

Famous

SPOTLIGHT ON:

HILARY SWANK, HEATHER GRAHAM & STEVE ZAHN

october 2001 volume 2 number 10

canada's entertainment lifestyle magazine

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER
DOES *COLLATERAL DAMAGE*

CATE BLANCHETT
STEALS HEARTS IN *BANDITS*

VISITING *K-PAX* WITH
KEVIN SPACEY



HARRY POTTER

A FIRST LOOK AT THE FANTASY FLICK, AND ALL THE SEASON'S
MOVIES, IN OUR FALL PREVIEW

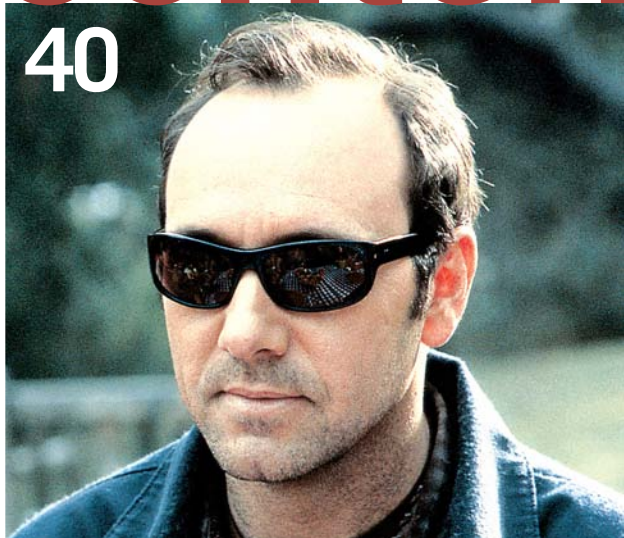
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plus NEW VIDEO RELEASES | BOOKS | TRIVIA | HOROSCOPE | CARLA COLLINS

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It's not that our interviewer was boring, it's just that Cate Blanchett had been up working on *Bandits* until the wee hours the night before. A half-dozen cups of coffee helped, as did getting to rave about co-star Bruce Willis

By Earl Dittman

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On the set of his latest action pic *Collateral Damage*, a mud-covered Arnold Schwarzenegger talks about the film's universal appeal and the recent bashing he took from the press

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Kevin Spacey and Will Smith might not seem like they have much in common. But both were up for the lead in the sci-fi/drama *K-PAX*. Find out how Spacey ended up with the role

By Earl Dittman

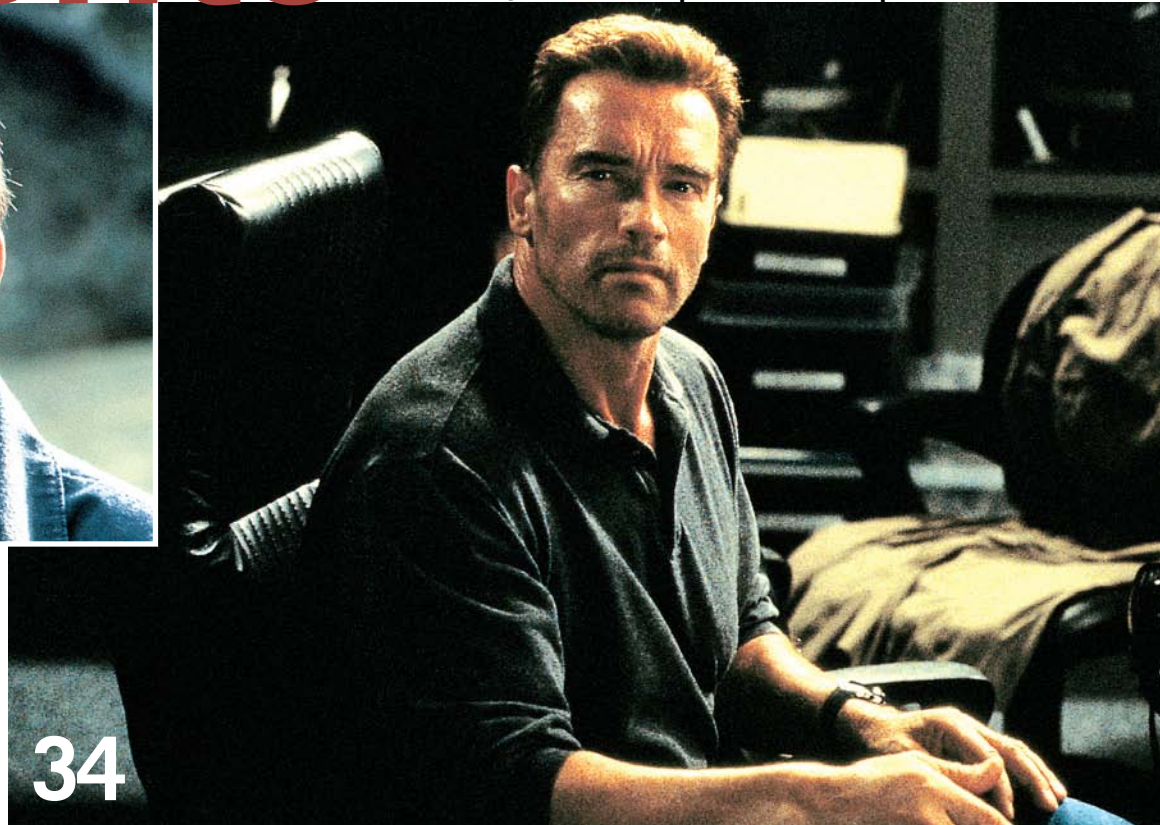
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14 FALL PREVIEW + POTTER PICS

Never mind those scenic drives amid autumn leaves, it's the fall movie season and everyone's rushing to release their best films in time for the Oscars. • Plus, our *Harry Potter* pictorial gives you a first look at November's biggest release

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Fall Fantasy

Okay, so that wasn't the best summer for movies.

But, hey, all the better to prime our appetites for what promises to be a fine fall and holiday season.

As the December 31 Oscar deadline draws near, we'll finally get to see a couple of frantically awaited fantasies — *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* and the first of the *Lord of the Rings* films, *Fellowship of the Ring*. Then there's *Ali* — we're guessing sports fans won't mind missing a night of the early hockey season to take in Will Smith's uncanny portrayal of the greatest boxer of all time. For kids, Pixar (*Toy Story*) will release *Monsters, Inc.*, about a little girl who is accidentally let into the secret world belonging to the monsters under her bed. And let's not forget *Vanilla Sky*, the romantic thriller that united Hollywood's hottest couple (at press time, anyway), Tom and Penélope.



Daniel Radcliffe in *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*

For more about all of those films — and enough info to make your movie-going decisions from now until the leftover turkey runs out — turn to our Fall Preview on page 14. Then on page 20 we give you a sneak peek at *Harry Potter* with some pretty awesome photos of the young wizard and his pals.

We're delighted to welcome new writer Jenny Cooney Carrillo to the *Famous* fold. A member of the prestigious Hollywood Foreign Press Association, Jenny managed to finagle her way onto the set of **Arnold Schwarzenegger's** latest, *Collateral Damage*. Read "Damage Control," page 34, to find out why Arnold thinks this new big-budget explosion pic is in line with his promise to only do "movies with a message."

Speaking of *Lord of the Rings*, willowy **Cate Blanchett** will play elf queen Galadriel in the hobbit opus — and we've got an early shot of her, pointy ears and all. But before we get to see Blanchett flitting around Middle-earth, we'll see her as a lonely housewife desperate for attention in this month's romantic comedy *Bandits*. For "Coffee with Cate," page 30, Earl Dittman spoke with the busy thespian about both projects, and why you may have seen her with a shaved head recently.

Not only did the jet-setting Dittman have coffee with Cate, he also had lunch with **Kevin Spacey**. They talked about how the two-time Oscar winner chooses his roles, why all the secrecy surrounding his personal life, and his performance-that-almost-wasn't in the new sci-fi-flavoured drama *K-PAX*. Turn to "The Spaceman," page 40, for the whole scoop.

— Marni Weisz

Famous

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Carla Collins on why J. Lo loves to be naked, J. Aniston loves Steve Tyler and J. Van Damme doesn't love shellfish

Would You Like Some Whine With Your Mussels?

Jean-Claude Van Damme says he hates his "Muscles From Brussels" nickname. He thinks it makes him sound fishy, telling *Ananova*, "It's like I'm known as shellfish." Sounds about right to me. Much like clams, Jean-Claude stinks and is dead inside.



Affaerosmith

Jennifer Aniston has told *Elle* magazine that husband Brad Pitt would not mind if she had an affair with Aerosmith's Steven Tyler. "He is the one person that Brad says I can have if the opportunity presents itself," says Aniston. "I don't know how old the man is, but he's phenomenal, that energy." You've got to admire her taste. With Tyler's full pouty lips, luscious hair and skinny little butt, I don't know if I want to do him or be him. He's the quintessential rock star. He's done more drugs than the Dallas Cowboys and Robert Downey Jr. on a three-day weekend and he's had more women than Carole Pope.

