MEL GIBSON, JODIE FOSTER AND OTHER STARS PUT OSCAR IN ITS PLACE



canada's #1 movie magazine in canada's #1 theatres march 2002 | volume 3 | number 3

PAUL GROSS LEADS MEN WITH BROOMS



JOHN LEGUIZAMO SPEAKS FOR *ICE AGE* BEST BETS FOR OSCAR

DWAYNE "THE ROCK" JOHNSON TALKS ABOUT LEAPING FROM THE WRESTLING RING TO HOLLYWOOD FOR THE SCORPION KING

\$3.00

RICH POSTER INSUE

plus NEW VIDEO AND DVD | HOROSCOPE | WEB | MUSIC | VIDEOGAMES | CARLA COLLINS

1 IN THEATRES MARCH 1 UNIVERSAL NUM MIRAMAX THE REAL BY THE MORE THAT INCOME THE REAL PROPERTY OF THE PROPE AUNT N. BU AMED BACING _ 2021 (1980) A TURE NORMAN DIL ACCOUNT CREEKERG CODON and then the later PALLO COSTANCO GRIFFIN DU 1-JUSH WATHET AD DAS AND AD A www.allianceatlantisfilms.com THE AND A REPORT OF A REPORT O STIDIO CANAL SEEN MORKING TH One man is about to do the unthinkable. No sex. Whatsoever. For... HARTNE SAL DIRECTOR т s O S [11] 0 IN THEATRES MARCH 22 roor NAME AND I DID AND THE RAN OWNED STREET AND A www.alleacea/lacts/hins.com 李

> HE COMPANY DES "SANT

NEW UNIT

5

[I]

M

There's more than one way to sweep a woman off her feet.





www.allianceatlantisfilms.com

Serendipity



Beautyand the Beast

Now Playing in IMAX^{*} at select Famous Players Theatres

Tickets NOW ON SALE at famousplayers.com or at theatre box office.

For group information call (416) 969 1735 Ask about our free Education Guides.



contents 38



FEATURES

18 GROSS NATIONAL PRODUCT

Great White Hunk Paul Gross makes his directorial debut with, of all things, a romantic "dramedy" about curling. Here, the former Due South star talks about his fear of being behind the camera for Men with Brooms, and the challenge of making popular Canadian films | By Marni Weisz

26 LEG WORK

Never-predictable actor and cartoon buff John Leguizamo talks about putting his voice behind the animated adventure Ice Age | By Earl Dittman

28 IN SEARCH OF OSCAR

Stop! Don't place that Oscar bet until you've seen which 2001 films got the nod from the AFI, the Toronto Film Critics and the Golden Globes

COVER STORY

30 ON THE ROCK

He's come a long way since he slept on a stained, stolen mattress and played for the Calgary Stampeders. Here Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson talks about his starring debut in the fantasy picture The Scorpion King, his life in the ring, and making time for his wife and baby | By Sean Davidson ON THE COVER: Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson in The Scorpion King

DEPARTMENTS

6 EDITORIAL

10 SHORTS

Darth meets Gandalf, movies shooting in Canada and Edmonton's Local Heroes film fest

12 THE BIG PICTURE

The Time Machine, Resident Evil, We Were Soldiers, The Panic Room and Full Frontal hit theatres

16 THE PLAYERS

What's the deal with Jon Stewart and Guy Pearce?

32 TRIVIA

Name Ice Cube's first screenplay

34 ON THE SLATE

Tarantino gets back to work, Altman reunites with some old pals

42 FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS

Eddie McClintock makes his picks

43 VIDEO AND DVD

Original Sin, Life as a House and Bandits make it to video stores

44 HOROSCOPE

Pisces, resist temptation

46 FAMOUS LAST WORDS Where do Faye, Mel and Emma keep

their Oscars?

Famous | volume 3 | number 3 |



COLUMNS

8 HEARSAY Gwyneth earns a few coins

36 LINER NOTES

Alanis Morissette goes it alone on her new album

38 NAME OF THE GAME Sonic battles back

40 BIT STREAMING

Steal this article. We dare you



famous 5 | march 2002

editorial

ROCK BREAKS OUT



kay, let's be honest. I'm not a big wrestling fan. Like millions of other snooty, self-righteous North Americans, I don't see the entertainment value in smashing someone over the head with a folding chair.

But the more I learn about some of these glittery gladiators, the more intrigued I become. There was that fantastic documentary, *The Life and Death of Owen Hart*, about the most reluctant, and ill-fated, member of Canada's best-known wrestling clan. Then there was Mick Foley's (a.k.a. Mankind) much-lauded biography — *Have a Nice Day!* that not only went to number one on the *New York Times* bestseller list, but also took bookish critics by surprise with the quality of its writing. And anyone who caught **Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson**'s turn as

host of *Saturday Night Live* in March 2000 realized his talents extend far beyond the ring. Funny, charismatic, smart and comfortable in an element very different than his own, Johnson made it clear he was ready for whatever the entertainment industry threw his way. A couple of months later he was on set in Morocco shooting a small part in *The Mummy Returns*, which paved the way for his starring role in the third *Mummy* movie, next month's *The Scorpion King*.

For "King Size," page 30, Sean Davidson found out there is more to Dwayne Johnson than spandex and trash-talk — like his stint with the CFL's Calgary Stampeders. Not surprisingly, Johnson also slipped into his Rock persona to promote the much-anticipated WrestleMania 18, taking place in Toronto on March 17. Plus, for all you wrasslin' fans, you'll find a pull-out poster of the WWF's hottest property on page 24.

It's been three years since TV's Mountie dramedy *Due South* went off the air. So what has star **Paul Gross** been doing since? Well, there was that TV movie *Murder Most Likely*. And there was his stint as Hamlet at Stratford. But the project occupying most of his time has been *Men with Brooms*, a curling comedy which he wrote, directed, stars in and executive produced. For "Funny. Canadian. Film," page 18, I spoke with Gross about the movie, and how it fits (or doesn't fit) into Canadian cinema.

John Leguizamo's latest, *Ice Age*, has him playing a sloth. Well, actually, he only provided the sloth's voice, *Ice Age* being the latest blow-your-mind animated flick from Fox. Read "Cool Dude," page 26, to find out why he's been working on this particular flick for more than four years.

Finally, the seat warmers are already practising their moves for the 74th annual Academy Awards, set for March 24. That means many of you are already fretting over which movies to pick for that friendly office pool. On page 28, we help out by giving you a list of who won what at the year's other major movie awards.

— Marni Weisz



PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

editor MARNI WEISZ

DEPUTY EDITOR SEAN DAVIDSON

ART DIRECTOR

CONTRIBUTORS CARLA COLLINS, EARL DITTMAN, DAVID GIAMMARCO, SUSAN GRANGER, DAN LIEBMAN, MARK MAGEE

FAMOUS MAGAZINE IS REPRESENTED BY FAMOUS PLAYERS MEDIA INC.

ADVERTISING AND SALES VICE PRESIDENT CHRISTOPHER LAW (ext. 232) HEAD OFFICE 416.539.8800 SALES MANAGER

JOHN TSIRLIS (ext. 237) ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVES JAMIE CRUVER (ext. 224) ZOLTAN TOTH (ext. 233) ANTON KIM (ext. 238)

BRITISH COLUMBIA 604.904.8622 BRITISH COLUMBIA SALES MANAGER

DIANE RAJH

ALBERTA JULIE FLATT MICHAEL FLATT 403.201.6992

QUEBEC 514.861.7744 (ext. 229) QUEBEC ACCOUNT REPRESENTATIVE DANIELLE BERNARD

SPECIAL THANKS JOHN BAILEY, DORA BRENNDORFER, ROBB CHASE, JOAN GRANT, SHEILA GREGORY, ROB JOHN, CATHY PROWSE

Famous[™] magazine is published 12 times a year by 1371327 Ontario Ltd. Subscriptions are \$32.50 (\$30 + GST) a year in Canada, \$45 a year in the U.S. and \$55 a year overseas. Single copies are \$3. Back issues are \$6. All subscription inquiries and back issue requests should be directed to Famous magazine at 102 Atlantic Ave., Ste. 100, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1X9; or 416.539.8800; or editor@fpmedia.ca

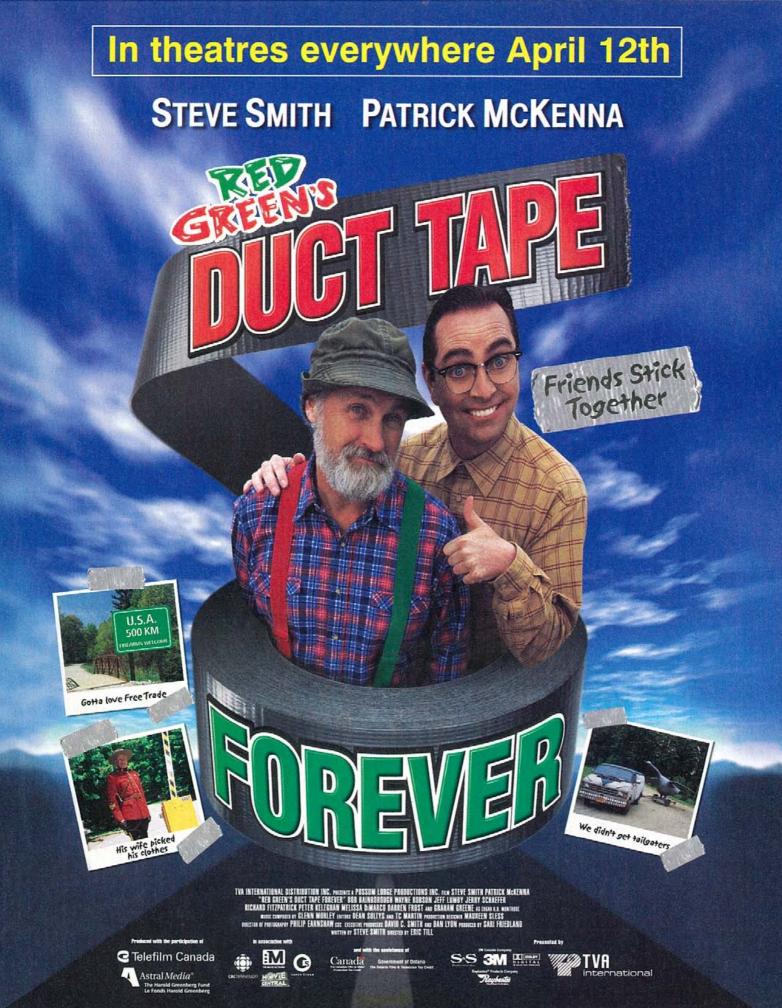
Canada Post Publication Agreement: No. 1716344 500,000 copies of Famous magazine are distributed through Famous Players, Alliance Atlantis and Galaxy cinemas, and other outlets. Famous magazine is not responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts, artwork or other materials. No material in this magazine may be reprinted without the express written consent of the publisher. © 1371327 Ontario Ltd. 2001.



FAMOUS WANTS YOUR FEEDBACK. WRITE TO US.

- by email: editor@fpmedia.ca
 by regular mail: Letters to the Editor,
- Famous magazine, 102 Atlantic Ave., Ste. 100, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1X9 • by fax: 416.539.8511

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



hearsay



CARLA COLLINS ON WHAT BOOZE DOES TO CRUISE, MARIAH'S MARILYN COMPLEX AND PALTROW'S TRANSIENT SUCCESS

THE SKINNY ON GWYNNIE

Gwyneth Paltrow got some unsolicited advice from a little old lady on a New York subway. The New York Post's entertainment site Page Six reports that



"the slight Paltrow struck up a conversation with the woman, who failed to recognize her, after she sat next to the star on the train. And as the two parted, the lady turned to Paltrow and handed her a \$5 bill in thanks, with the advice, 'Go get yourself something to eat honey. You look like you could do with a meal.'" Such a sweet story. Sadly though, the celebrity panhandler slipped into the stereotype, and spent the money on booze.

SOUL TRAIN WRECK David Soul says he's angry about not being involved in Ben Stiller's big-screen adaptation of Starsky and Hutch, telling London's The Mail on Sunday that "the proposed film says a lot about Hollywood today...Paul Michael Glaser and I are part of the Starsky and Hutch legacy but we're not flavour of the month." No, they're flavour of 1976, along with Tab and Wagon Wheels. Don't worry David, I'm sure they'll call you when it's Starsky and Crutch.

HAVE YOU HAD EX TODAY? Teetotaller Tom Cruise is blaming his shirtless Vanity Fair cover on a single bottle of beer. Cruise tells Ananova.com, "I don't drink but I had a beer that night...I'm a cheap date. What can I say? It took one beer!" Who knows what he'd do after a whole case? He might even sleep with a woman. Reports that Penélope Cruz is sneaking Bailey's into his morning coffee are unconfirmed as of printing.



