JAKE  
**BUSEY**

**THE LAST MAN STANDING GETS THE KITTY!**

# **TOMCATS**

REVOLUTION STUDIOS PRESENTS AN EAGLE COVE ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTION "TOMCATS" STARRING: HORATIO SANZ JAIME PRESSLY  
CASTING BY MATTHEW BARRY/NANCY GREEN-KEYES, C.S.A. PRODUCER PETER RICHE MUSIC BY DAVID KITAY MUSIC SUPERVISOR SPRING ASPERS EDITOR HARRY KERAMIDES, A.C.E.  
PRODUCTION DESIGNER ROBB WILSON KING COSTUME DESIGNER ALIX FRIEDBERG DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY CHARLES MINSKY EXECUTIVE PRODUCER TODD GARNER PRODUCED BY ALAN RICHE-TONY LUDWIG-PAUL KURTA WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GREGORY POIRIER  
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