A Very Open Bar

Anne Heche is negotiating with *People* magazine for the exclusive rights to cover her wedding. A source tells *Jeanette Walls' The Scoop* that "People is reluctant to engage because it's considered unethical, but there are ways around it." The only reason there's so much interest in the photos is because there are even odds that the sometimes-bisexual actress will wind up kissing her Maid of Honour instead, thus fulfilling every male's dream. By the way, women don't share this same fantasy as it doesn't exactly work in reverse. Never once have I said, "Oh look, Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker. I just wish they were naked and tickling each other!"



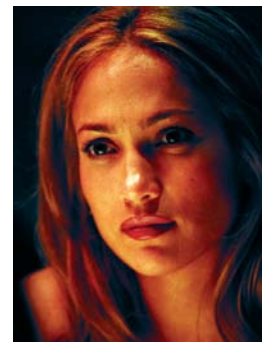
You Must be this Tall to Ride Rebecca Melanie Griffith has attacked tabloid reports that 5-foot-9 hubbie Antonio Banderas wore lifts to co-star with 5-foot-11 amazon temptress Rebecca Romjin-Stamos in the upcoming flick *Femme Fatale*. Griffith wrote on melaniegriffith.com that "Antonio is NOT wearing lifts to appear taller. He is perfectly comfortable with his height, and so am I." Sure she's comfortable. The same way I was comfortable in grade seven when I was 5-foot-12 and the guys were 5 foot...maybe. There's nothing like towering above a dude and casting a shadow like a giant mushroom cloud. Although, I don't feel too bad for Rebecca. She's a supermodel and I don't care for them. I was bitten by one as a child.



Cher'd Accommodations Real estate news from *The Daily Record*: Cher's Malibu villa is on the block for the bargain-basement price of nearly \$40-million. The home comes complete with seven bedrooms, a media room, a wig room (!), tennis court, swimming pool and guest house. Due to Cher's penchant for younger men, it should come as no surprise that the garage boasts room for six cars and two 10-speeds. Apparently, it took 70 workmen two years to build the house, which is ironic considering it's taken two workmen 70 years to build Cher. At press time, a bidding war had broken out between two drag queens and the drummer from Def Leppard.

Funky Monkey *Planet of the Apes* star Mark Wahlberg tells ABC News that he has not ruled out a return to his musical roots. The artist formerly known as Marky Mark still has a record contract 10 years after topping the charts with "Good Vibrations." He says, "You never know. I seen the president of my record company last week and people are always talking." It might be a good idea for Wahlberg to keep his options open given his wooden performances in *Planet of the Apes* and *The Perfect Storm*. Seriously, I haven't seen that much wood since *Boogie Nights*.

Naked Brunch Jennifer Lopez tells *Glamour* magazine, "The weirdest thing about me is that I like to walk around naked." In fact, she admits she even enjoys breakfast in the nude. Let's hope she never tries to fry bacon in the buff. (I'll never do that again. In public. Without danger pay.) The diva goes on to say, "I'll be sitting at the breakfast table and everyone's dressed except me. The people around me are either girls or they're gay so it doesn't matter." Actually, she's better off in her birthday suit because whenever J. Lo wears a white robe one of her guests invariably gets a projector, puts up a swing-set and shows *Dr. Zhivago* on her ass. And by the time that's done your whole day is shot.



Carla Collins is a world-renowned comedian/supermodel/astronaut/actor. She currently appears as Rusty Sinclair on the Showcase soap *Paradise Falls* and hosts *Carla and Company* on Toronto's Mix 99.9 FM.

Wolf pack-age

Alternate endings, deleted scenes, director commentaries and original storyboards are pretty much standard on DVDs these days — for American films anyway.

Yet check out the discs for your favourite Canadian movies and you'll find little in the way of bonus material. Even big titles like David Cronenberg's *eXistenZ*, Atom Egoyan's *Felicia's Journey* and Denis Villeneuve's Genie-winning *Maelström* feature little more than pumped up picture and sound and, if you're lucky, the odd set of production notes or a "making-of featurette."

But on October 23, the gory werewolf horror *Ginger Snaps* becomes our country's first major DVD to cram almost all of its leftover megabytes with goodies. "I think one of the reasons is that we were working so closely with the director and all the other people who were involved from day one, so we had access to a lot of cool things, like the deleted scenes, cast auditions, rehearsal tapes," says Howard Rabkin, who oversaw the DVD's creation for the film's production company TVA International.

The \$4-million movie shows what happens when 15-year-old Ginger (Katharine Isabelle) is chomped by a werewolf on the

eve of her first period and transforms into a blood-thirsty killer canine.

Aside from those deleted scenes, auditions and rehearsal tapes, the DVD also boasts audio commentaries by director John Fawcett and writer Karen Walton, theatrical trailers, a piece about the design and creation of the werewolf, original storyboards and a photo gallery featuring the fake suicide shots Ginger and her sister Brigitte (Emily Perkins) took for a school project.

"The genre of the film lends itself to this sort of release because it's youth oriented and they're certainly more into the cool extras than someone who might just want to watch the film," says Rabkin.

As for why *Ginger Snaps* is the first Canadian DVD to go all out, it could just be the timing. Even though those other titles were released in the last couple of years, in the world of DVD a few months can make a huge difference.

But Rabkin has another suggestion. "To be honest it is a very expensive job," he says. "I mean, this will probably cost us at least five times more than a normal DVD.... But we just thought with this one, we wanted to do it." —MW



Katharine Isabelle
in *Ginger Snaps*

October's Film Fests

What: Montreal International Festival of New Cinema and New Media

When: October 14 to 24

Where: Montreal, Que.

Why: To promote innovative developments in cinema, video and new media from all over the world. Last year's screenings included the acclaimed *Dancer in the Dark* and *Yi Yi*.

■ More info: 514.847.9272 or www.fcmm.com

What: St. John's Women's International Film & Video Festival

When: October 17 to 21

Where: St. John's, Nfld.

Why: To expose local and international women filmmakers. The opening gala features episodes of *Random Passage*, a miniseries set in the early 1800s that was produced by Newfoundland's Jennice Ripley and Barbara Doran and will air on the CBC in January.

■ More info: 709.754.3141 or www.womensfilmfest.com

What: Ottawa International Student Animation Festival

When: October 18 to 21

Where: Ottawa, Ont.

Why: To provide an environment where student animators' works aren't overshadowed by big-budget entries from more established filmmakers. Now in its third year, the event already claims to be the largest student animation festival in the world.

■ More info: 613.232.8769 or www.awn.com/ottawa/safo01

What: Picture This...Festival

When: October 19 to 21

Where: Calgary, Alta.

Why: To put the spotlight on films and videos by and about people with disabilities. Wish them luck, this is the festival's first year.

■ More info: 403.717.5610 or www.picturethisfestival.org

What: Festival du Cinéma International en Abitibi-Témiscamingue

When: October 27 to November 1

Where: Rouyn-Noranda, Que.

Why: To showcase Canadian and international features, shorts, documentaries and animated films in the forested region of Quebec's mid-North. Although the films hail from about 20 different countries, preference is given to filmmakers from Quebec.

■ More info: 819.762.6762 or www.telebec.qc.ca/fciat

What: Banff Mountain Film Festival

When: October 29 to November 4

Where: Banff, Alta.

Why: So that mountaineers can get together and talk about mountains, and snow and stuff. Films about skiing, boarding, kayaking, biking and pretty much everything else you can do outdoors in the cold are supplemented by seminars and lectures featuring interesting folk from the world of winter sport.

■ More info: 403.762.6675 or www.banffcentre.ca/CMC/fest1.html

fantasy rules

... AS **HARRY POTTER AND THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE**, **MONSTERS, INC.**
AND **THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING** FINALLY HIT SCREENS



John Cusack and
Kate Beckinsale
in *Serendipity*

SEPTEMBER 28

HEARTS IN ATLANTIS

Who's In It? Anthony Hopkins, David Morse

Who Directed? Scott Hicks (*Shine*)

What's It About? A fatherless boy (Anton Yelchin) is befriended by a delusional old man (Hopkins) who believes he's being stalked by sinister forces. Morse (*The Green Mile*) plays the boy's adult self. Based on a five-part series by Stephen King.

OCTOBER 5

COLLATERAL DAMAGE

Who's In It? Arnold Schwarzenegger, John Leguizamo

Who Directed? Andrew Davis (*The Fugitive*)

What's It About? Schwarzenegger headlines as a firefighter out to get the car-bombing nogoodniks who killed his wife and kid. See Arnold Schwarzenegger interview, page 34.

MAX KEEBLE'S BIG MOVE

Who's In It? Alex Linz, Nora Dunn

Who Directed? Tim Hill (*Muppets From Space*)

What's It About? Emboldened by news that his family is moving to another city, a nerdy little kid stands up to his schoolyard tormentors.

SERENDIPITY

Who's In It? John Cusack, Kate Beckinsale

Who Directed? Peter Chelsom (*Town and Country*)

What's It About? Cusack's second romantic comedy of the year casts him and Beckinsale (*Pearl Harbor*) as two college sweethearts who are trying to find each other 10 years after they parted company.

OCTOBER 12

BANDITS

Who's In It? Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton

Who Directed? Barry Levinson (*Wag the Dog*)

What's It About? Willis and Thornton play two bank robbers who kidnap, and then both fall in love with, the same woman (Cate Blanchett). See Cate Blanchett interview, page 28.