HAVE YOUR DOG, SPADE, NEUTERED David Spade was recently dumped by his supermodel girlfriend Caprice Bourret prompting a stunned nation to cry out, "David Spade was dating a supermodel?" That's not even the half of it. According to Mike Walker's Hollywood Gossip, "Caprice dumped Spade because he's a party animal and outrageous flirt...David likes to hit the clubs and they're filled with model/actress/wannabe girls who just flock to him." Listen, I know that great expense and effort is being put into developing a process for nuclear fusion, unlocking the mysteries of the pyramids and breaking down the Caramilk secret but I think a more pressing matter requires our attention like how the hell David Spade is a sex symbol! The guy's shorter than the lineup for Joe Dirt and looks like a grown-up Macauley Culkin in need of a haircut.



HARRIED CAREY Mariah Carey's family has blamed the singer's recent breakdown on the ghost of Marilyn Monroe. According to *Heat* magazine, "the singer bought the late film goddess' white piano a few years ago, and things started going downhill for her shortly afterward." Okay, Marilyn's ghost may explain the implants, but for Mariah's family to blame the star's kooky behaviour on a piano is insanity, which, we now have proof, really is hereditary.





Russell Crowe may be a real-life Lothario, but onscreen the Oscarwinning Aussie is apparently more dud than stud. Love scenes were cut from both *Proof of Life* and *A Beautiful Mind* and never even shot for *The Quick and the Dead*. What's the deal?

HUNK OR CHUNK?

According to Australia's *Illawarra Mercury*, "The secret is out. Russell Crowe has cellulite." Hey, maybe that's why the miniskirt he wore in *Gladiator* reached almost to his knees. Because if I remember my Roman Empire fashion class correctly, hemlines were at least three inches shorter in A.D. 185.

THE GEEKS SHALL INHERIT THE MIDDLE-EARTH

According to Ananova.com, Star Wars fans are petitioning George Lucas to hand all creative control of Hollywood's all-time top-grossing movie franchise to Lord of the Rings director Peter Jackson. The appeal reads, "This endeavour would not go unnoticed by your loyal Star Wars fan base, who would see the movie repeatedly and buy many action figures." This is just one of many petitions launched by online nerds. Previous demands include putting Bill Gates' face on the \$20 bill and declaring Klingon Canada's third official language.



Carla Collins appears as Rusty Sinclair on the Showcase soap Paradise Falls and hosts Carla and Company on Toronto's Mix 99.9 FM.



THE $20^{\rm th}A$ NNIVERSARY Never before seen footage \cdot enhanced visual effects \cdot new re-mastered soundtrack



MARCH 2002

WWW.et20.com AOL Keyword: E.T. UNIVERSAL * & © 2001 UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

shorts

HE SORCERER'S APPRENTICE

hat is Sir Ian McKellen (Fellowship of the Ring) saying to Hayden Christensen (Attack of the **Clones**) at this post-Golden Globes party?

- A. They're calling my movie the Star Wars for this generation. What does that make your movie?
- B. Do the nerds go through your garbage as well?
- C. Hey boy, why don't you use some of those Jedi mind tricks to get that waiter back here with the sushi?
- D. Excuse me...could you stop breathing so loud?
- E. My fan club of geeky, obsessive nerds could beat up your fan club of geeky, obsessive nerds. --MM
- F. So. Know what you're going to do with your millions of dollars yet?



THE SANTA CLAUSE 2

Location: Vancouver, B.C. **Director: Michael Lembeck (debut) Cast:** Tim Allen, Elizabeth Mitchell They're making a Christmas movie in the spring? Hope they've got a good snowmaker. Allen (Joe Somebody) finally started work on this family Christmas comedy last month - reprising his role as the reluctant Saint Nick from the 1994 hit. Filming, which was delayed a full year for a script rewrite, should last through May. After that, Allen's expected in New York to make the romantic comedy Public Enemy.

DREAMCATCHER

CHRIS

Location: Burnaby, B.C. Director: Lawrence Kasdan (Mumford) **Cast:** Thomas Jane, Morgan Freeman Labour difficulties moved this Stephen King adaptation, about four buddies tormented by aliens while staying at a remote cottage, from Montreal to just outside Vancouver. The six-week shoot will pull up stakes in May, and the final cut is due in theatres sometime next year. —SD

Local Heroes...from around the world

ou may already have heard of *Monsoon* Wedding, Mira Nair's Golden Globenominated film about four colourful days leading up to a Punjabi wedding, or Atanarjuat (The Fast Runner), Zacharias Kunuk's Genie-nominated adaptation of an Inuit legend about two brothers threatened by their leader's jealous son. But, unless you've been flying off to film festivals in places like Venice and Cannes, chances are you have yet to actually see either of these lauded pics.

Should you be in Edmonton from March 8 to 16, however, you'll have a chance to catch both features, and about 40 more, at the 16th annual Local Heroes International Film Festival.

Although most of those other films had yet to be confirmed at press time, senior programmer Anthony King did confirm that this year's Metro Cinema Society



Spotlight will focus on one of the most controversial, spiritual and conflicted cities in the world, Jerusalem.

"It was chosen partially for the timeliness,"

King explains, "and partially because the Middle East is a part of the world we haven't done before."

Another don't-miss screening for serious cinephiles will be F.W. Murnau's 1922 Dracula flick Nosferatu - recently dragged back into the popular psyche by Shadow of the Vampire, the Willem Dafoe, John Malkovich pic which depicted its making. What's special about this screening, though, is that local actor/musician Dave Clarke has composed a new score for the silent film that will be performed live. King describes the modernized soundtrack as an "electric/acoustic combo that includes synthesizer, voice, guitar, percussion and sound effects."

Tickets, and a full schedule, are available online at www.localheroes.ca. Or you can call 780.423.0844. —*MW*

MATURITY *way* WAY OVERRATEd





Shown with optional Genuine Honda Accessories, including Alloy Wheels, Fog Lights and Rear Spoiler.

11

www.honda.ca

the | big | picture |

NOW in the the time machine, MEET NATIONAL LAMPOON'S VAN WILDER, RIDE THE TIME MACHINE, SEE FULL FRONTAL OR GET INTO THE PANIC ROOM



MARCH 1

WE WERE SOLDIERS

Who's In It? Mel Gibson, Sam Elliott Who Directed? Randall Wallace (The Man in the Iron Mask)

What's It About? The most surprising thing about the Battle of la Drang — wherein 450 U.S. soldiers were surrounded by 2,000 North Vietnamese — was that it somehow dragged on for more than a month. And, presumably, at least one American survived to write a book about it, which has since been adapted and directed by Braveheart writer Wallace, with Gibson in the lead as a U.S. Colonel.

40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS

Who's In It? Josh Hartnett, Shannyn Sossamon

Who Directed? Michael Lehmann (Heathers) What's It About? Will Lehmann ever live up to the promise of his 1989 debut Heathers? And will he ever live down his involvement with Hudson Hawk and My Giant? Maybe this teen comedy, with Hartnett as a young guy who swears off all sexual contact for Lent, will do the trick.

MARCH 8

ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS

Who's In It? Ice Cube, Mike Epps Who Directed? Kevin Bray (debut) What's It About? Cube (Next Friday) is a badass bounty hunter who teams up, for some reason, with Epps' wanted felon to foil a diamond heist. If they'd set this film in Canada, would it be All About the Sir Robert Bordens?

THE TIME MACHINE

Who's In It? Guy Pearce, Mark Addy Who Directed? Simon Wells (*The Prince of Egypt*) What's It About? Hollywood has got a lot of mileage out of H.G. Wells over the years, but recent adaptations (*Hollow Man, The Island of Dr. Moreau*) were disappointing. Maybe that's why his great-grandson was put in charge of this latest sci-fi adventure, about a 19th-century inventor (Pearce) who sends himself hurtling 800,000 years into Earth's future.

MEN WITH BROOMS

Who's In It? Paul Gross, Molly Parker Who Directed? Paul Gross (debut) What's It About? Former TV Mountie Gross (Due South) directs himself and three other Canucks as a curling team out to win the trophy for their dear, departed coach. See Paul Gross interview, page 18.

UNDISPUTED

Who's In It? Ving Rhames, Wesley Snipes Who Directed? Walter Hill (Last Man Standing) What's It About? Rhames and Snipes knock each others' teeth in, as two jailhouse boxers battling for the prison heavyweight championship.

THE PANIC ROOM

Who's In It? Jodie Foster, Kristen Stewart Who Directed? David Fincher (Fight Club) What's It About? After Nicole Kidman was sidelined by a knee injury, Foster dropped everything and took over the lead, playing a single mom who, with her daughter, hides for her life when three burglars break into their house looking for loot.

FULL FRONTAL

Who's In It? Julia Roberts, Blair Underwood Who Directed? Steven Soderbergh (Traffic) What's It About? We're certain that, just because Soderbergh helped her get that Best Actress Oscar for Erin Brockovich, Roberts in no way felt obliged to return the favour by appearing nude in his new film. But news that she would strip down for this "unofficial sequel of sorts" to sex, lies and videotape, about which little else is known, has certainly saved him a lot of money on advertising.

MARCH 15

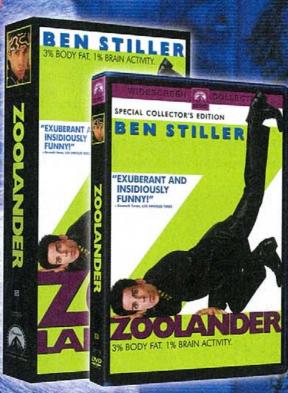
FRAILTY

Who's In It? Matthew McConaughey, Bill Paxton Who Directed? Bill Paxton (debut) What's It About? The FBI is looking for a serial killer when a man (McConaughey) comes forward and explains, in a series of flashbacks, why his brother is probably the murderer known as God's Hands.

SHOWTIME

Who's In It? Robert De Niro, Eddie Murphy Who Directed? Tom Dey (Shanghai Noon) What's It About? With a bit of luck, this buddy cop comedy, that pairs De Niro and Murphy as unlikely partners forced to work on a reality

"I can't wait to show you my special eatures



OVER TWO HOURS OF SPECIAL FEATURES. **BUT IF YOU WATCH** THEM TWICE, YOU HAVE TWO MORE HOURS OF SPECIAL FEATURES.

- Commentary by Ben Stiller and Writers Drake Sather & John Hambura
- 5 Deleted Scenes with **Commentary by Ben Stiller**
- 5 Extended Scenes with **Commentary by Ben Stiller**
- Outtakes
- Music Video, "Start The Commotion" by The Wiseguys

And more

CATCH THE UNVEILING ON MARCH 12. BUY IT ON DVD. RENT IT ON VHS AND DVD.

PARAMOUNT PICTURES AND VILLAGE ROADSHOW PICTURES PRESENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH VH1 AND NPV ENTERTAINMENT A SCOTT RUDIN AND RED HOUR PRODUCTION A BEN STILLER FRAM BEN STILLER "ZOOLANDER" OWEN WILSON WILL FERRELL CHRISTINE TAYLOR MILLA JOYOWCH JERRY STILLER AND JON VOIGHT "" DAVID ARNOLD STRASS RANDALL POSTER AND GEORGE DRAKOULIAS MUSA CELIA COSTAS MOREG HAYDEN MUSAR ROBIN STANDEFER ADEAN STANDEFER ADEAN STANDEFER ADEAN SCHROEDER LAUREN ZALAZNICK MUSAR SATHER & BEN STILLER 14

AVAILABLE AT: **OROGERS VIDEO** The experience starts here.





STORAGE SATHER & BEN STILLER AND JOHN HAMBURG "MEMORY SCOTT RUDIN BEN STILLER STUART CORNFELD MEMORY BEN STILLER Soundtrock album available on HOLLYWOOD RECORDS. TM & Copyright © 2001 by Faramount Pictures. All Righ Availability and DVD special features subject to change without notice. TM, © & Copyright © 2002 by Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved.

the | big | picture |

TV show, might just be as funny as that scene in the trailer when William Shatner falls off that car.

ICE AGE

Who's In It? Ray Romano, John Leguizamo Who Directed? Chris Wedge (debut) What's It About? Four prehistoric critters trek across the tundra to reunite a human baby with his tribe in this computer-animated adventure. Joining Romano and Leguizamo at the mic are Jack Black (*Shallow Hal*) and Denis Leary (*The Job*). See John Leguizamo interview, page 26.

RESIDENT EVIL

Who's In It? Milla Jovovich, Michelle Rodriguez Who Directed? Paul Anderson (*Soldier*) What's It About? Ahh! Zombies! A top-secret research facility is overrun with undead and it's up to commandos Alice (Jovovich) and Rain (Rodriguez) to gun them down. Adapted from the videogame.

MARCH 22

E.T.: THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL

Who's In It? Henry Thomas, Debra Winger Who Directed? Steven Spielberg (A.I.) What's It About? Strangely, the "lost" scene that fans most wanted to see in this new edit of Spielberg's 1982 classic about a boy and his stranded alien — the one with Harrison Ford as Elliot's school principal — is reportedly not among the additions. Instead we get a bathtub scene and more Halloween footage.



NATIONAL LAMPOON'S VAN WILDER

Who's In It? Ryan Reynolds, Tara Reid Who Directed? Walt Becker (*Buying the Cow*) What's it about? National Lampoon tries to recapture the beer-battered charm of Animal House with this story about a long-term college student (he's been there seven years) who has to figure out how to keep his cushy life in the ivory tower after his dad cuts him off.

SORORITY BOYS

Who's In It? Michael Rosenbaum, Barry Watson Who Directed? Wally Wolodarsky (*Coldblooded*) What's It About? What has six legs, fake boobs and no dignity? Three college buddies who pose as women so they can live rent-free in a sorority house.

MARCH 29

BLADE 2

Who's In It? Wesley Snipes, Kris Kristofferson Who Directed? Guillermo del Toro (*Mimic*) What's It About? Ahh! Vampires! Snipes reprises his 1998 role as the vampire-slaying superhero who, this time, has to team up with his undead enemies to fight a common foe. Adapted from the comic book.

CLOCKSTOPPERS

Who's In It? Jesse Bradford, Miko Hughes Who Directed? Jonathan Frakes (Star Trek: First Contact)

What's It About? His dad invented a realityaltering gizmo that slows down time, so of course Zak (Bradford) and his friends use it for pranks and mayhem. Hee hee hee. That dog is peeing in that woman's car.

THE ROOKIE

Who's In It? Dennis Quaid, Rachel Griffiths Who Directed? John Lee Hancock (debut) What's It About? Never mind that he only lasted 16 games, the point is that Little League coach Jim Morris (Quaid) tried out for the majors at the comparatively ancient age of 35, and actually made the team, becoming one of the oldest rookies in baseball history.

THE SWEETEST THING

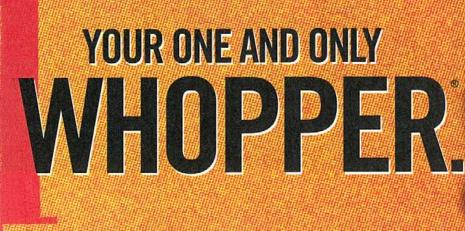
Who's In It? Cameron Diaz, Christina Applegate Who Directed? Roger Kumble (*Cruel Intentions*) What's It About? Diaz's club-hopping party girl must learn how to woo a man when she finally meets Mr. Right.

DEATH TO SMOOCHY

Who's In It? Edward Norton, Robin Williams Who Directed? Danny DeVito (*Matilda*) What's It About? Norton is a Barney-like kiddie show host marked for death by his arch-rival and disgraced predecessor, played by Williams.

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

CHECK WWW.FAMOUSPLAYERS.COM FOR SHOWTIMES AND LOCATIONS



AT BURGER KING YOU GOT IT! 🔐 🥯

THE WORD





... I'll never tell. MICHAEL DOUGLAS DON'T SAY

A THRILLER TO END ALL THRILLERS!"

DVD

... I'll never tell,

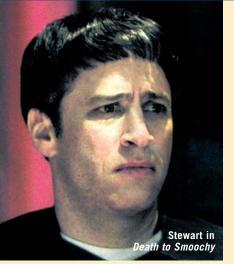
RENT THE DVD OR VHS OR OWN THE DVD FEBRUARY 19

"A THRILLER TO END ALL THRILLERS!" - LARRY KING, CNN



©2001 Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment, Inc. All rights reserved. "Twentieth Century Fox", "Fox" and their associated logos are the property of Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation.

the I players I NOW ADDEATING IN. DEATH TO SMOOCHY THE TIME MACHINE



JON STEWART

Now appearing in... Death to Smoochy, about a disgraced kiddie show host (Robin Williams) who takes out a contract on his Barney-like rival (Edward Norton). Stewart plays a network exec.

Bio bits: If it's true that there are no second acts in American lives, Jon Stewart is the exception to the rule.

Born November 28, 1962, in New York City, Jonathan Stuart Leibowitz grew up on the unfashionable side of the Hudson in Lawrence, New Jersey. The son of a physicist and an educational consultant, he played soccer, memorized Steve Martin and Woody Allen routines and got fired from five

different jobs at the same mall — once by his own brother after destroying \$10,000 worth of tropical fish tanks at the local Woolworth's. He did a degree in psychology at the College of William and Mary in Virginia and returned home in 1984, alternately working as a bartender, bookkeeper, waiter and as a puppeteer for schoolchildren. Impatient to make it in comedy, at 23, he moved to Manhattan and started playing open mic nights with other raw talents like Ray Romano, Chris Rock and Adam Sandler.

After failed, single-season gigs at Comedy Central and MTV in the early '90s, Stewart took his act to the executives at UPN and was given an hour-long late-night talk show. The Jon Stewart Show hit the air in September 1994 but was cancelled the following June.

A string of minor movie roles followed as Jon went back to the comedy circuit, sometimes subbing for Tom Snyder on *The Late Late Show* or appearing as himself on *The Larry Sanders Show*. Rumour had it he was being prepped to replace Snyder on the soporific CBS show. But when that job went to Craig Kilborn, Stewart instead got Kilborn's old job back on Comedy Central, hosting its faux news program *The Daily Show* which, with him at the wheel, has become a critical and award-winning success.

Sample roles: Reg in Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (2001), Pizza Guy in The Office Party (2000), Kevin in Big Daddy (1999), Trent in Playing by Heart (1998), Prof. Furlong in The Faculty (1998), Enhancement Smoker in Half Baked (1998), Henry in Wishful Thinking (1997), Rollerblader in Mixed Nuts (1994)

Love life: Married his girlfriend Tracy in 2000.

Trivia: Filed to legally change his name in June 2001, quipping that Leibowitz "sounded too Hollywood." • His college soccer team still gives an award named in his honour, the "Leibo," to the team clown.

On his losing streak: "I'm the guy you don't want behind you. I'm like death." — Larry King Live, August 1999

GUY PEARCE

Now appearing in... *The Time Machine, as H.G. Wells' 1890s scientist who builds a machine that blasts him into the future.*

Bio bits: A charter member of the current crop of hunky Aussie actors that includes Russell Crowe and Hugh Jackman, Guy Edward Pearce was born on October 5, 1967, in Cambridgeshire, England. His mom was a teacher and his dad was a test pilot, first for his native New Zealand, then for the RAF and, finally, for the Aussie government. The family moved Down Under when Guy was three but his father was killed in a teat flight game warmen later



test flight gone wrong five years later. Guy grew up with mom and his big sister in the city of Geelong.

His mom nudged him into acting, hoping it would help him get over his dad's death, and Guy took to it quickly. He joined his first theatre troupe at age 11 — appearing in productions of *The King and I* and *Alice in Wonderland*. Insecure about his thin build he also took up weight-lifting and, by 16, had won the "Mr. Junior Victoria" body-building contest.

Encouraged by his drama teacher, Guy started trying out for TV shows and was quickly hired for the soap opera *Neighbours*, arriving on set just two days after finishing high school. He stayed with the series for four seasons and became a teen idol, before moving on to other TV and movie projects — like performing his own tunes as a pop musician in *Heaven Tonight* and racing across the Outback in the wildly successful drag comedy *The Adventures of Priscilla*, *Queen of the Desert*.

Priscilla garnered Pearce international attention, which jumped three years later when he starred alongside compatriot Crowe in the *noir* thriller *L.A. Confidential.* The movie made stars of both Aussies. But while Crowe went on to make Hollywood crowd-pleasers like *Gladiator*, Pearce stuck to indie and off-beat films, like his sleeper hit *Memento.* He lives in Melbourne, Australia, with his wife.

Sample roles: Lenny in Memento (2000), Mark in Rules of Engagement (2000), John in Ravenous (1999), Exley in L.A. Confidential (1997), Errol Flynn in Flynn (1996), Brett in Dating the Enemy (1996), Adam/Felicia in The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert (1994), Paul in Heaven Tonight (1990)

Trivia: His co-stars on Neighbours included Crowe and Kylie Minogue.

Love life: Married his childhood sweetheart, Kate Mestitz, in March 1997.

On Hollywood: "Whenever I've been at home for awhile, Kate and I say to each other, 'You know, it would be kinda cool to go and spend some time in L.A.' And then after we've been here for a couple of weeks we go, 'F-ck this stupid place.'" — Premiere UK, November 1997

Heroes Come In

KEANU REEVES

AROBALL' hits at

ALL SIZES

DVD Special Features

The Making of Hardball

- 3 Deleted Scenes
- Interstitials
- Music Video Hardball by Lil Bow Wow, Lil' Wayne, Lil' Zane & Sammie
- Commentary by director Brian Robbins and writer John Gatins
- French Dolby Surround

REAMONT ACTINGS NEEDE IN ACCOUNTS IN THE MOURS ACTINGS IN INFORMATION AND THE INTERNATION INFORMATION AND ACTING AND REPORT AND REPO

Available At



The experience starts here.

Heading For Home February 19, 2002. Rent It On VHS & DVD. Also Available To Own On DVD.



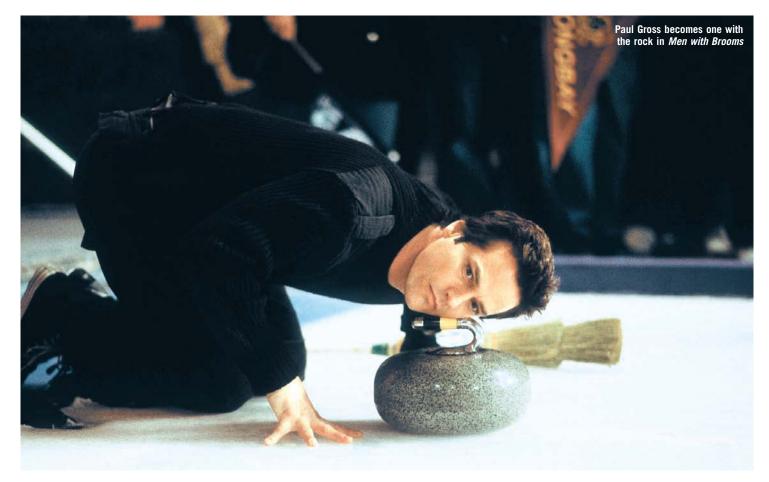
Date, availability and DVD Special Features subject to change without notice. TM, ® & Copyright © 2002 by Paramount Pictures. All Rights Reserved. www.paramount.com/homevideo



SYNHH S

HEAMU REEUE

interview |



Funny. Canadian. Film.

Three words that don't often get along. But, this month, rookie director Paul Gross tries to chip away at our country's stone-cold sober image of cinema with a quirky little curling flick called *Men with Brooms* BY MARNI WEISZ

ou're sitting in the swank boardroom of Serendipity Point Films, perhaps Canada's most important production company, waiting to meet with a well-known Canadian actor. But he's not here yet. So you stare at the granite table and count the high-tech, ergonomic chairs. Eight.

Then you notice the five framed movie posters hanging on the far wall. From left to right they are Atom Egoyan's depressing *The Sweet Hereafter*, Bruce Beresford's bleak *Black Robe*, Istvan Szabo's dark epic *Sunshine*, David Cronenberg's disturbing *Crash* and Paul Gross's curling comedy *Men with Brooms*. Yes, the same Paul Gross who played Constable Benton Fraser on TV's *Due South.* From some imaginary corner of the room, that *Sesame Street* song starts to play, "One of these films is not like the others, one of these films just doesn't belong..."

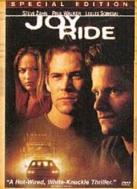
In walks an exhausted Paul Gross, who not only makes his directorial debut with *Men with Brooms*, but also stars, executive produced and co-wrote the script with playwright John Krizanc. Oh yeah, and he has a song ("Kiss You Till You Weep") on the soundtrack.

Dressed casually in jeans and a white T-shirt, he takes a seat at the head of the table, his dark hair tussled in a way that either takes styling mousse and significant time in front of a mirror, or hours pulling at it while you pour over film in an editing suite. Today, it's the latter. Despite the fact that the 42-year-old spent yesterday looping sound in Phoenix and didn't get back to Toronto until 1:30 this morning, by 8:30 a.m. he was here working on the end credits.

When his attention is drawn to the wall's anomaly he chuckles, points at the *Men with Brooms* poster and says, "Three hundred times the laughs of all of those."