THE LAST CASTLE

Who's In It? Robert Redford, James Gandolfini

Who Directed? Rod Lurie (*The Contender*)

What's It About? A three-star general (Redford) is court-martialled and sentenced to rock-breaking duty at a military prison, where he organizes his fellow inmates into a small army. See interview with writer Graham Yost, page 44.

CORKY ROMANO

Who's In It? Chris Kattan, Richard Roundtree

Who Directed? Rob Pritts (debut)

What's It About? The wussy son of a Mafia boss (Kattan) infiltrates the FBI to find out what the feds know about his family. Roundtree, of *Shaft* fame, plays his partner.

OCTOBER 19

RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS

Who's In It? Drew Barrymore, Adam Garcia

Who Directed? Penny Marshall (*Awakenings*)

What's It About? Barrymore plays the hell-raising bad girl from Beverly Donofrio's best-selling 1990 memoir, who fights her way out of welfare, divorce and teen pregnancy to become a writer.

BONES

Who's In It? Snoop Doggy Dogg, Pam Grier

Who Directed? Ernest Dickerson (*Bulletproof*)

What's It About? After 20 years, a slain community leader (Dogg) comes back from the dead to avenge his murder and clean up the ghetto.

HEIST

Who's In It? Gene Hackman, Danny DeVito

Who Directed? David Mamet (*State & Main*)

What's It About? Pulitzer winner and Oscar also-ran Mamet directs this gritty crime story about a gang of professional crooks out to pull off "just one last" robbery.

FROM HELL

Who's In It? Johnny Depp, Heather Graham

Who Directed? Albert Hughes, Allan Hughes (*Dead Presidents*)

What's It About? Jack the Ripper is stalking prostitutes (Graham, among others) in Victorian London and the only person with a chance of catching him is a Scotland Yard detective (Depp). Another adaptation, this time from the book by comics virtuoso Alan Moore.

K-PAX

Who's In It? Kevin Spacey, Jeff Bridges
Who Directed? Ian Softley (*The Wings of the Dove*)
What's It About? *Patch Adams* + *12 Monkeys* ÷ *Cocoon* = the story of a mental patient (Spacey) called Prot who claims to be an alien from the planet K-PAX. His doctor (Bridges) thinks he's a nut, but reconsiders when he notices Prot's uncanny ability to help his fellow patients. **See Kevin Spacey interview, page 40.**

13 GHOSTS

Who's In It? Shannon Elizabeth, Tony Shalhoub
Who Directed? Steve Beck (debut)
What's It About? This re-do of the 1960 horror comedy gets going when a man and his daughter move into the eerie mansion they've just inherited, only to find it's populated with spooks.

NOVEMBER 2

MONSTERS, INC.

Who's In It? Billy Crystal, John Goodman
Who Directed? Peter Docter, David Silverman (debut)
What's It About? Crystal and Goodman voice two weird creatures from the land of nightmares, who are forced to adopt a little girl. Created by Pixar, the folks who brought you the *Toy Story* movies.

DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE

Who's In It? John Travolta, Vince Vaughan
Who Directed? Harold Becker (*Sea of Love*)
What's It About? A divorced father (Travolta) tries to rescue his 11-year-old son when he discovers that his ex-wife's new hubbie isn't such a great guy.

THE ONE

Who's In It? Jet Li, Delroy Lindo
Who Directed? James Wong (*Final Destination*)
What's It About? Li goes *mano e mano* with himself in this sci-fi about a tough cop and his evil twin from an alternate universe. Cue the *Star Trek* fight music.

NOVEMBER 9

WINDTALKERS

Who's In It? Nicolas Cage, Adam Beach
Who Directed? John Woo (*Mission: Impossible 2*)
What's It About? Cage is a World War Two marine assigned to guard a Navajo code expert (Beach), and to put a bullet in him if he falls into enemy hands.

Brad Pitt (left) and Robert Redford bond in *The Spy Game*

**AMELIE**

Who's In It? Audrey Tautou, Mathieu Kassovitz
Who Directed? Jean-Pierre Jeunet (*Alien: Resurrection*)
What's It About? A young woman secretly helps needy and deserving people fix problems with their lives. In French with subtitles.

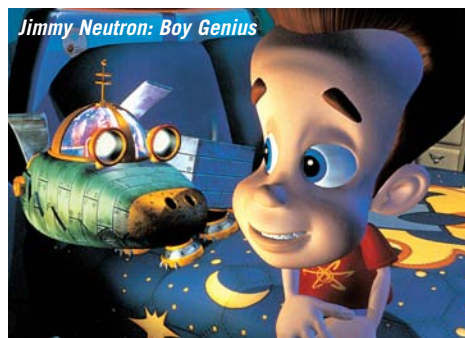
SHALLOW HAL

Who's In It? Jack Black, Gwyneth Paltrow
Who Directed? Bobby Farrelly, Peter Farrelly (*Me, Myself & Irene*)
What's It About? Hypnotized so that he can only see people's inner beauty, an aging bachelor (Black) falls for a 400-lb woman (Paltrow).

NOVEMBER 16

HARRY POTTER AND THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE

Who's In It? Daniel Radcliffe, Richard Harris
Who Directed? Chris Columbus (*Bicentennial Man*)
What's It About? The wildly popular kids book



comes to life, with Radcliffe as the four-eyed tyke who enrolls at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. **See Harry Potter pictorial, page 20.**

THE NEW GUY

Who's In It? DJ Qualls, Lyle Lovett
Who Directed? Ed Decter (debut)
What's It About? A high school loser (Qualls) gets expelled and somehow winds up in prison, where his cellmate teaches him how to reinvent himself as a cool kid.

NOVEMBER 23

THE SPY GAME

Who's In It? Brad Pitt, Robert Redford
Who Directed? Tony Scott (*Enemy of the State*)
What's It About? Ex-secret agent Redford comes out of retirement to rescue ex-protégé Pitt from the Chinese.

BLACK KNIGHT

Who's In It? Martin Lawrence, Tom Wilkinson
Who Directed? Gil Junger (*10 Things I Hate About You*)
What's It About? Lawrence plays a mini-golf hustler sent back in time to the Middle Ages, where he teams up with a knight and peasant girl to bring down an evil king. What the...?

NOVEMBER 30

AFFAIR OF THE NECKLACE

Who's In It? Hilary Swank, Jonathan Pryce
Who Directed? Charles Shyer (*Father of the Bride*) ▶▶

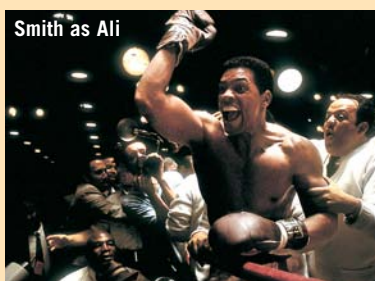
DECEMBER 7

ALI

Who's In It? Will Smith, Jon Voight

Who Directed? Michael Mann (*The Insider*)

What's It About? And in this corner, wearing the black trunks, Big Willy takes another swing at serious drama as boxing great Muhammad Ali. The actor previously known as *The Fresh Prince* bulked up and grew his hair out for the role, and from the what we can see from the trailer, has done a pretty good job of capturing Ali — all the way from his days as an anonymous young scrapper named Cassius Clay to the man roundly considered the sport's all-time best. Ron Silver plays trainer Angelo Dundee, Smith's real-life wife Jada Pinkett steps in as Ali's first wife Soniy Roi and Jon Voight dons a toupee to do his best Howard Cosell.



Smith as Ali

►► **What's It About?** The true story of Jeanne De La Motte Valois (Swank), an 18th-century French noble who, stripped of her title and station, conspires to get back into high society.

OCEAN'S ELEVEN

Who's In It? George Clooney, Brad Pitt

Who Directed? Steven Soderbergh (*Erin Brockovich*)

What's It About? Soderbergh has recruited half of Hollywood for his much-hyped remake of the 1960 Rat Pack picture about army buddies out to knock over three Las Vegas casinos. Clooney fills in for Sinatra, Pitt for Dino.

DECEMBER 14

VANILLA SKY

Who's In It? Tom Cruise, Penélope Cruz

Who Directed? Cameron Crowe (*Almost Famous*)

What's It About? Why read subtitles for the Spanish-language original about a disfigured car crash victim trying to rebuild his life, when you can see fun couple Cruise and Cruz in the Hollywood re-do?

NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE

Who's In It? Joy Bisco, Lacey Chabert

Who Directed? Joel Gallen (debut)

What's It About? We couldn't have said it better ourselves. MTV's Gallen gives teen movies some much-needed needling in this spoof that was originally titled *10 Things I Hate About Clueless Roadtrips When I Can't Hardly Wait to be Kissed*.



Jim Carrey
in *The Majestic*

DECEMBER 21

JIMMY NEUTRON: BOY GENIUS

Who's In It? Patrick Stewart, Martin Short

Who Directed? John Davis (debut)

What's It About? A 10-year-old brainiac and his robotic dog rocket through space and fight off evil aliens in this computer-animated kids picture from the folks at Nickelodeon.

THE MAJESTIC

Who's In It? Jim Carrey, Martin Landau

Who Directed? Frank Darabont (*The Green Mile*)

What's It About? Will this Frank Capra-esque story of a blacklisted screenwriter who starts a new life at a small-town moviehouse get Carrey that elusive Oscar nomination? Probably not, but at least he keeps trying.

GANGS OF NEW YORK

Who's In It? Leonardo DiCaprio, Cameron Diaz

Who Directed? Martin Scorsese (*Bringing Out the Dead*)

What's It About? Twenty-four years after he started, Scorsese has finally finished his grimy opus about the crime-filled and blood-stained streets of 1800s New York. DiCaprio, many pounds heavier than when we last saw him, stars as the son of a murdered gang leader.

A BEAUTIFUL MIND

Who's In It? Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly

Who Directed? Ron Howard (*The Grinch*)

What's It About? It's not every day you see the life story of an economic theorist turned into a movie. Crowe is aptly cast as a talented but erratic mathematician whose life and Nobel Prize-winning career unravels during his battle with schizophrenia.

JOE SOMEBODY

Who's In It? Tim Allen, Julie Bowen

Who Directed? John Pasquin (*The Santa Clause*) ►►

►► **What's It About?** When a co-worker beats the bejeezus out of him in the parking lot, a hapless desk jockey (Allen) learns to fight back. Think of *Dilbert*, as rewritten by Charles Atlas.

BAD COMPANY

Who's In It? Chris Rock, Anthony Hopkins
Who Directed? Joel Schumacher (*Tigerland*)
What's It About? So you've got these twin brothers — one's a Harvard-educated CIA operative, the other's a street-wise bookie. When the first twin dies, the CIA tries to recruit the other one to take over the very important project he was working on. Rock plays the twins, Hopkins a CIA agent.

DECEMBER 25

THE TIME MACHINE

Who's In It? Guy Pearce, Mark Addy
Who Directed? Simon Wells (*The Prince of Egypt*)
What's It About? H.G. Wells' great-grandson adapted his famous sci-fi story — about a 19th-century inventor who sends himself hurtling 800,000 years into Earth's future — only to drop out partway through with a case

DECEMBER 21

THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING

Who's In It? Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen

Who Directed? Peter Jackson (*The Frighteners*)

What's It About? One hundred and ninety million dollars later, give or take, Jackson has finished shooting his adaptation of the J.R.R. Tolkien classic *The Lord of the Rings*, and releases the first of three parts to throngs of anxious fantasy fans. The story follows hobbit Frodo Baggins (Wood) as he wanders through Middle-earth on a quest to destroy an evil, magical ring that was given to him by his uncle Bilbo. McKellen plays the benevolent wizard Gandalf, while Cate Blanchett plays one the few female roles — the elf queen Galadriel. Expect the next film, *The Two Towers*, to be released around Christmas 2002 and the final one, *The Return of the King*, to hit theatres a year after that.



McKellen does Gandalf

of “extreme exhaustion.” Director Gore Verbinski (*The Mexican*) finished the job.

THE SHIPPING NEWS

Who's In It? Kevin Spacey, Julianne Moore
Who Directed? Lasse Hallström (*Chocolat*)
What's It About? Luckily, John Travolta backed

out of this project at the last minute, opening the door for Spacey to star as a third-rate newspaperman who moves home to Newfoundland to rebuild his life.

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

Potter *peek*

While Harry Potter fans try not to pop a gasket waiting for next month's release of *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*, there are some pretty basic questions whizzing around in their little muggle heads.

Did director Chris Columbus (*Bicentennial Man*) stick close to author J.K. Rowling's vision of a young wizard who leaves his unhappy home to attend Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, or did he put his own spin on things? Does the casting work? What about the sets?

This sneak peek, accompanied by excerpts from the book, will let you decide for yourself. —MW



From left: Richard Griffiths as Uncle Vernon Dursley, Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter, Fiona Shaw as Aunt Petunia and Harry Melling as Dudley
“On Sunday morning, Uncle Vernon sat down at the breakfast table looking tired and rather ill, but happy. ‘No post on Sundays,’ he reminded them happily as he spread marmalade on his newspapers, ‘no damn letters today.’ Something came whizzing down the kitchen chimney as he spoke and caught him sharply on the back of the head. Next moment, thirty or forty letters came pelting out of the fireplace like bullets. The Dursleys ducked, but Harry leapt into the air trying to catch one.”



Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter

“According to the large clock over the arrivals board, he had ten minutes left to get on the train to Hogwarts and he had no idea how to do it; he was stranded in the middle of a station with a trunk he could hardly lift, a pocket full of wizard money and a large owl.”

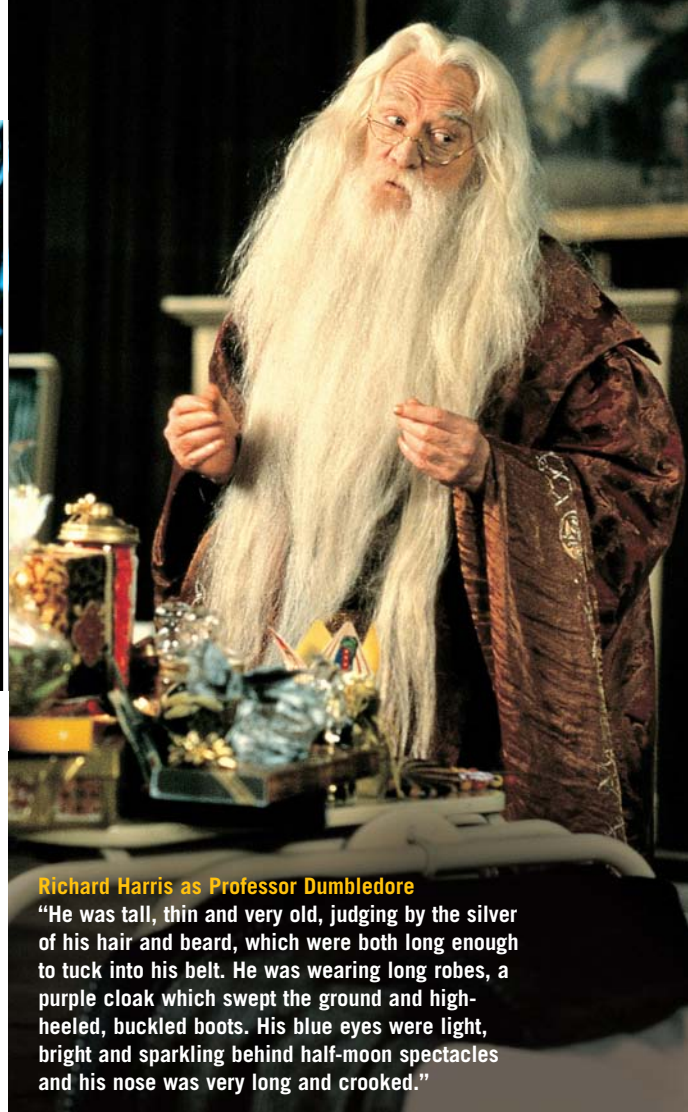


Robbie Coltrane as Hagrid
 “He was almost twice as tall as a normal man and at least five times as wide. He looked simply too big to be allowed, and so *wild* — long tangles of bushy black hair and beard hid most of his face, he had hands the size of dustbin lids and his feet in their leather boots were like baby dolphins.”



Maggie Smith as Professor McGonagall

“The door swung open at once. A tall, black-haired witch in emerald green robes stood there. She had a very stern face and Harry’s first thought was that this was not someone to cross.”



Richard Harris as Professor Dumbledore

“He was tall, thin and very old, judging by the silver of his hair and beard, which were both long enough to tuck into his belt. He was wearing long robes, a purple cloak which swept the ground and high-heeled, buckled boots. His blue eyes were light, bright and sparkling behind half-moon spectacles and his nose was very long and crooked.”



From right: Emma Watson as Hermione Granger, Rupert Grint as Ron Weasley, Devon Murray as Seamus Finnegan and Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter. Far left: Warwick Davis as Professor Flitwick

“Professor Flitwick, the Charms teacher, was a tiny little wizard who had to stand on a pile of books to see over his desk.” ... “Hermione rolled up the sleeves of her gown, flicked her wand and said, ‘*Wingardium Leviosa!*’ Their feather rose off the desk and hovered about four feet above their heads.”

AFFAIR OF THE NECKLACE



Swank in *Affair of the Necklace*

HILARY SWANK

Now appearing in... *Affair of the Necklace*, the basically true story of 18th-century French countess Jeanne De La Motte Valois (Swank), who was stripped of her title by the country's royal family.

Bio bits: This gamine thespian of Spanish and Native American descent was born on July 30, 1974, but there's some dispute as to where. At some point in the audition process for *Boys Don't Cry* — the true tale of gender-identity-crisis poster boy/girl Brandon Teena that earned Swank an Oscar — the actress told director Kimberly Pierce that she was born in Brandon's hometown of Lincoln, Nebraska. Swank also claimed this lineage in the April 2000 issue of *Interview*: "You want to hear something really amazing? I was born in the same hospital that Brandon was born in, in Lincoln, Nebraska."

But according to the Internet Movie Database (www.imdb.com), Swank was born in Bellingham, Washington and made the whole story up to help get her the part. According to this version, when Pierce confronted her about the lie, the actress smiled and said of her fibbing character, "But that's what Brandon would do."

Swank has at least one thing in common

with her *Boys Don't Cry* character. Both grew up poor. Raised by her single mother, Swank lived in a trailer park and was often teased by the other kids at school. But she knew early on that she wanted to act and, at nine, some early gender-bending casting gave Hilary her first starring role — as the orphan boy Mowgli in a local production of *The Jungle Book*.