Filmed in Sudbury and around Toronto, *Men with Brooms* takes place in the fictional town of Long Bay, Ontario, home of the equally fictional but very prestigious Golden Broom international curling tour-





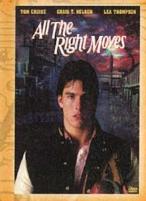


KINGSTRY









www.dvdboxoffice.com 905-709-1571 • 1-888-852-9063



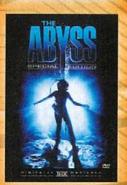
3 No Lineups... Never closed... **Always Affordable**





Free Delivery • FREE SHIPPING AND HANDLING Great Selection • OVER 15,000 DVDs AND GAMES Fast Service • 24-HOUR ON-LINE ORDERING







© 2001 Twentieth Century Fox Home Entertainment Inc. All Rights Reserved "Twentieth Century Fox", "Fox", and their associated logos are property of Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

interview |



nament. "It's not the Briar," Gross explains, "but it is kind of a jewel in the crown, and no one from there has ever won it."

One local squad had a chance years ago, but their star, Chris Cutter (Gross), left town after abandoning his fiancée at the altar. After that, his teammates (Jed Rees, James Allodi and Peter Outerbridge) just sort of gave up on both curling and life.

But when Cutter returns for their former coach's funeral he discovers the deceased's last request was for the team to reunite and go after the Golden Broom — which they do with the help of a new coach, played by Leslie Nielsen. And, lest ye think the entire story takes place between the hog line and the button, there's also a romantic subplot that pairs Cutter with his former fiancée's sister (Molly Parker).

"They're calling it a romantic comedy," says Gross, who's own romantic life revolves around his wife of 13 years actress Martha Burns. (The couple has a 12-year-old daughter Hannah and an eight-year-old son Jack.) "It's sort of a dramedy. It's not satire or skit comedy. Ideally, I hope it's viewed as real people in real situations." "I was terrified of directing," Gross admits. "I'd never done it and I didn't know what the hell I was doing."

The movie is not, as the early buzz had conjectured, the *Slap Shot* of curling. "It lies somewhere between *The Sweet Hereafter* and *Dumb and Dumber*," Gross jokes. "*Full Monty* kind of territory.... Somewhere in between tragedy and spoof."

It's no accident that Serendipity's latest has a lighter touch. On the film's official website, the company's founder Robert Lantos (who also produced those other movies on the wall) explains that he set out to make the one kind of film that was, so far, lacking in his *ouevre* — a Canadian film "with wide appeal."

There's no denying that our country's most-celebrated movies tend to be dark and inaccessible, a curiosity which begs the question: Why has Canada produced so many great comedians — Jim Carrey, Mike Myers, The Kids in the Hall — but so few good comedies?

"Wow that's a big one, I'm not entirely sure," says Gross. "I think that it has an awful lot to do with how we've financed movies for such a long time. [Government] financing through the provincial and federal wings almost forced us to make movies that were tailored to suit festivals. Comedies don't generally play well at festivals, so we ended up with a serious *auteur* cinema."

The situation might be changing, though. Films like Gary Burns' quirky office flick *waydowntown* and John Fawcett's fun werewolf gross-out *Ginger Snaps* have had some success over the past couple of years. "And *Ararat* is a scream. Atom's funniest movie yet," Gross jokes, throwing his head back with mock laughter.

He's referring, of course, to Atom Egoyan's next project for Serendipity, about the racist slaying of 600,000 Armenians in the early 20th century. "It's wonderful, actually," Gross adds, more serious now. "I saw an early cut, it's great." But heavy? "Sure," he says bluntly. "It's depressing."

It was during the final season of *Due South* (1998-1999) that Lantos, who also produced the Mountie series, approached Gross about this film. Even though the actor had never directed, he had plenty of writing experience, having penned some of *Due South* and a couple of TV movies. In the early '80s, he even wrote a couple of plays and held the coveted position of writer-inresidence at Ontario's Stratford Theatre.

But, at the time, Lantos was thinking hockey. Gross pondered that for a while, then decided it would be too hard to film. He doesn't remember who first suggested curling, but it just fit. "It's easier to shoot, comparatively speaking," he says. "You don't need a slow-motion camera because it's pretty slow. And there are only four people on the team, which makes it easier to concentrate on just a few characters."

In between other projects, Gross and Krizanc began the year-long process of hashing out the script. For Gross, those "other projects" included a stint as Hamlet at Stratford. "We probably could have written it an awful lot faster if I hadn't been wandering around in Elsinore," he says, laughing. "But the process of writing is an

Come To A Land You'll NEVER, NEVER Forget!

(DALT DISNEP'S

SPECIAL EDITION

Peter Pan

Available On M And Video February 12

(WALT DISNEP'S

SPECIAL EDITION

eter Pan

Flying Off The Shelves At

ney Home Video distributed by Buena Vista Home Inc. Burbank, CA 91521, C Dianey Enterprises, Inc.

an

0



NOW PLAYING AT A GROCERY STORE NEAR YOU ...

Redeemable at Famous Players any day of the week! HURRY! This is a limited time offer while supplies last.

FR

PASS

2

on

Almond Crunch

E

CH

FREE ADULT

N DO

*Registered trade-mark used under license by Kraft Canada Inc. Famous Players is a registered trademark of Famous Players Inc.

ILD PASS on

interview |

awful lot of fun. Frustrating occasionally, but it's tricky to move 10 characters around and try to get them all balanced."

Shooting was no less frustrating. Like when they were filming the curling scenes at a Brampton arena and it turned out to be the hottest May in memory. "It went up to 30 degrees and the ice would melt," recalls Gross. "I would shoot for about an hour or two and then we couldn't do anything more with the ice. Ohhhh, it was terrible," he says, relieving some stress by squeezing a paperclip he found on the table.

He did, however, get a bail-out from some longtime fans on another problem. There was no money to pay the hundreds of extras the script required, so someone posted a request for help on a Paul Gross fan site. And for nothing more than the thrill of being within a few hundred feet of the former Benton Fraser, fans from around the world paid their own ways to sit in an arena for 12 hours at a stretch.

"They drove in from Seattle, drove in from Alaska, flew in from *England*," Gross says with a little laugh and a shake of his head, either feeling guilty about dragging



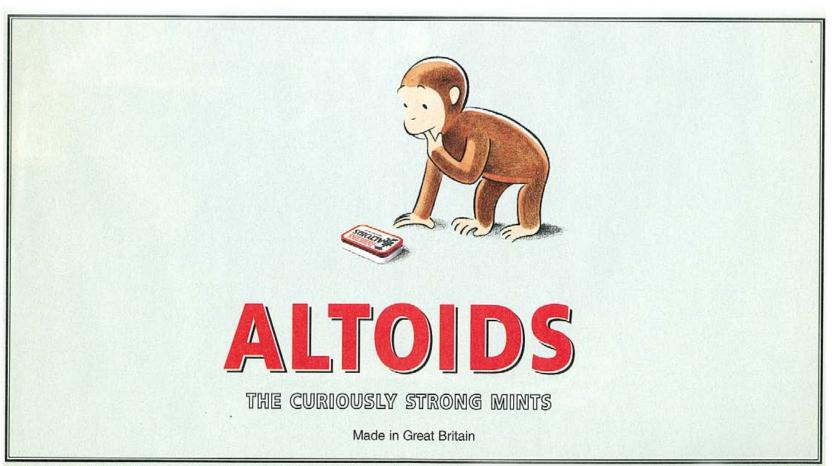
them there for such a thankless job, or uncomfortable with the level of adoration. "Oh, it's peculiar," he says. "I mean, if they had a good time, that's great. If it was horrible for them I feel very sorry that they spent the money."

Those little frustrations were undoubtedly magnified because this was the actor's first time at the helm. Some people, Gross says, assume everything comes easy to him, but that's just not the case.

"I have a kind of, I suppose, a bravado," he tries to explain. "But I was terrified of directing. I'd never done it and didn't know what the hell I was doing. [Movies] are hard. They're hard, hard, hard, hard, hard. The most amazing thing now is if I see one that's good, I think it's a small miraculous event because at the end of each stage there are so many things that can go wrong," he says, by this point having bent the paperclip into a tight little ball that he's flicking around the table.

So does he think his movie is one of the good ones? "Well, I suppose everybody says there are things they would change if they could do it again... In this case, no, it's perfect," he says with a laugh, then gets serious again. "There are a couple scenes where I think, 'Oh hell, if I just had this shot, or if I hadn't been so pressured we could have got this wider shot.' Lots of little things like that. But overall? I think it's roughly what we wanted to do.... It has an essential emotional simplicity and a kind of honesty, and it's unassuming. I really like the qualities that everybody brought to it, and how they all commingled."

Plus, as far as Gross knows, there has never been another curling movie, meaning *Men with Brooms* has given birth to a whole new genre. "In years to come they will speak of this in the same way they talk about disaster flicks," he says, alighting with faux bluster. "Yeah, it's a disaster flick. Yeah, it's a curling flick... It's a war movie. It's a curling movie."







interview |



Cool dude John Leguizamo zips back in time to voice one of *Ice Age*'s prehistoric heroes | BY EARL DITTMAN

rom a drag queen in *To Wong Foo*, *Thanks for Everything, Julie Newmar* to French artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec in *Moulin Rouge*, Bogota-born actor, and sometimes standup, John Leguizamo has, somehow, managed to avoid being typecast as the Latino everyman.

Now voicing a furry critter in *Ice Age*, an animated feature about a quartet of prehistoric animals out to save a human baby, Leguizamo proves his versatility yet again. The 36-year-old father of two took a breather at L'Ermitage hotel in Beverly Hills to talk about the film, the price of fame and going back to Colombia.

[Q] Are you a fan of animated movies?

[a] "Yeah, I love them. But not so much the Disney kind of movies. I'm a really big fan of anime, which is Japanimation. There's been some really great full-length anime movies that have been released within the last couple of years. For instance. Princess Mononoke is fantastic and so is La Blue Girl I did one about two years ago, Titan A.E., which was like an American version of anime. It was a great attempt at it, but I don't think audiences knew what to make of it, especially older moviegoers.... But with all the advances in technology, a lot of animated movies now look better than regular films and many of them have better scripts. That's why I wanted to be a part of *Ice Age*. I've been [working on] it for about four or five years now. It looks fantastic and it's hilarious."

[**Q**] What else is unique about *Ice Age*?

[**a**] "The director, Chris Wedge, is doing it with a whole new type of animation, something called radiosity [a computer process that recreates the properties of natural light]. That's why it is taking so long to make. He's doing some great things with lighting that really brings it alive. And the computer special effects — the animation — is just amazing. For instance, most of the creatures, like my character, have hair. And he's gotten every strand of hair to move in such a realistic way. It really looks 3D most of the time."

[**q**] Which character are you?

[**a**] "I play a prehistoric sloth. I know, you're thinking, 'Okay, John Leguizamo and a sloth — I just don't get it? When I think of a sloth, John does not come to mind.' But he's really a lot like me in a bunch of ways. He's this charming, little womanizer. And, let me tell you, he loves his lady sloths! I can relate to that [laughs]."

[Q] You still do your one-man shows. Does the applause from a live audience make stage work more gratifying than film?

[a] "It's not just the applause, it's the

immediate reaction that you get. Like, the serious moments, they will get so quiet with you, and you can feel that. And in the funny moments, the hilarity and the laughter usually goads me into trying something new."

[**Q**] Would you like to be a bigger celebrity?

[a] "Yeah, why not? I mean, the beauty of that is not really the fame part of it or the money. The beauty of it is being able to put on film the things that you really want to say and do."

[Q] But there's a price for that kind of fame.

[**a**] "Oh yeah, that's a tough tradeoff, because I don't know how much you can create after you lose all your privacy. You can't really observe people anymore. I mean, it must be tough that somebody like Nicole Kidman can't go out anywhere without being mobbed. I mean, that's why she lives in Australia, because they respect her a lot more there."

[Q] Do you get mobbed on the street by fans?

[**a**] "Yeah, in America. But not abroad, because I don't think my comedy is out there as much."

[**Q**] Are fans usually respectful?

[**a**] "Most of the time they're nice. But fans feel like they own you a lot of the time. They feel like you belong to them. A lot of times, I'm having a private moment with my girlfriend and they want an autograph or they want to take a picture. And they just come up to you and demand it. They don't care that you are trying to live your life. When you tell them, 'Maybe later,' they get mad and they yell at you. That's tough."

[**Q**] When did you last go home to Colombia?[**a**] "I think my last visit was in 1997."

[**q**] Did the Colombians treat you like a hero?

[**a**] "Oh, I didn't tell anyone that I was going over there because I was scared. I didn't want to be kidnapped.... So I just snuck into Cartejena. But I don't know why anyone would want to kidnap me. They wouldn't get much of a ransom. If they called up the studios to tell them they were going to keep me hostage unless they paid them a lot of money, I'm sure the studios would probably tell them, 'Are you kidding? Keep him, he's a pain in the ass anyway. He's just John Leguizamo.'"