When she was 16, Hilary and her mom picked up and moved to L.A. because mom needed a major life change and Hilary was determined to make it as an actor. Living in their car for a while, Hilary quickly began to pick up roles on TV shows like *Harry and the Hendersons* and in movies like *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* and *The Next Karate Kid*. But it was as Steve Sanders' single-mom girlfriend on the 1997/1998 season of *Beverly Hills 90210* that she first became a recog-

nizable Hollywood entity. To avoid being bundled together with the Jennie Garths and Tori Spellings of Tinseltown, though, Swank left after one season.

Interesting tidbits: Was an athletic kid, swimming in the Junior Olympics and ranking fifth among Washington's gymnasts. • Auditioned for the role of Lucy Hatcher on *The Practice*.

Sample roles: Valerie in *The Gift* (2000), Brandon Teena in *Boys Don't Cry* (1999), Sylvia in *Heartwood* (1998), Lolita in *Quiet Days in Hollywood* (1997), Michelle in *Sometimes They Come Back...Again* (1996), Julie in *The Next Karate Kid* (1994), Kimberly in *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* (1992)

Love life: Met actor Chad Lowe (brother of Rob) at a "rock-and-jock ball game." They married on September 28, 1997.

On Chad: "I know it could sound sickening, but it was love at first sight. We've been together ever since. I never imagined myself meeting someone so early in life. I'm so fiercely independent, and I grew up alone, so I was fine being alone. But Chad and I have been together for seven years now and married for two. I couldn't imagine life without him." — *Interview*, April 2000

FROM

HEATHER GRAHAM

Now appearing in... the Jack the Ripper horror *From Hell* as Mary Kelly, a prostitute who becomes involved with the inspector trying to solve the case (Johnny Depp). Which is tough, because she may be the next victim.

Bio bits: What's that they say about children of religious families growing up to be the most rebellious? Well, Heather Graham — best-known as bare-it-all porn star *Rollergirl* in *Boogie Nights* — was born into an extremely Catholic family on January 29, 1970, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Her father, an anti-terrorism expert with the FBI, and her mother, a schoolteacher, were hoping Heather would become a nun. To no one's surprise, they did not attend the premiere of *Boogie Nights*.

The family, which includes little sister Aimee who's also an actress (*Rave*, *Brokedown Palace*), moved around a lot but had settled in Southern California when Heather graduated high school. At first, her parents didn't mind her dramatic leanings, encouraging her through early roles like Dorothy in a high school production of *The Wizard of Oz*. But when they realized it was more than a hobby, they were not amused. And when, at 17, Heather played a

Graham in *From Hell*



aring in

HELL

RIDING IN CARS WITH BOYS

doomed teen addict in Gus Van Sant's *Drugstore Cowboy*, the tension rose. She moved out at 18. Other roles that couldn't have delighted her parents include scantily clad Felicity Shagwell in *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me*, a member of a love triangle in *Two Girls and a Guy* and a sleep-with-anyone-to-get-the-part actress in *Bowfinger*. Mom and Dad also weren't pleased when a 22-year-old Heather started dating her *Diggstown* co-star, then-45-year-old James Woods. In fact, Heather and her parents haven't talked for four years, even though her folks have publicly pleaded that she return their calls. Heather insists she must separate herself from anyone who disapproves of her choices.

Love life: Dated singer Adam Ant, *Twin Peaks* co-star Kyle McLachlan, *Diggstown* co-star James Woods, actor Elias Koteas, *Lost in Space* director Stephen Hopkins, *Sidewalks of New York* director/co-star Ed Burns and actor Heath Ledger.

Interesting tidbits: An issue of *Talk* magazine in which Graham blasts the Church for repressing female sexuality, and appears on the cover in a squat position with breasts pouring over a corset, caused a furor — especially with one Ohio library clerk who quit because the issue wasn't pulled from shelves.

- Worked at Toys "R" Us as a teen.

Sample roles: Annie in *Sidewalks of New York* (2001), Jo in *Say it isn't So* (2001), Joline in *Committed* (2000), Daisy in *Bowfinger* (1999), Felicity Shagwell in *Austin Powers: The Spy Who Shagged Me* (1999), Judy in *Lost in Space* (1998), Rollergirl in *Boogie Nights* (1997), Carla in *Two Girls and a Guy* (1997), Lorraine in *Swingers* (1996), Annie in *Twin Peaks: Fire Walk With Me* (1992), Nadine in *Drugstore Cowboy* (1989), Mercedes in *License to Drive* (1988)

On her upbringing: "I was raised a real goody-two-shoes. I was made to feel guilty about even thinking about sex. When I saw Harrison Ford kissing Karen Allen in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*, I thought that was the height of romance.... I had a crush on Michael Jackson. That shows you just how deluded I was about sex and romance." — *Calgary Sun*, May 1999

STEVE ZAHN

Now appearing in... *Riding in Cars with Boys* opposite Drew Barrymore. Zahn plays Barrymore's drug-addicted husband in this true story about a woman who weathers poverty and divorce to become a writer.

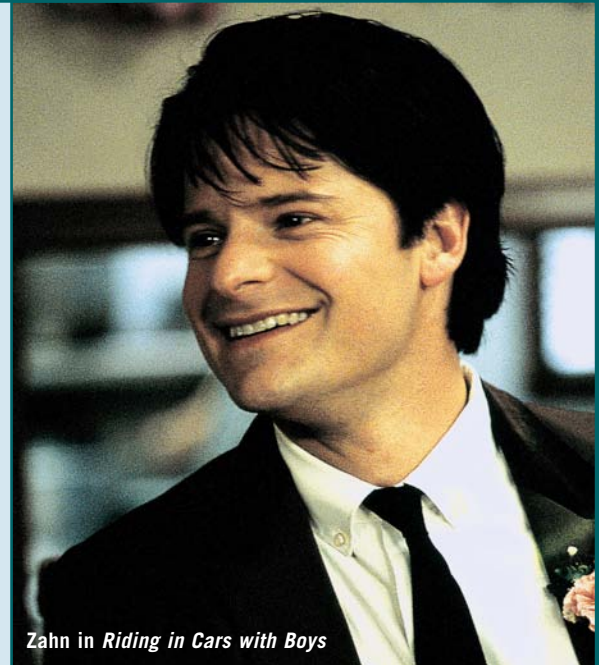
Bio bits: He's been on the verge of full-on fame for years now, stealing scenes in more than two dozen movies as various dim-witted bit characters, but never quite, until recently, getting any major Hollywood roles.

Steve Zahn — better known as the best friend in *Forces of Nature*, the possibly deranged clerk in *You've Got Mail* and the slow-witted crook in *Out of Sight* — was born on November 13, 1968, in the suburban town of Marshall, Minnesota. His mom worked at the YMCA, his dad was a Lutheran minister, and Steve was a typical mid-West slacker who spent his teen years watching too much TV and driving his Chevette into snow drifts for fun.

But when he wasn't goofing off or "snow-banking," Zahn performed in high school plays. After graduation he enrolled at a nearby liberal arts college but dropped out partway through his first year. He moved back home, got a job in a machine shop, took modern dance lessons and started going to auditions.

He wasn't invited to the try-outs for a local dinner theatre, but showed up anyway and was handed the lead in the Neil Simon play *Biloxi Blues*. But, like college, Zahn didn't stick around the dinner theatre very long and, in 1989, moved east to study drama at the high falutin' joint program run by the American Repertory Theater and Harvard's Institute for Advanced Theater Training. After graduation, he relocated to New Jersey, holding down part-time jobs in Hoboken while crossing the river into Manhattan for auditions.

The New York theatre circuit introduced him to both his wife, fellow actor Robyn Peterman whom he met while doing a production of *Bye Bye, Birdie*, and one of his best friends in rising star Ethan Hawke, with whom he appeared in the play *Sophistry*. It was also where he met Ben Stiller, then directing Hawke in *Reality Bites*. Stiller was so impressed by Zahn's work in *Sophistry* that he handed him a small part



Zahn in *Riding in Cars with Boys*

in the movie. That small but memorable role, as a sensitive gay man, got him noticed and landed him a handful of other bit parts in movies like *Crimson Tide* and *Race the Sun*.

Zahn has finally started to move into starring roles and drew warm reviews for his job as an escaped convict in *Happy, Texas*. He lives on a farm in New Jersey with his wife and son.

Sample roles: Fuller in *Joy Ride* (2001), Wayne in *Saving Silverman* (2001), Kresk in *Chain of Fools* (2000), Rosencrantz in *Hamlet* (2000), Wayne in *Happy, Texas* (1999), Alan in *Forces of Nature* (1999), George in *You've Got Mail* (1998), Frank in *The Object of My Affection* (1998), Glenn in *Out of Sight* (1998), Buff in *subUrbia* (1996), William in *Crimson Tide* (1995), Sammy in *Reality Bites* (1994)

Love life: Married actor Robyn Peterman, daughter of clothier J. Peterman, in 1994. Their son, James Henry, was born in April 2000.

On his and Robyn's future plans: "Eventually, we want to own a pumpkin farm. That would be great, wouldn't it? Make movies, then take a couple months off to grow pumpkins." — *Cosmopolitan*, March 1997

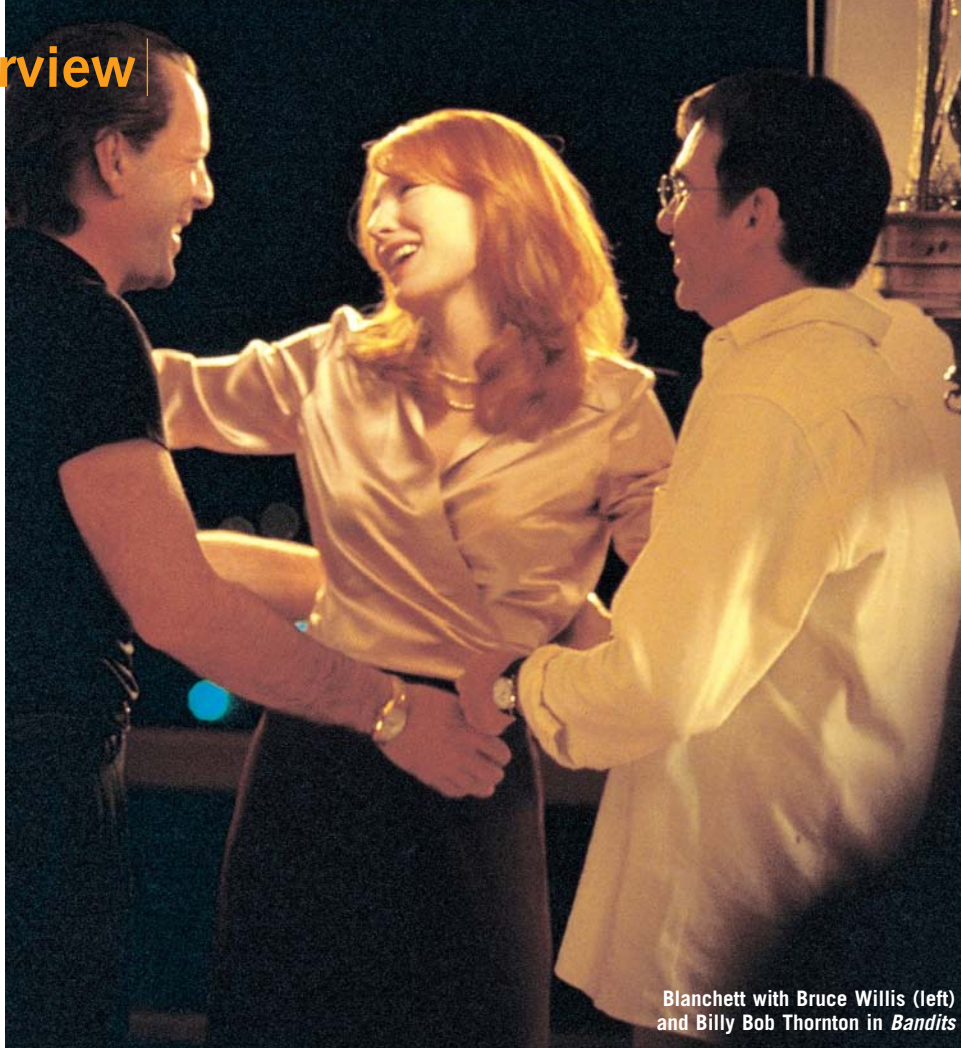
Shaved bald and wearing a nondescript light blue dress, Cate Blanchett is almost unrecognizable as she strolls into her Beverly Hills hotel room. It's difficult to believe this is the same woman who bedazzled moviegoers, critics and Golden Globe voters as the commanding Virgin Queen in the 1998 historical drama *Elizabeth*.

"I look pretty different, don't I?" she asks rhetorically, running her fingers across the light fuzz that has begun to sprout on her scalp. "About two months ago, Giovanni Ribisi and I did a film in Tuscany with Tom Tykwer called *Heaven*, the last screenplay by [late Polish filmmaker] Krzysztof Kieslowski, and we had to shave our heads.... I found doing it completely liberating, like an act of purity, even though people look at me like I'm a skinhead."

Although she's come to fancy her new hairdo (or lack thereof), the fact that she's missing her strawberry blond locks means Blanchett has to wear a wig for the Bruce Willis/Billy Bob Thornton romantic comedy *Bandits*, which she's taking a break from shooting on this day. "I never like wearing wigs, because I find it a bit gross to be using someone else's old hair," she says with disgust. "Even if they are fake wigs, I still feel like I'm using old body parts. But I'm supposed to be the love interest in the film, so I don't think people would buy Bruce and Billy Bob's characters falling for a bald-headed broad." ▶▶

Coffee WITH CATE

SLEEP-DEPRIVED CATE BLANCHETT TOOK A BREAK FROM SHOOTING THIS MONTH'S ROMANTIC COMEDY *BANDITS* TO TALK ABOUT THE FILM, EXPLAIN HER SHAVED HEAD AND DOWN A COUPLE LITRES OF JAVA BY EARL DITTMAN



Blanchett with Bruce Willis (left) and Billy Bob Thornton in *Bandits*

“There are so many other talented people out there who would kill to be in the position that I’m in,” says Blanchett

►► And having spent the previous night working on *Bandits* into the wee hours, she has to admit being hairless has its advantages. “This would definitely have been a bad hair day for me because I’m so tired,” she says with a laugh. “But, since I don’t have any, once I came in from the airport, I just showered, threw on some clothes and here I am. I’m very low maintenance at the moment...and a little beat.”

Blanchett has a right to be exhausted. Since making her Oscar-nominated splash as the Queen of England, the 32-year-old Aussie has been working almost non-stop, traveling the globe from Italy (*The Talented Mr. Ripley*) to Savannah, Georgia (*The Gift*) to New Zealand (*The Lord of the Rings* trilogy) to Newfoundland (*The Shipping News*). She’ll be forced to take a break early next year when she and husband Andrew Upton welcome their first child. Until then, she’s not going to com-

plain about the tough schedule.

“There are so many other talented people out there who would kill to be in the position that I’m in,” she says, pouring herself a cup of java. “I’ve been blessed with the ability to work with people that I admire in these incredible projects. So what if I didn’t get to sleep last night? At least I can say I was frolicking on the beach with Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton and [director] Barry Levinson. How many people can say that?”

In *Bandits*, Blanchett plays Kate, an ordinary woman married to a disinterested husband and desperate for a little attention from the opposite sex. So, when she crosses paths with two friendly thieves who’ve just escaped from prison, she develops feelings for both of them. As she becomes a participant in their not-so-deadly, bank-robbing crime spree, she must decide which con — the suave Joe (Willis)

or his hypochondriac partner Terry (Thornton) — is the man for her.

“It’s this kind of rollicking, romantic comedy,” Blanchett says, “and what makes it even more hilarious is the fact that Bruce and Billy Bob’s characters are actually based on two real bank robbers. They are criminals, but they are also nice guys. So Kate, whose life isn’t functioning very well, forces them to take her hostage, hoping to find true love. It’s like this really dysfunctional ménage à trois.”

Blanchett, who co-starred with Thornton in 1999’s *Pushing Tin*, was invited to join the *Bandits* cast on her final day of shooting *The Gift*, a supernatural thriller which Billy Bob co-wrote.

As for her other co-star, working with Bruce Willis — who sometimes takes home upwards of \$20-million per picture — has given her a sense of what it means to be part of a big-budget Hollywood feature.

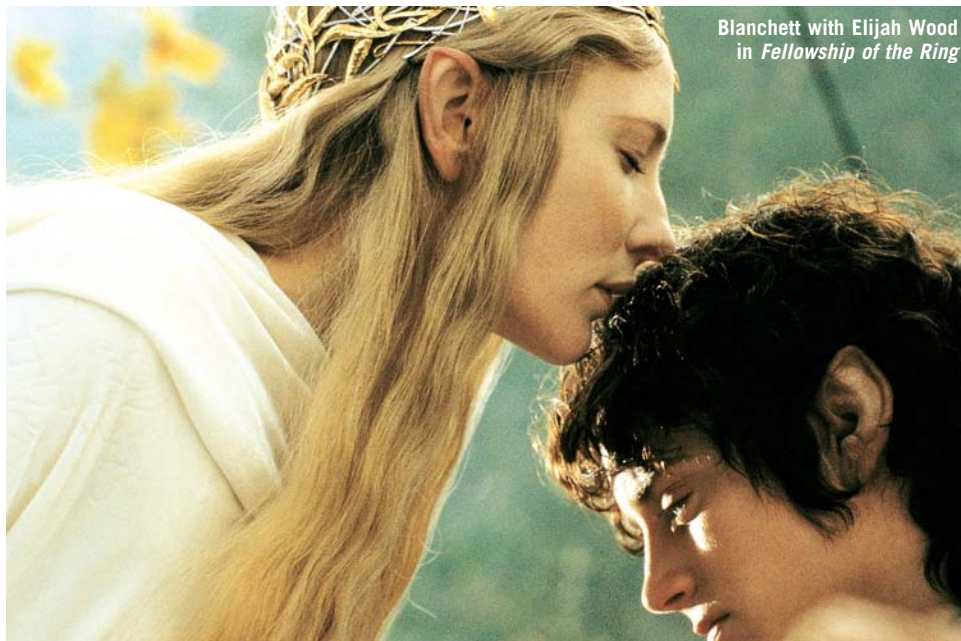
“Bruce has definitely got a lot of trailers,” she says, laughing, about his mini-mansion-on-wheels. “I mean, there are a lot more trailers just for the actors in *Bandits* than there were for the entire production of *The Gift*. But, again, I’m not complaining because my trailer is gigantic, and I’ve got a DVD player and a cappuccino machine in it, too.