Earl Dittman is a Houston-based writer.

Bring the Award Winners Home Tonight. DOLBY DIGITAL & TIC DIGITAL SURROUND SOUNE

KEVIN SPACEY

DEMY AWARDS 1999

ANNETTE BENING

Bonus Features include: **Deleted** scenes and director's commentary

GLADIATOR

Bonus Features include: **Behind-the-scenes** featurette "Into the Breach"

SPECIAL

tom hanks

saving private ryan edward burns matt clamori tam s

5 ACADEMY AWARDS BEST DIRECTOR 1998 Steven Spielberg

Bonus Features include: "Making-of" documentary and storyboards

AMERICAN BEAUTY

Features include: **Cast & crew** commentary and deleted scenes SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE

Bonus

WARDS CTURE

Its Awards season! BLOCKBUSTER[®] has more DVD's to choose from each week. Now you can experience some of your favourite award-winning movies on DVD.

Available for sale or rent at

BI OCKBUSTER

Make it a Blockbuster Night."

preview |

Making your OSCAL PICKS?

Before you throw that \$10 into your friendly office pool, take a look at who the other major awards presenters deemed most worthy of 2001



GOLDEN GLOBES Best Picture (Drama): A Beautiful Mind Best Picture (Comedy/Musical): Moulin Rouge Best Director: Robert Altman for Gosford Park Best Actor (Drama): Russell Crowe for A Beautiful Mind Best Actor (Comedy or Musical): Gene Hackman for The Royal Tenenbaums Best Actress (Drama): Sissy Spacek for In the Bedroom Best Actress (Comedy or Musical): Nicole Kidman for Moulin Rouge Best Supporting Actor: Jim Broadbent for Iris Best Supporting Actress: Jennifer Connelly for A Beautiful Mind NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEWBest Picture: Moulin RougeBest Director: Todd Field for In the BedroomBest Actor: Billy Bob Thornton for Monster's Ball, The Man Who Wasn'tThere and BanditsBest Actress: Halle Berry for Monster's BallBest Supporting Actor: Jim Broadbent for Iris and Moulin RougeBest Supporting Actress: Cate Blanchett for The Man Who Cried,The Shipping News and The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship

of the Ring



AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE

Movie of the Year: The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring Director of the Year: Robert Altman for Gosford Park Actor of the Year, Male: Denzel Washington for Training Day Actor of the Year, Female: Sissy Spacek for In the Bedroom Featured Actor of the Year, Male: Gene Hackman for The Royal Tenenbaums Featured Actor of the Year, Female: Jennifer Connelly for A Beautiful Mind

NEW YORK FILM CRITICS CIRCLE

Best Film: Mulholland Drive Best Director: Robert Altman for Gosford Park Best Actor: Tom Wilkinson for In the Bedroom Best Actress: Sissy Spacek for In the Bedroom Best Supporting Actor: Steve Buscemi for Ghost World Best Supporting Actress: Helen Mirren for Gosford Park





TORONTO FILM CRITICS Best Picture: Memento Best Director: David Lynch for Mulholland Drive Best Performance, Male: Ed Harris for Pollock Best Performance, Female: Thora Birch for Ghost World Best Supporting Performance, Male: Ben Kingsley for Sexy Beast Best Supporting Performance, Female: Scarlett Johansson for Ghost World

LOS ANGELES FILM CRITICS Best Picture: In the Bedroom Best Director: David Lynch for Mulholland Drive Best Actor: Denzel Washington for Training Day Best Actress: Sissy Spacek for In the Bedroom Best Supporting Actor: Jim Broadbent for Moulin Rouge and Iris Best Supporting Actress: Kate Winslet for Iris cover | story |

He already rules the wrestling ring. And with the release of next month's *The Scorpion King*, Dwayne "The Rock"

King

Johnson might just steal the action-adventure crown from aging heroes Schwarzenegger and Stallone. Here, Johnson talks about the movie, WrestleMania 18 and being down-and-out in Calgary

BY SEAN DAVIDSON

wayne Johnson sounds tired. On the phone from a noisy room somewhere in South Carolina the pro wrestler explains that he's in between shooting two pay-per-view specials for the

WWF. Last night, the six-foot-five, 270pound bruiser better known to his zillion fans as The Rock — a.k.a. The People's Champion, the Brahma Bull and the Most Electrifying Man in Sports Entertainment was busy whaling on, and hollering at, his spandex-clad colleagues, whipping the crowd into a froth with his trademark slogans ("Can you smell what The Rock is cooking?") and laying, as they like to say ringside, the smackdown on any candy-ass jabroni fool enough to climb into the ring. And tonight, he'll do it all over again.

"Then I fly back to L.A.," he says, clearly a little worn-out and fighting a persistent cough, for some last-minute work on *The Scorpion King*. The third instalment of the *Mummy* series has kept 29-year-old Johnson busy since his appearance in last year's *The Mummy Returns* so wowed studio execs that they approved, and rushed to production, a third film based entirely on his character.

Mummy Returns hadn't even wrapped when he got the good news. "I was so overwhelmed from being sick. I had sunstroke and whatever else you can get from the Moroccan desert," he recalls. "I told my agent 'That's fantastic but I've got to go to bed, 'cause I've got to be up in an hour and I've got things coming out of my body you wouldn't believe.""

So it's probably best for all involved that they shot Scorpion King in Arizona. Set in ancient Egypt, the swords 'n' sandals prequel casts Johnson as Mathayus, a ruthless assassin recruited to take out a sorcerer who's in league with an evil warlord. But when said sorcerer turns out to be a beautiful woman. Kelly Hu of TV's Martial Law. he instead takes off with her into the desert, hoping to unite the local tribes and raise an army against her former boss. Michael Clarke Duncan (The Green Mile) also stars and Chuck Russell (The Mask) directs under the, no doubt, watchful eve of WWF head honcho and executive producer Vince McMahon.

So Mathayus is a good guy? But in *Mummy Returns* the same character was a CGI monster. To borrow again from wrestling jargon, is this guy a baby face? Or is he a heel?

"Hmm, good question," Johnson says, stopping to think. "He's a baby face with



"I TRIED TO GET THE BEST MATTRESS THAT HAD THE LEAST AMOUNT OF BODILY FLUIDS ON IT," JOHNSON RECALLS. "AND I LIVED THAT WAY FOR MONTHS."

heel qualities. That's the great thing about this character. Not only is he born to kill but he's also born to lead thousands of men."

As in the ring, Johnson says it's important for his screen character to seem human. A key to The Rock's popularity, it has been observed, is that he's not invulnerable to pain or suffering. "I lose," he explains quietly. "I'm one of those guys who wins often and loses often. But as much ass kicking as I do it's important to have that balance of being in jeopardy and being flawed."

"There are some unbelievable fight scenes in this movie," he continues, but adds that unlike the previous *Mummy* movies, *Scorpion King* doesn't make much use of splashy special effects. Computerand effect-heavy films, he offers, make it hard for audiences to connect with the action and the characters. "Every fight scene is very relate-able. Everything that happens — man, woman, child, from eight to eighty — can put their finger on it and know that it could actually happen."

The third-generation wrestler and sixtime World Wrestling Federation champ certainly knows a thing or two about stage fighting. And playing to crowds. But unless his Bronze Age assassin beats his enemies into the sand with a folding chair, surely Johnson had to learn a few new tricks to make this movie? "Oh yeah, I had to learn a lot of new things. Obviously, coming from the industry I come from — a very frenetic, energized, live industry — was a great thing and really helped my transition into film," he says. But his acting and swordplay needed some coaching, so Andy Cheng, one of Jackie Chan's fight co-ordinators and stunt men, was brought in. "He's amazing," Johnson exclaims, "I had to work very closely with him on sword fighting, staff fighting. Not necessarily martial arts but really becoming a student in terms of sword knowledge."

Maybe he can put that to use on March 17, when he and the WWF hit Toronto for the highly anticipated WrestleMania 18. ("WrestleMania X8" on the posters.) At the very first mention of the SkyDome bout, Johnson perks up and shifts into his Rock persona.

"I absolutely cannot wait. This will be the biggest WrestleMania of all time," he exclaims. "I know I said that last year, and I made it happen with Stone Cold Steve Austin. We broke attendance records. This WrestleMania will top that for the simple fact there's a fantasy match-up that you thought you'd never see." By now he's into what sounds like a well-practised monologue, boosting a bout that will "answer the age-old question of what would happen if Muhammad Ali faced Mike Tyson? What

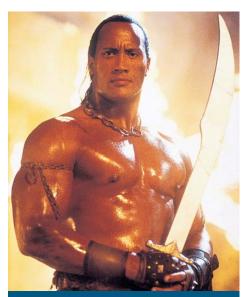
cover | story |

would happen if Dick Butkus played in the NFL today? Could Jim Brown run over linebackers today? It will be icon versus icon. Do you see where I'm going with this?"

I don't. He'll have to spell it out.

"The Rock versus Hulk Hogan," he booms. Big news for wrestling fans. And assuming he sees himself as Iron Mike, quite a compliment for Hogan; but not entirely inaccurate seeing as Hogan's not much younger than the ailing heavyweight.

This won't be Johnson's first trip north of the border. He's been up for matches before and, in an earlier life, spent time in Calgary at the tail-end of a failed football career. Rather than follow in the footsteps of his dad, wrestler Rocky Johnson, or his maternal grandfather, Peter Maivia, Dwayne Douglas Johnson started out on the gridiron — making All-American in



Warrior. King. Copy-cat.

Keen-eyed veterans of the fantasy genre might feel the slightest glimmer of déjà vu watching The Scorpion King, resembling as it does the dungeon crawling epic that launched the career of another brawny body-builder. Arnold Schwarzenegger had been in just a few movies — mostly anonymous bit parts — when he finally hit it big with 1982's Conan the Barbarian, playing a super-buff fighter/assassin and future king on a quest to kill the sorcerous warlord who slaughtered his people. The similar plots and pedigree might go overlooked, if not for Scorpion King's use of the Conan theme in its trailer. Heck, even the tag lines are damn-near identical: "Warrior. Legend. King." (Scorpion King) and "Thief. Warrior. Gladiator. King." (Conan).

high school and getting a scholarship to the celebrated football program at U. of Miami. He finished his degree, criminology, but an injury- and alcohol-plagued senior year cost him his shot at the NFL.

"When I didn't get drafted it was a huge disappointment," he recalls, "because you spend five years of working hard to attain this one goal and you only get one shot at it. It's like the Olympics."

The only team that would take him was the Calgary Stampeders' practise squad, up in the Siberian gulag that is the CFL. "Making \$350 a week, Canadian, living with three other guys," he says. "We had no furniture, no food, and I had to go get my mattress from a seedy hotel, one of those hourly motels that are used for sex and drugs, in the back dumpster. I tried to get the best mattress that had the least amount of bodily fluids on it. And I lived that way for months." Eventually cut from the team, he had just \$7 left when he called his dad from a payphone. He was coming home, and would he train him to be a wrestler?

A minor-league tour as Flex Kavana led to his WWF debut in 1996 as Rocky Maivia. A year later he became The Rock and climbed a "predetermined" path to the WWF's top ranks. These days he draws an estimated salary of \$15-million, American, plus another \$5-million for the movie.

"I'll never forget [Calgary] but I'm glad I went through it. It's a chapter in my life I knew was gonna end...my inspiration comes from knowing where I came from and knowing I never want to go back."

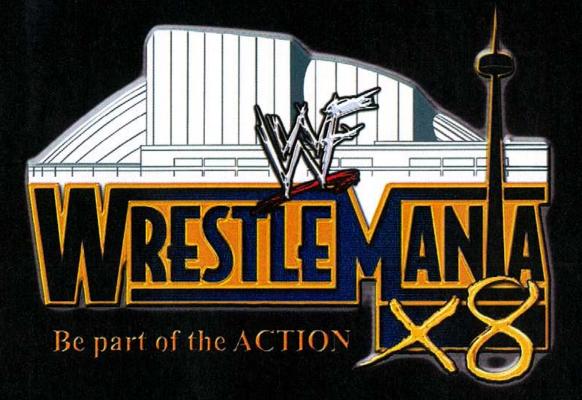
Two new chapters have opened for Johnson. He now has a movie career and, 11 months ago, he and his wife Dany had their first child, a girl named Simone. "It's by far the biggest blessing I've ever had in my life," he beams. But it's never easy for career people — she's a vicepresident with Merrill Lynch in Miami to make time for family, least of all when one of them is on the road wrestling or making movies. Johnson's a strong guy, but can he carry two careers and a family?