“But Bruce deserves the perks that he gets, because he is more than just ‘a star’.... When I first started out, if you would have asked me what actor I would like to fashion my career after, Bruce’s name would have been the furthest from my mind. But, after working with him and realizing he’s a very talented man who has just learned how to make this business work to his advantage, I would have to say he’s now high on my list of someone whose career I admire and wouldn’t be ashamed of having.”

Surprisingly, though, acting wasn’t a profession Blanchett envisioned for herself while growing up in Melbourne. Her interest in the craft didn’t begin until she was at university studying international relations.

“I found out I had to sit through four years of economic history — studying the cattle runs between Melbourne and Sydney — and I just couldn’t do it,” she says, downing her third cup of coffee in 10 minutes. “Someone suggested that I go to drama school, and I thought I would give it a go. Of course, the girl who said it didn’t like me very much, and I think she just wanted me to get out of Melbourne.”

Blanchett auditioned for Australia’s ►►



Blanchett with Elijah Wood
in *Fellowship of the Ring*

►► prestigious National Institute of Dramatic Art, but, well aware of the school's strict admission policy, she prepared herself for a rejection notice. Much to her surprise, she was accepted. "I thought they had made a mistake so I spent my first two semesters waiting for them to come up to me and go, 'Sorry, you're not the Cate Blanchett we wanted,'" she says.

After graduating in 1992, Blanchett joined the Sydney Theatre Company where she won the Rosemont Best Actress Award for her part (opposite *Elizabeth* co-star Geoffrey Rush) in David Mamet's *Oleanna*.

Early film roles in *The Wedding Party* and *Oscar and Lucinda* lead to the role that transformed her into an international star. "There's no doubt about it, doing *Elizabeth* changed my life, personally and professionally," she says, pouring herself another cup of coffee — black, with one cube of sugar. "As an actress, it really tested my limits, and I liked that. I mean, I had the responsibility of a whole movie on my shoulders, so it taught me how to be a stronger actress. I certainly needed that when all the award nominations and all the interest in my personal life began. It was a crazy time."

But while she could have cashed in by starring in more costume dramas, Blanchett opted for a more eclectic array of films. "There were a lot of offers to do exactly the same thing again, with or without the corsets, and I wasn't into doing that," she explains. "I found more interest

in playing smaller roles in good stories and getting to do different things."

A very different project arrived in 1999 when, at the urging of director Peter Jackson, she accepted the role of elf queen Galadriel in his three-film adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkien's fantasy *The Lord of the Rings*.

The special effects-laden epic, which premieres in December with the first film *Fellowship of the Ring*, allowed Blanchett to discover a facet of moviemaking that was totally foreign to her. "I had never done anything with blue screen before, or prosthetics, or anything like that. *Lord of the Rings* was like stepping into a videogame for me. It was another world completely. But, to be honest, I basically did it so that I could have the ears," she jokes. "I thought they would really work with my bare head."

"Filmmaking, no matter what genre you're working in, you're creating fantasy for an audience," she continues. "And making so-called 'studio films' like *Bandits*, *The Shipping News* and *The Lord of the Rings* have felt like really generous exercises. Since they were such big productions, I felt like I had more time to myself. They haven't spoiled me, though. I still like the thrill and energy that comes with working seven days a week, 15 hours a day on smaller productions. They've just given me a chance to loosen up a little." **E**

Earl Dittman is an entertainment journalist based in Houston, Texas. He also interviewed Kevin Spacey for this issue of Famous.

famous trivia

- 1 For which *Star Wars* role was *Affair of the Necklace*'s Christopher Walken one of the leading candidates?
- 2 Which Brooklyn-born star of *Riding in Cars with Boys* started her career in show biz as a *Soul Train* dancer?
- 3 Name the Canadian actress with whom *Serendipity* star John Cusack was once romantically linked.
- 4 In which big-screen adaptation of a comic book did Gene Hackman — star of the upcoming *Behind Enemy Lines* — play the villain?
- 5 In which film did *The Last Castle*'s Robin Wright Penn play a character named Buttercup?
- 6 Is *Bandits* star Cate Blanchett English, Irish, Scottish, Australian or Dutch?
- 7 For which role did *City by the Sea* actress Frances McDormand win an Oscar?
- 8 The new Anthony Hopkins movie *Hearts in Atlantis* is based on a five-part serial by prolific writer Stephen King. What was the very first King story turned into a movie?

ANSWERS

- 1 Han Solo 2 Rosie Perez 3 Neve Campbell 4 Superman 5 The Princess Bride 6 Australian 7 Fargo's Marge Gunderson 8 *Carrie*


 A photograph of Arnold Schwarzenegger on the set of the movie Collateral Damage. He is wearing a blue and white checkered button-down shirt and looking off to the side with a serious expression. The background is a blurred city street scene with a sign that says "Double Double".

Damage CONTROL

ON THE SET OF THE NEW ACTION PIC *COLLATERAL DAMAGE*,
ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER DEFENDS HIMSELF AGAINST SOME BAD
 PRESS AND USES HIS MOVIE MUSCLE TO SWAY THE DIRECTOR

BY JENNY COONEY CARRILLO

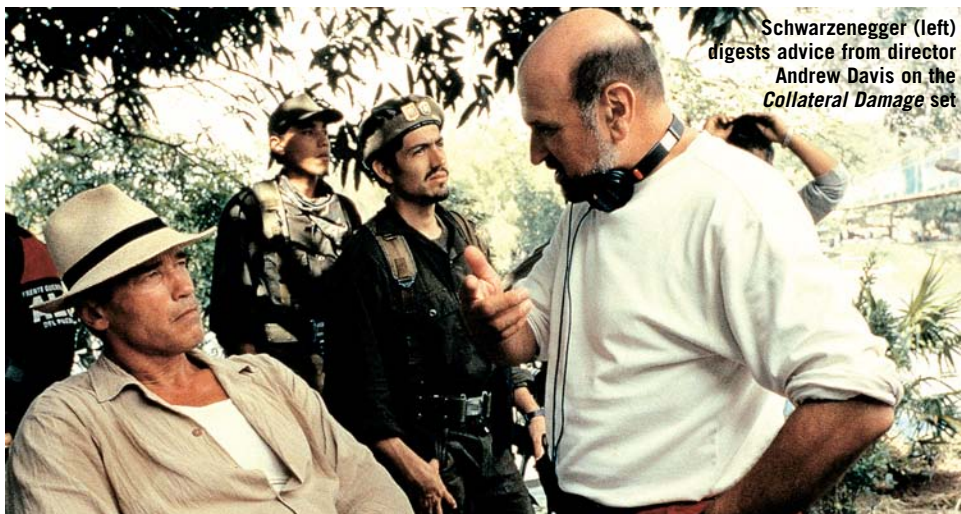
“Why didn’t he use a stunt double while he was deciding how much dust was going to be in the shot?” Arnold Schwarzenegger grumbles to a friend as he watches a monitor on the *Collateral Damage* set, Stage 15 on the Warner Bros. lot in Burbank, California. The man who practically invented the action movie is referring to his latest director, Andrew Davis (*The Fugitive*), who is trying to guide the Austrian Oak through the world of international terrorism in his latest pic. The production has moved back to a Los Angeles soundstage for a few weeks of complicated stunt shots after an exhausting location shoot in Veracruz, Mexico.

Right now, they’re taking a break from shooting a scene that requires Arnie to be hoisted above an elevator ceiling trap door and dropped to the floor. While Davis shouts feedback about the dust level, his leading man, dressed in a dirty gray T-shirt and black pants, strolls over to the monitor to watch the latest take and pass judgement.

Petty spats aside, however, Davis clearly listens to whatever his star has to say and welcomes the intense feedback that occasionally comes with it. “Arnold has not been thought of as an actor but an action icon,” Davis explains rapturously, “but I’m knocked out by what he’s doing. He loves being directed and his skills are refined because he’s worked with some of the best directors in the business.”

This time around, Schwarzenegger plays family man and firefighter Gordon Brewer, who’s plunged into the complex and dangerous world of international terrorism after he loses his wife and child in a bombing. Frustrated with the official investigation and haunted by the fear that the terrorist responsible for murdering his family (Cliff Curtis) might never be brought to justice, Brewer takes matters into his own hands.

During a quick lunch break, the dirt-covered star enthuses about the role. “There are only a few real basic stories out there, and this is one of them that is always really good because everyone can sympathize and feel like, ‘Yeah, I hope he gets those guys,’” he says excitedly. “Then you just follow this guy going through this drama of trying to smuggle himself into Colombia and what he goes through — being thrown into this melting pot of total chaos of the right-wing army of Colombia, the guerillas of Colombia, the drug lords of Colombia, the CIA, the FBI and the military. You really get to sympathize with him and everything he goes through.” ►►



Schwarzenegger (left) digests advice from director Andrew Davis on the *Collateral Damage* set

“I feel proud of the way I live my life, the way I treat my wife and what kind of family man I am,” says Schwarzenegger

► Coincidentally, just days before our interview, the six-foot-two action figure went through some real-life drama, and drew sympathy from across Hollywood, when *Premiere* ran a story titled “Arnold the Barbarian,” alleging he had groped female reporters during a press tour and was not entirely faithful to his wife of 15 years, TV journalist and Kennedy-clan member Maria Shriver.