"Somehow, someway, some form, some fashion," again a spurt of ringside banter, "I will always be a part of the WWF. There's nothing like a live audience and getting that immediate reaction." But, at the same time, the hardest workin' man in wrestling says, "Changes will definitely happen."

"The hardest part for me right now is juggling and balancing two very big careers," he admits. "And I'm not sure how long I'll be able to balance both."

5T	mous trivia	
1	<i>We Were Soldiers</i> star Mel Gibson has directed two movies. The secon was 1995's <i>Braveheart</i> . What was the first?	
2	Harland Williams, the Toronto-born star of <i>Sorority Boys</i> , has a cousin who's part of a famous Canadian band. Is it Barenaked Ladies' Kevin Hearn, The Tragically Hip's Johnny Fa or Our Lady Peace's Raine Maida?	
3	This month's heist comedy All About the Benjamins is the fourth movie written by rapper-turned-actor Ice Cube. What was the first?	
4	In which of the four modern <i>Batman</i> movies did <i>Salton Sea</i> star Val Kilmer play the caped crusader? Wa it <i>Batman & Robin, Batman Returns,</i> <i>Batman Forever</i> or <i>Batman</i> ?	
5	Which actress was younger when she first hosted Saturday Night Live — The Panic Room's Jodie Foster, of Drew Barrymore, star of E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial, which celebrates it 20th anniversary this month with a re-release?	
6	Name the one movie for which <i>Death</i> to Smoochy actor/director/producer Danny DeVito got an Oscar nominatior Clue: He didn't appear on screen.	
7	Ashley Judd and Morgan Freeman star in the upcoming court drama <i>High Crimes</i> . What's the only other movie the pair has done together?	
8	Director Steven Soderbergh's latest, <i>Full Frontal,</i> is being described as an unofficial sequel to the 1989 movie that put him on the map. Name that movie.	
	ANSWERS	
ı) ırymore	I The Man Without a Face 2 Kevin Hearn Friday 4 Batman Forever 5 Drew Barrymore 6 Erin Brockovich (as a producer) 7 Kiss the Girls 8 sex, lies and videotape	

Live on the BIG SCREEN at select Famous Players Theatres



MARCH 17

SUNDAY, SPM-MIDNIGHT (ET)



Advance tickets NOW ON SALE at famousplayers.com or at select theatre box offices.

on the slate

ALTMAN GETS WIRED, BRATT GOES TO WAR AND TARANTINO COMES OUT OF HIDING BY SEAN DAVIDSON



ARMY BRATT

If he works hard, **Benjamin Bratt** will eventually be known for something other than bedding **Julia Roberts**. The former star of *Law & Order*, seen recently in the indie drama *Piñero*, and just back from shooting the chiller *Abandon* near Montreal, has signed to star in the partly true war picture *The Great Raid*. Bratt will play an Army Ranger, sent by General MacArthur himself, on a dangerous mission to free 500 American POWs from a Japanese compound. To prepare, the young Colonel is retrained for guerilla warfare. Hang in there folks. Hollywood will run out of World War Two stories eventually.

WHERE'S QUENTIN?

It's been, what, five years since Jackie Brown? Altman's cranked out four films in that time. whereas onetime wunderkind Quentin Tarantino has, it seems, just been sitting on the script for his new project Kill Bill - waiting for the SAG strike threats to go away and for leading lady Uma Thurman to get back from maternity leave. Now, it seems, work on the noir thriller will finally start this June, in L.A., Hong Kong, Japan and Mexico. Thurman will play a kick-ass assassin on a mission to kill the man who double-crossed her and left her for dead. The man? Warren Beatty (Town and Country), who's been getting in shape for the film's ample fisticuffs along with costars Michael Madsen and Lucy Liu. Watch for it in theatres...next year? Five years from now? Who can tell?

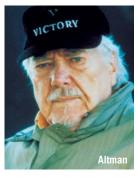


LIVE AND LET SPY

Shooting will also start this year on *The Garbo Deception* a (surprise!) World War Two drama likely to be directed by John McTiernan (*Rollerball*). Two-time Oscar winner Kevin Spacey, actor extraordinaire Gerard Depardieu and the sometimes enjoyable John Travolta are all in talks to join the cast of the cloak-and-dagger thriller, which tells how a Spanish double agent, working for Britain, sent false reports to Nazi intelligence and paved the way for the D-Day invasion. Depardieu is likely to play the spying Spaniard.

ALTMAN'S "CURRENT" PROJECT

It came as no surprise that Robert Altman's next film will feature many of the same faces that have been popping up, like so many whack-a-moles, in his films since the 1970s. Elliot Gould, for example. The slightly gone-to-seed star of M*A*S*H and *The Long Goodbye* will join such other Altman regulars as Liv Tyler (*Dr. T and the Women, Cookie's Fortune*) and calypso king Harry Belafonte (*Prêt-à-Porter, The Player*) in *Voltage*, a comedy about a group of



engineers and their lives at a Long Island electronics firm. It's based on the Robert Grossbach novel *A Shortage of Engineers* and will also star Joaquin Phoenix, Steve Buscemi and William H. Macy.

THE JET SET

Contrary to earlier reports, the new Jet Li movie Cradle to the Grave will not be a remake of Fritz Lang's 1931 classic psychodrama M. And movie history is a happier place for it. Instead, the film — which reunites Li with his Romeo Must Die co-star DMX, as well as Romeo director Andrzej Bartkowiak and producer Joel Silver — will star the punchy Chinese import as a cop hot on the trail of a globe-trotting diamond thief, played by rapper-turned-actor DMX. But when the crook's daughter is kidnapped, the pair team up. Bet you didn't see that one coming. Li (Kiss of the Dragon, The One) has also been hard at work on the historical epic Hero for director Zhang Yimou and is said to be working on a project with Jackie Chan. Is this guy the new Bruce Lee? Or just a skinnier Sammo Hung?



Motor-mouthed comic Chris Rock (*Down to Earth*) will make his directorial debut in the comedy *Head of State*, playing an unlikely presidential candidate. ■ Kyle McLachlan (*Twin Peaks*) and Ralph Fiennes (*Sunshine*) will fight over an Estonian nuclear power plant in the drama *Dominoes*. ■ John Cusack (*America's Sweethearts*) and Minnie Driver (*Return to Me*) have signed on for an Americanized remake of *Fever Pitch*, replacing soccer with baseball. ■ Someone, somewhere, is working on a live-action *Garfield* movie. Don't ask why. Rather, ask why now?



UNDER DOING IT

ALANIS MORISSETTE WANTED TO TONE DOWN THE "POOR ME" ROUTINE ON HER NEW ALBUM UNDER RUG SWEPT. AND SHE WANTED TO MAKE IT ALL BY HERSELF | BY DAVID GIAMMARCO



he city of Toronto is gloomy as storm clouds thunder overhead and drizzle pelts the windows of a downtown hotel room. But Alanis Morissette is in anything but a grey

mood as she arrives whistling a happy tune and flashing a high-watt smile. Her new album *Under Rug Swept* is a fresh start in many ways for Morissette, who jettisoned longtime collaborator Glen Ballard (Aerosmith, Michael Jackson, Dave Matthews) and took control of her third Maverick release as sole producer and writer.

[Q] Was it a little scary producing for the first time?

[a] "Yeah, there was an element of me not knowing what the f-ck I was doing when I first started, but once I had a good week under my belt, I had a very clear sense of where I was going and how I was going to do it. It was a real baptism-by-fire experience."

[**Q**] What do you think this album says about you at this point in your life?

[a] "It's tough, because I usually don't have objectivity till, like, two years later. But I think, emotionally, it was trying to bridge gaps between cultures and religions and genders and also trying to bridge gaps within myself...just trying to get all the little fragmented pieces to kind of sit in one room. And, musically, doing it alone I feel like it's square one, really."

[Q] If you had to break your albums down into chapters, what would each represent in your life?

[a] "Jagged Little Pill would be just arriving in L.A. and being totally culture shocked and just overwhelmed and tapping in, for the first time, into being that honest.... And then [Supposed Former Infatuation Junkie] was almost in response to everything that had happened and giving the middle finger, in many ways, to structure and editing and a lot of what I was supposed to do. And then this chapter is just growthful and still there's a lot of allowances. Like I don't have to be this falling into my own self, poor-me thing. So it's kind of like this nice evolution to me. And it's fun."

[Q] You seem like you're more at peace with yourself and the world now.

[a] "Yeah, I am. Everything's a little less *precious* now. [Laughs.] I think it has a lot to do with getting older. And not just chronologically. I mean, the difference between 21 and 27 is like night and day for me. But that's just because I love to grow and I love to heal."

[Q] What do you think of the current state of music?

[a] "I don't listen to the radio and I don't watch television, so that kind of colours my perception of what's going on right now. If someone says, 'Oh, you'll love this artist' or something, then I'll listen to it.... But I'm not watching the MTV Awards or these shows that encapsulate what's going on. So I'm just kind of merrily doing my own thing."

[Q] You played God in Kevin Smith's *Dogma* and did a run in *The Vagina Monologues* — any plans to do more acting?

[a] "I'd love to act again. So we'll see whether it'll be something that I really resonate with that someone else wrote, or whether it'll be something I write. It remains to be seen. Maybe a little bit of both."

David Giammarco is an entertainment writer based in Toronto and Los Angeles.



Artist: Avant Title: Ecstasy Label: MCA/Universal

Artist: Craig Armstrong Title: As if to Nothing Label: Melankolic/Virgin

Artist: Baha Men Title: Move it Like This Label: Capitol/EMI

Artist: Brandy Title: Full Moon Label: Atlantic/Warner

Artist: Choclair Title: Memoirs of Blake Savage Label: Virgin Canada

Artist: Dead Prez Title: Peoples Radio Label: Loud/Sony

Artist: Sergent Garcia Title: Sin Forteras Label: Virgin

Artist: Gomez Title: In Our Gun Label: Virgin

Artist: Marc Jordan Title: Behind the Music Label: EMI Music Canada

Artist: M2M Title: The Big Room Label: Atlantic/Warner

Artist: Bobby McFerrin Title: Beyond Words Label: EMI Music Canada

Artist: Alanis Morissette Title: Under Rug Swept Label: Warner Bros.

Artist: Meshell Ndegeocello Title: Cookie: The Anthropological Mixtape Label: Warner Bros.

Artist: Remy Shand Title: The Way I Feel Label: Universal

Artist: Sarah Slean Title: Night Bugs Label: Warner Music Canada

Artist: Cassandra Wilson Title: Belly of the Sun Label: Bluenote/EMI

BK 1/4 Ib BURGER

Now available at pres

name of the game



ANOTHER SONIC BOOM? ZIPPY HEDGEHOG'S LATEST ADVENTURE TOPS THE MONTH'S NEW GAMES I BY MARK MAGEE

SONIC ADVENTURE 2: BATTLE >>GameCube

Every good game system needs a great mascot. Nintendo has that wily little plumber Mario, Sony has the smarmy Crash Bandicoot, and Sega...well, Sega *had* the turbo-powered Sonic the Hedgehog. But ever since the industry titan ditched the Dreamcast hardware to focus solely on developing software, gamers have been wondering whether they'd seen the last of Sonic and his well-worn sneakers.

But fear not! Sega has decided to keep Sonic on the payroll, and now he's making his first-ever debut on a non-Sega machine. The game is *Sonic Adventure 2: Battle*, and the machine is former rival Nintendo's GameCube.

This sequel delivers the ultra-fast gameplay fans have come to expect from Sonic, but with a twist — now, you can be either the standard heroic character or an evil counterpart. If you play as Sonic, Knuckles or Tails, your job is to save the world. But if you play as Dr. Eggman, Shadow or Rouge, you get to destroy everything in sight.

Each character comes with a unique storyline and a different style of gameplay. For example, Shadow is all about zipping around at lightspeed, while Tails gets the job done by firing missile weapons. It's that variety — combined with more than 150 different missions, improved two-player head-to-head mode and a ton of minigames — that makes *Sonic Adventure 2: Battle* a very replayable game.

TIGER WOODS PGA TOUR 2002 >>PC/PS2

The biggest name in golf hits the virtual links in this latest instalment of Woods' popular franchise. The 2001 Playstation 2 edition was hamstrung by some iffy control problems, but this time around EA Sports has ironed out the glitches, and the end result is a highly intuitive, great-looking golf game that's as easy to play as it is fun. Of course, as in real golf, mastering the game is challenging, so be prepared to spend many sunny afternoons yelling at a little white ball.



DUNGEON SIEGE >>>PC

Fans of action-packed, *Dungeons & Dragons*style games like *Baldur's Gate* should check out this fast-paced swords and sorcery title from the acclaimed creator of *Total Annihilation*. You begin the game as a lowly farmer in an amazingly detailed world filled with all sorts of evil creatures. As you do battle with the endless stream of baddies, you gain experience and accumulate snazzy weapons and spells. You can also get some helping hands by building a party of up to eight characters, giving you the chance to role-play as the medieval general of a small army.

NBA STREET >>GameCube

This straight-up street hoops game was one of the best things to happen to the PS2 last year, and now GameCube owners can find out what all the fuss was about. So forget about those boring old NBA rules and regulations, 'cause this game is all about gritty, down-and-dirty playground b-ball. With plenty of boo-ya attitude and cuckoo-crazy moves, this is hands down the single best "get-some-friends-togetherand-talk-some-serious-trash" title on the market.

GUN VALKYRIE >>>Xbox

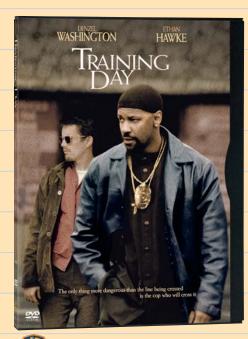
This anime-inspired first-person shooter sends you to an arachnid-infested planet to rescue a missing scientist. With your trusty jetpack and an array of weapons, you must leap and shoot your way through the hordes of insectoid nasties. The graphics look great, and the well-planned controls (one analog stick rotates your view, while the other handles your movement) makes for plenty of high-speed, dodge-'em shootouts.

GLOBAL OPS >>PC

Travel around the world to notorious hot spots like Chechnya and Sri Lanka, and settle decades-old conflicts by killing everyone. This military-themed action/strategy multiplayer game allows you and your buddies to take on the roles of everyone from rebel guerillas to international peacekeepers, as you attempt to outmanoeuver and outshoot your opponents in stunningly realized real-world locales. Sure, it's basically just glossy war porn for would-be Delta Forcers — but don't let that get in the way of a good testosterone rush.

Mark Magee is the associate editor of Premiere Video Magazine.

film studies 101



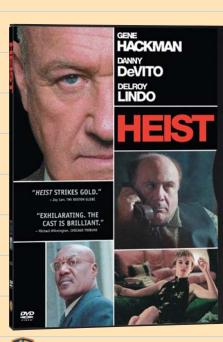
TRAINING DAY DVD SPECIAL FEATURES:

 Behind-the-scenes documentary, "HBO First Look: The Making of Training Day"

- Feature-length audio commentary with director Antoine Fuqua
- Additional scenes
- Alternate ending

• 2 music videos: Nelly's "#1" and Pharoahe Monch's "Got You"

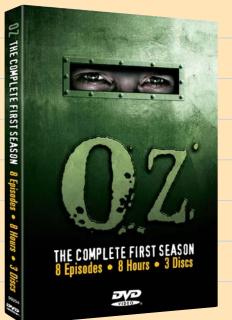
• DVD-Rom special features: link to theatrical website and log in to future online events



HEIST

Writer-director David Mamet scores big with his latest hard-boiled tale of tough guys, double-crosses and a perfectly planned crime. Gene Hackman, Danny DeVito and Delroy Lindo are razor-sharp in this cranked up crime flick that has all the edgy action and hard-asnails dialogue Mamet is famous for.

AVAILABLE MARCH 12

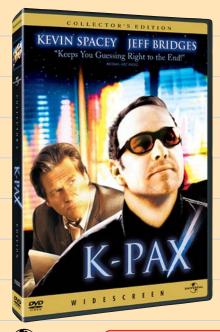


OZ: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON

DVD SPECIAL FEATURES: • Audio commentary by creator Tom Fontana and actor Lee Tergeson on episodes 1 and 2

- Behind-the-scenes featurette
- Episodic previews
- 11 deleted scenes with commentary

• Music video: "Behind the – Walls," featuring Kurupt and Nate Dogg



K-PAX

AVAILABLE FEBRUARY 26

DVD SPECIAL FEATURES:

- Intriguing never-beforeseen alternate ending
 "The Making of K-PAX"
- featurette, including exclusive behind-the-scenes footage, plus interviews with the cast and crew
- Feature commentary by director lain Softley
- Deleted scenes
- The making of K-PAX photos by Jeff Bridges
- DVD-ROM features

HEO HOME VIDEO

AVAILABLE MARCH 19

UNIVERSAL

AVAILABLE MARCH 26

BUY OR RENT THEM AT YOUR LOCAL VIDEO RETAILER

bit streaming

TO CATCH A CHEAT

CAN ONE LITTLE WEBSITE STOP THE RUNAWAY PLAGIARISM ON CANADIAN CAMPUSES?

BY SEAN DAVIDSON

could easily have stolen this article. All I'd have to do is type the topic "online plagiarism" into a search engine and start copying and pasting all the other stories — from the *New York Times*, *Wired*, CNN, *National Post*, the *L.A. Times* that pop up. It's a quick way to turn out 600 words, and who's gonna know? It's a safe bet that few of you saw that article in the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

It's just as easy, and apparently far more common, for college and university students. Thanks to the explosion of the web, and the proliferation of hundreds of so-called "cheat sites" that sell pre-written last fall, became the first Canadian campus to subscribe to Turnitin.com, an online service that scans students' work for signs of plagiarism. "We want to foster an atmosphere of academic honesty," adds Dawson.

Students submit essays to Turnitin.com, where papers are checked against the entire internet and a hefty database of books, periodicals and other academia. If too much of a paper matches what's online, it gets flagged and the prof is sent a word-by-word report that highlights all the suspicious material, complete with links to the original sources.

Dawson stresses that it's still up to the



papers, plagiarism of online material has spread like a bad case of Ebola through campuses in Canada and the U.S. Early this year, Simon Fraser University was scandalized when 47 students were caught cheating on a third-year economics assignment. This followed 120 who were nabbed at U. of Alberta in 2001, 122 at U. of Virginia, and the 150 undergrads who are currently under investigation for plagiarism at the University of Toronto.

So it's not surprising that schools are clamping down, and using the net to fight the same problem it spawned.

"Plagiarism isn't a new problem, it's just that now we've got new tools to combat it," says Debra Dawson, a spokesperson at the University of Western Ontario — which, faculty, not the service, to decide if a paper was actually plagiarized. Mistakes do happen, after all, and even properly cited quotes can get a paper flagged. "All it does is it tells the faculty member that 'This portion of the paper came from this particular source.""

On the phone from his California office, Turnitin.com creator John Barrie adds that the site also remembers every paper it has ever checked, so that even material "shared" by classmates will sound an alarm. And switching around a few words, he says, won't fool the system. "If you changed every other word...you still wouldn't escape detection," he says proudly.

Well, not necessarily. Turnitin.com found nothing suspicious, rightly so, in my

CHEAT CODES

MOSS

www.cs.berkeley.edu/~aiken/moss.html

Programmers pilfer too, which is why the Measure of Software Similarity application has been made available by the computer science crew at Berkeley. Developed way back in 1994, it compares programs written in C, C++, Java, Pascal and other languages for signs of plagiarized code. The University of Sydney [www.cs.su.oz.au] has another one called YAP. Hope they didn't steal it.

Cyber Essays

www.cyberessays.com

One of several sites that offer pre-written papers on subjects as varied as B.B. King, the Chernobyl meltdown and, ironically, copyright law. Someone should tell whoever writes this site's film papers that it was Eleanor Coppola, not "Eugene Coppola" who made *Hearts of Darkness*. And to the whiz kid behind the Leonardo da Vinci essay? Most of us spell "genius" without an "o".

old fourth year paper about 1950s sci-fi movies. But it missed entire paragraphs of stolen material in a 1,000-word dummy essay. Yes, the material copied word-forword from Mark Twain, a cheat site, Betty Friedan and P.J. O'Rourke all got flagged. But Turnitin.com didn't catch the paragraph by author Douglas Rushkoff. It also failed to recognize two paragraphs, every other word of which had been rewritten, which were taken from another cheat site, and essayist Thomas Frank.

Those last two are "sort of extreme" examples, says Barrie, but concedes that the system can, sometimes, be beaten.

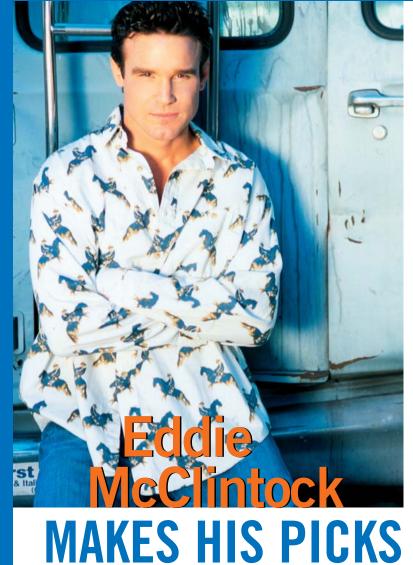
Nonetheless Turnitin.com is getting good reviews as a deterrent against academic dishonesty, and has since been picked up at U. of New Brunswick, UBC and the Royal Military College. Dawson says the service performed "tremendously" through Western's busy end-of-term in December and will again be put through its paces this month and next during finals.

Oh, and the site also checked out this article. Not stolen, just in case you were wondering.

Sean Davidson is the deputy editor of Famous magazine.



five | favourite | films |



Oddie McClintock is one of those actors you think you recognize, but you're not sure from where.

Perhaps that's because the Ohio native has made a living bouncing between TV "guest appearances" and roles on shows with exceedingly brief runs — a zany assistant on NBC's *Stark Raving Mad*, an aspiring actor on Fox's *Holding the Baby* and Noel's gay brother on WB's *Felicity*.

But, this month, that may change, because Eddie McClintock scored a small role in the highly classified, big-buzz Steven Soderbergh film *Full Frontal.* Which means he can now count Julia Roberts among his co-stars. Plus, he'll share the screen with Cameron Diaz in *The Sweetest Thing*, a romantic comedy about a party girl who finally meets Mr. Right.

McClintock was at his L.A. home packing for a trip to the Vancouver set of the new WB series *Glory Days* (another "guest appearance") when he spoke with *Famous* about his most-loved movies and his two new flicks.

WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"For me, movies are like memories, they help me remember where I was at a certain time in my life. In the order I saw them, number one is the original King Kong [1933] with Fay Wray. It reminds me of being on vacations with my family, sleeping in the same bed as my sister in the hotel room, and being allowed to stay up late to watch TV. • Number two is Jaws. In 1975 when it came out I was

about eight years old and I remember my mother coming home from seeing it with my dad, and telling us how great and how scary it was. So my sister and I begged to see it. They took us, but every time something came on that she thought we shouldn't see mom would push our heads down. • Number three is Animal House [1978]. I was a huge fan of the Not Ready for Prime Time Players and one of the things my parents allowed me to do was stay up to watch Saturday Night Live. [SNL's John Belushi starred in Animal House] • Number four is Apocalypse Now [1979]. My dad would take me to see films whether they were rated R or PG and some of the stuff in these movies was pretty adult. I was really blown away by the surrealism of the whole film, the scene where they sacrificed the ox. I kept telling myself 'It's not real, it's not real,' but then years later I saw the documentary Hearts of Darkness and found out they really did sacrifice the ox. • Number five is Harmony Korine's Gummo. It's about this place Xenia, Ohio. Back in 1978 or 1979 this huge tornado swept through Xenia, which is about 20 minutes away from where I went to school in Dayton. The film does a great job of exposing the underbelly of white suburban society."

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT FULL FRONTAL?

"It's supposed to be a sort of sequel to [Soderbergh's] *sex, lies and videotape,* so it has many different plots, different stories about different people's lives, all centered around the entertainment business. The main characters — Julia Roberts, Catherine Keener, David Duchovny, David Hyde Pierce — they're all actors or writers or agents. I play an agent at one of the agencies that Catherine Keener runs. It's one scene, about five pages of script, but it's a really well-written and interesting scene. I probably shouldn't say any more than that."

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU CAN SAY ABOUT SHOOTING THE SCENE?

"It was me, Catherine Keener and Steven Soderbergh in one room for a couple of hours. He's operating the camera himself on a handheld. It certainly lent itself to a relaxed attitude. There was no one else in the room, no grips, no one, so you're not afraid of looking stupid. We improvised one take, Steven just kept the camera rolling after the scene was finished. Catherine and I just did our own thing and it was pretty wild, it ended with a big slam of the door."

DO YOU PREFER DOING MOVIES WHERE EVERYTHING IS KEPT UNDER WRAPS UNTIL THE PREMIERE, OR ONES WHERE YOU'RE FREE TO TALK?

"It's kind of exciting when it's hush-hush. It makes it feel like I'm in on the secret."

HOW DO YOU FIT IN TO THE SWEETEST THING?

"I play an ex-boyfriend to Cameron Diaz's character. My character is having trouble coming to grips with our breakup. It's the very first scene of the movie and, again, it's a really well-written scene. I auditioned for it and we didn't hear anything back for a long time. They were going to give it to a big name, but he dropped out and I got the call saying I had to be on set the next day."

DO YOU FEEL LIKE THIS MONTH IS A TURNING POINT IN YOUR CAREER?

"I try to never have those types of expectations. I've learned not to because a lot of times, when I give myself permission to get excited it doesn't live up to those expectations and then I end up let down. It could come and go and nothing could happen, or it could come and go and my phone could be ringing off the hook." —Marni Weisz

video l and l dvd l

CATCH BANDITS, GO HOME WITH ZOOLANDER OR VISIT THE LAST CASTLE

MARCH 5

A.I.: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Stars: Haley Joel Osment, Jude Law Director: Steven Spielberg (Jurassic Park) Story: A prototype "mecha" named David (Osment) is designed by a visionary professor (William Hurt) to prove that robots can feel the most elusive of all human emotions love. He goes to live with a couple whose real son has been frozen until a cure for his lifethreatening disease can be found. But Mommy can't deal with her new fake kid, so she boots him out into the cold world.

THE LAST CASTLE

Stars: Robert Redford, James Gandolfini Director: Rod Lurie (*The Contender*) Story: When the much-respected General Irwin (Redford) disobeys the president, he is stripped of his rank and sent to "The Castle," an imposing military prison run by the insecure Colonel Winter (Gandolfini). As Winter does his best to break the spirit of his inmates, Irwin emerges as the prisoners' hero and leader. Eventually, things reach the boiling point and the prisoners revolt against their cruel warden.

THE ONE

Stars: Jet Li, Carla Gugino **Director:** James Wong (*Final Destination*) **Story:** A nasty kung-fu lad (Li) figures out a way to travel between parallel universes, and tries to kill all of the alternate versions of himself.

MARCH 12

JOY RIDE

Stars: Paul Walker, Steve Zahn Director: John Dahl (The Last Seduction) Story: Two brothers lure a truck driver to a nearby motel for a tryst with a non-existent sexy girl. Of course, when the driver realizes he's been tricked, he decides to take his revenge on the jokesters. A deadly game of cat and mouse ensues, with the car as the mouse and the big rig as the cat.

TRAINING DAY

Stars: Denzel Washington, Ethan Hawke Director: Antoine Fuqua (The Replacement Killers) **Story:** Rookie cop Jake (Hawke) gets promoted to an elite narc squad, only to get stuck spending his very first day on the job with the bad-ass Alonzo (Washington), a pyscho who shows Jake just how down and dirty a cop can get.

ZOOLANDER

Stars: Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson Director: Ben Stiller (*The Cable Guy*) Story: Derek Zoolander (Stiller) was the hottest — and dumbest — male model around, until the golden-haired newcomer Hansel (Wilson) stole his spotlight. Now, preying on the washed-up catwalker's newfound insecurities, an evil fashion mogul (Will Ferrell) brainwashes him into assassinating the prime minister of Malaysia.

MARCH 19

BANDITS

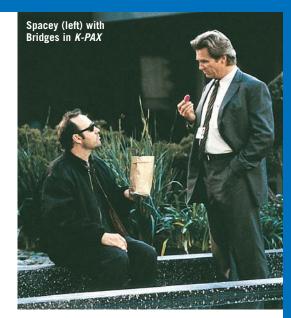
Stars: Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton Director: Barry Levinson (Wag the Dog) Story: After breaking out of prison, devil-maycare Joe (Willis) and neurotic Terry (Thornton) start a crime spree that lands them in the money and the newspapers. Things are going great, until they both fall for a bored housewife (Cate Blanchette). Inevitably, things start to fall apart, and before you know it they're making a last stand against each other and the cops.

RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS

Stars: Drew Barrymore, Steve Zahn Director: Penny Marshall (*Big*) Story: Beverly's (Barrymore) life suddenly starts when she unexpectedly gets pregnant at 15. Before she knows it, she's got a son, a drugaddict husband and no future. As she ages from



famous 43 | march 2002



a teen to 36, she attempts to make sense of her life while valiantly trying to provide something better for her son.

MARCH 26

K-PAX

Stars: Kevin Spacey, Jeff Bridges Director: Iain Softley (Backbeat) Story: As the top shrink in a New York City mental hospital, Dr. Mark Powell (Bridges) has seen more than his share of Napoleons and Joans of Arc. So when his new patient, Prot (Spacey), tells him that he's really an alien from the utopian planet K-PAX, he's understandably skeptical. But it soon becomes clear that there's more to Prot than meets the eye.

LIFE AS A HOUSE

Stars: Kevin Kline, Hayden Christensen Director: Irwin Winkler (*The Net*) Story: An anti-social architect (Kline) gets the boot from his job just one day before discovering he's got terminal cancer and only four months to live. So he decides to tear down his dilapidated seaside shack and build the home of his dreams, with the help of his multiply pierced son (Christensen) and his estranged ex-wife (Kristin Scott Thomas).

ORIGINAL SIN

Stars: Angelina Jolie, Antonio Banderas Director: Michael Cristofer (Body Shots) Story: A wealthy Cuban coffee plantation owner (Banderas) sends away for a homely mail-order bride and ends up with the sultry and mysterious Julia (Jolie) instead. Much sweating and chest heaving follows.

With files from *Premiere Video Magazine*. All release dates subject to change.

star | gazing |

H O R O S C O P E I BY DAN LIEBMAN

pisces

February 20 >>> March 20

Resist temptation — no matter how enticing the opportunity — to reveal confidential information. You can play a key role in settling turf wars. At the end of March, enjoy a frivolous escape and maybe even a wellearned bonus.

aries

March 21 >>> April 20

A reckless streak surfaces early in the month; you could find yourself being outlandishly generous. By midmonth you focus on such practical matters as updating your resumé and investment planning.

taurus April 21 >>> May 22

The month finds you sealing an important deal, enjoying the warm hospitality of old friends and discovering new talents. Around the 21st, a reliable source provides the missing piece to a family-related puzzle.

gemini May 23 >>> June 21

Remember last year's hare-brained scheme? The one they sneered at? This month it's called a stroke of genius. A good chunk of March revolves around humanitarian efforts. And it's no less noble if your good works have a romantic connection.

cancer

June 22 >>> July 22

You have a repertoire of talents and an eclectic collection of interests. Now the trick is to put them to use in the right place, at the right time. Do just that, and you'll reap financial benefits by the time March winds down.

leo

July 23 >>> August 22

Mystery is a theme of the month. You could be involved in some big clandestine operation. Then again, maybe it's just a friend sharing romantic secrets. It's also a month for intellectual debate. You and your sparring partner bring out the best in each other.

Virgo August 23 >>> September 22

March blows in like a lion, with changes at work and a big announcement from relatives. Naturally, it turns lamb-like during the last week. Your partner is playful, and a oncebrittle co-worker is flexible and supportive.

libra

September 23 >>> October 22

You make achievements in science or languages. You also make a contribution to environmental programs around the vernal equinox, March 20th. Your own health and well-being, however, require greater diligence.



ATIA SMIRNOVA

SCOIDIO October 23 >>> November 21

It'll be a schizophrenic sort of month. Clever Scorpio capitalizes on a good financial opportunity. But naïve Scorpio may be taken in by a slick salesperson or acquaintance.

sagittarius

November 22 >>> December 22

You're pretty sentimental this month — a quality that appeals to those you love most. And you also show impressive instincts as an entrepreneur. The one off-note is the string of postponements happening after the 15th.

capricorn

December 23 >>> January 20

Confidence, a little shaky in recent weeks, is renewed starting the 10th. By the 20th, you should be ready to try out for a challenging position. A partner is less restless but still shy, and you continue to take the more active role in the relationship.

AQUATIUS January 21 >>> February 19

Expansion is the key, and variety is vast. Extend your boundaries by traveling to new places, taking up yoga or studying a language. A family situation improves by the 30th, when your tough-love approach starts shows results.

MARCHBIRTHDAYS

1st	Ron Howard
2nd	Jon Bon Jovi
3rd	Jessica Biel
4th	Catherine O'Hara
5th	Dean Stockwell
6th	Rob Reiner
7th	Rachel Weisz
8th	Aidan Quinn
9th	Juliette Binoche
Oth	Sharon Stone
1th	Thora Birch
2th	Liza Minnelli
3th	William H. Macy

14th	Billy Crystal
15th	Judd Hirsch
16th	Bernardo Bertolucci
17th	Kurt Russell
18th	Queen Latifah
19th	Glenn Close
20th	Spike Lee
21st	Rosie O'Donnell
22nd	Reese Witherspoon
23rd	Keri Russell
24th	Lara Flynn Boyle
25th	Elton John
26th	Martin Short
27th	Mariah Carey
28th	Dianne Wiest



29th	Lucy Lawless
30th	Celine Dion
31st	Ewan McGregor



not COntent to leave well enough alone



GET YOUR movie info profiles interviews video releases columns EVERY MONTH!

		0
Vin 24		1

	ANNUAL	SUBSCRIPTION	RATES:
--	--------	---------------------	---------------

Canada\$32	.10 (\$30 + GST)			
CARD#:	EXPIRY	DATE:		
NAME:				
ADDRESS:				
CITY:	PROVINCE:	POSTAL CODE:		
PHONE NUMBER:				
Please send subscription orders to Famous magazine, 102 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Toronto, Ontario, M6K 1X9				
U.S\$45.00 Other Countries\$55.00				

Content IS THE KEY!

famous | last | words |

J STARS REVEAL WHERE THEY KEEP THEIR OSCARS



By Susan Granger

EMMA THOMPSON

1995: Best Adapted Screenplay, *Sense and Sensibility* **1993:** Best Actress, *Howards End*

"I keep both of them on the back of the toilet in the downstairs loo [bathroom]. They look nice there. Everyone goes there and then I don't have to bother running upstairs every time someone asks to see the Oscar."

RICHARD DREYFUSS

1978: Best Actor, Goodbye Girl

"It's on a shelf in my home. It's not in a place of prominence, nor do I spend much time evaluating it or its significance."

MARY STEENBURGEN

1981: Best Supporting Actress, Melvin and Howard

"I keep it on my piano. When I was nominated, my ex-husband [Malcolm McDowell] bought a piano for me as a win-or-lose present. I put the Oscar on the piano and it's been there ever since. That husband is gone, but the Oscar remains."

SEAN CONNERY

1987: Best Supporting Actor, The Untouchables

"I keep my Oscar in the bathroom."

FAYE DUNAWAY

1977: Best Actress, Network

"It's on the mantelpiece. It's so heavy. It's like lead underneath. I never expected it to be so heavy."

MEL GIBSON

1996: Best Director and Best Picture, Braveheart

"I keep them in the library of my home in Malibu. In fact, when the house was threatened by fires in the canyon, what I said to the firemen was, 'Don't let the boys burn!'"

TIMOTHY HUTTON

1981: Best Supporting Actor, Ordinary People

"I never felt comfortable putting it on the mantelpiece so it ends up on a bookcase. I'd love to find some practical use for it."

JODIE FOSTER

1992: Best Actress, *The Silence of the Lambs* **1989:** Best Actress, *The Accused*

"I keep my Oscars right next to the bathtub, so I can take a bath and look at them. What else are you going to do with them?"

CLIFF ROBERTSON

1969: Best Actor, Charly

"After I won for *Charly*, my Oscar stayed in my agent's office for two years until my then-wife, Dina Merrill, finally brought it home. It's now in the library of my house in Long Island."

KIRK DOUGLAS

1996: Honorary Oscar

"My wife Anne has it — at home. Years ago, when I did not win for Lust for Life, my wife gave me a faux statuette. I told her then, 'If I ever win an Oscar, it's yours.' When I received an Honorary Oscar, I gave it to her and kept the one she gave me."



Make it a BLOCKBUSTER[®] Night[™]

IRKEB



"HILARIOUS... A Blast of Comic Irreverence!"



mo

Bakersfield

clendale

RATED: 18A © 2001 Mirannax Film Corp. All Rights Reserved. Distributed exclusively in Canada by Alliance Atlantis All Rights Reserved. BLOCKBUSTER name, design an rebated marks are frademarks of Blockbuster Inc. en 2002 Blockbuster Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Available on DVD and VHS February 26, 2002.

Villiams



THE 2002 NISSAN XTERRA

210-HP SuperCharged V6 engine

Rally style headlights Tubular aluminum roof rack with gear basket Compass and temperature gauge** with map light 17' alloy wheels* CD stereo with 6 speakers

PERFECT FOR GETTING THE MOUNTAIN BIKE TO THE MOUNTAIN.

www.nissancanada.com

"Standard on SE-SC. ""Standard on SE and SE-SC. DRIVEN and the Nissan Logo are Nissan trademarks. KA 100 16-34)

KA200

00

BLEM