“Guys can handle those things much better, but my wife’s an innocent bystander,” the 53-year-old former bodybuilder says with surprising calm and a shrug. While the story led to numerous public statements of support from friends including his *True Lies* co-star Jamie Lee Curtis, *Terminator* director James Cameron and *Terminator* co-star Linda Hamilton, the actor himself has chosen to let his life speak for itself.

“That’s the way it is in show business,” he explains. “It’s all a play and you have to ride those waves and sometimes you go up the wave and it’s a great experience, and then when you are going down it becomes like for every attack there’s a defense. So you say, ‘Okay, now this is a little attack here and we have to handle it.’ But you never get discouraged or say this is typical journalism because my wife is a journalist and I don’t put everyone in the same pot.

“I feel proud of the way I live my life, the way I treat my wife and what kind of family man I am. So it doesn’t make me feel vulnerable,” he adds.

Vulnerability has never been too prominent in Schwarzenegger’s screen persona either. A versatile actor, producer, director

and real estate mogul, the former Mr. Universe has flexed his comedy muscles in such hits as *Kindergarten Cop*, *Junior* and *Twins* but really seems to strike it big at the box office when he’s flexing his real muscles in such hits as *Terminator*, *Total Recall* and *True Lies*.

A consummate expert on how to make hit movies, Arnie still laughs off questions about where he’s headed next. “The new direction is really just to create movies for the audience today, not for the audience from yesterday, and if it means humour or no humour, more suspense or less suspense, whatever the audience really wants today you have got to be with the times,” he says.

When reminded that a few years back he insisted he was only interested in doing movies with a message, the star grins. “Yes, and this one is about the absurdity of war and of what’s going on with these guerrilla fights and people getting killed,” he explains, adding that “collateral damage” is a euphemism for innocent civilians who get killed in crossfire.

Born in the tiny mountain town of Graz, Austria, Schwarzenegger is living proof of the American dream. Moving to the United States in 1968, the bodybuilder made his screen-acting debut in 1970’s *Hercules in New York* under the name Arnold Strong. In 1982, he parlayed his bodybuilding reputation into a bona fide big-screen hero in *Conan the Barbarian*, and became a U.S. citizen a year later. He earned a major credibility boost with 1984’s *The Terminator* — establishing his prophetic trademark

line “I’ll be back” — and then cemented his makeover by joining American nobility with his 1986 marriage to Shriver.

Asked about their relationship, Schwarzenegger lights up, relishing the opportunity to address what, from the outside, looks like the least likely of couples. “One of the things that is consistent is that you really have the ultimate of love for one another, which Maria and I have, as well as the ultimate respect,” he begins. “With those two things you can solve a lot of problems because you have to understand that it is not easy to live with anyone, because you’re always two different people. But then imagine those two people being Maria and I,” he says with a smile.

“She comes from America, I come from Austria. She comes from a royal family and wealth and I come from a poor place where I have never heard of doing charitable works or anything like that. She also comes from [the] Democratic party, which is very close to a socialistic kind of political system, and I consider myself Republican. So we are opposites but we have the respect of one another...

“We have our ups and downs,” he admits, “and Maria is always very understanding when we have our downs and visits me in the garage all the time,” he says, finally breaking into an all-out chuckle. “But we also created four amazing children and that neutralizes everything and helps the love and respect keep us really moving forward.”

The kids aren’t the only things that have taught the couple there are more important things in life than their demanding, and often diverging, careers. Four years ago Arnold underwent heart surgery to repair a congenital defect in an aortic valve. “It was not an emergency of any kind and I was hiking up the mountains 14 days after the surgery,” he brags. “I was fortunate that I decided to have the surgery early on because it was the same problem that my mother had and finally died of, and it’s the same problem that my grandmother had. Surgeries like this make you live on for a longer period of time and eventually, hopefully, we’ll have surgeries that can make you live on forever because it’s the only thing that really makes me mad about life — that one day we have to die.”

With that, the jovial actor heads back to the set, leaving no doubt that if anybody can achieve immortality, he’ll be first in line. **E**

Jenny Cooney Carrillo is a member of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and covers the entertainment industry for publications worldwide.

Jeff Bridges (right) reflects on Kevin Spacey's sanity in *K-PAX*



The Spaceman

Kevin Spacey finally lives up to his Hollywood nickname, playing a supposed alien from outer space in *K-PAX*

BY EARL DITTMAN

Shortly before he began filming his Academy Award-winning turn in 1999's *American Beauty*, Kevin Spacey fell in love with another script — a sci-fi drama called *K-PAX*, about a mental patient named Prot who claims he's from a distant planet. Spacey was so anxious to get the role that as soon as he finished reading the screenplay he called his agent and manager.

"I picked up the phone and told them, 'Oh, my God, this is an extraordinary film and a fantastic part! I want to play this role so bad, I'll do it for nothing,'" Spacey recalls, as he scarfs down a late lunch at an upscale New York eatery. Dressed exquisitely in a black designer suit, the actor hovers over a

large chef's salad, fending off an overly eager waiter who checks up on his VIP customer about every five minutes. "Of course," Spacey continues, "they didn't like the fact that I said I would play it for free, but they understood how badly I wanted to do it."

But before Spacey could finish telling his handlers exactly why he should star in the movie, he got the bad news.

"They said to me, 'We hate to tell you this Kevin, but Will Smith is already playing that role.' My heart just sank. But I kept asking them, 'Really? Are you sure?' hoping they were wrong.... Back then that had been happening to me a lot, where I would read something I liked but someone else was already doing it. So I just said, 'Oh well,

maybe I just wasn't meant to do it.'"

Spacey went on to make *American Beauty* (which earned him his second Oscar, after *The Usual Suspects*), *The Big Kahuna* and *Pay it Forward*, but his hopes of starring in *K-PAX* never completely died. And when Smith opted out of the film to play boxing great Muhammad Ali in the bio-pic *Ali*, Spacey got the call — he had the role if he still wanted it.

"I was like, 'Are you kidding? Where do I report to start filming?'"

Based on the novel by Gene Brewer and co-starring Jeff Bridges, Alfie Woodard and Mary McCormack, *K-PAX* follows Prot as he tries to convince doctors and his fellow patients in the mental institution that he is

from another world. While his psychiatrist (Bridges) pegs him as delusional, Prot's descriptions of life on K-PAX — a planet 1,000 light years away — awaken a sense of hope among the other patients. Eventually, Prot reveals that he will be beaming back up to his own galaxy before the summer ends, and can take one person with him. As the day of Prot's departure nears, the other patients all pack their bags in the hope of joining him on his journey.

What Spacey liked best about the script, written by Bryan Goluboff and Charles Leavitt, was its raw emotional centre. "Even though it's a science fiction movie in a lot of ways, the emotions that run through it are very real, we can all relate to them," he explains. "There's a lot of truth in it, and it has a big heart."

New Jersey-born Kevin Spacey Fowler (Spacey is his mother's maiden name) was the baby of the family, having two older siblings. His mom was a secretary and his dad made a living as a technical writer. But erratic opportunities in the tech-writing field meant the family had to move around a lot. They eventually settled in Southern California, where Kevin's rebellious side surfaced. After burning down his sister's tree house, he was sent away to military school, but got turfed just a few months later for throwing a tire at another student.

Finally landing at Chatsworth High School in the San Fernando Valley, Spacey discovered that the drama program was a better way to get attention than setting things aflame. His classmates included Val Kilmer (*Red Planet*) and Brat Pack veteran Mare Winningham (*St. Elmo's Fire*), the latter playing Maria to Spacey's Captain von Trapp in Chatsworth's production of *The Sound of Music*.

After studying his craft at the Juilliard theatre school, Spacey started to work on Broadway where he appeared opposite his idol Jack Lemmon in a 1986 production of *Long Day's Journey into Night* and then won a Tony for a 1991 staging of *Lost in Yonkers*. He soon made the leap to the big screen with such notable roles as the manipulative office manager in 1992's *Glengarry Glen Ross* and the creepy villain in 1995's *Seven*.

In the years since, film fans have slowly gotten to know Spacey better and better — on screen anyway. His personal life, however, is a different story. Never one to talk about who he's dating, or how he lives, Spacey has become somewhat of a mystery for the press.



“Last year I was on a cover of GQ and the tag line was ‘Kevin Spacey Needs a Hug.’ I have no idea what that meant. I even started feeling sorry for myself,” Spacey says

“Last year I was on a cover of *GQ* and the tag line was ‘Kevin Spacey Needs a Hug,’” he says. “I have no idea what that meant. I even started feeling sorry for myself after seeing that headline.”

Rumours that he's gay abound in Hollywood, but the actor has denied them, saying nothing has helped his luck with the ladies more than those tales because they all want to “convert” him.

As for his tight-lipped approach, he says it helps his craft. “I really don't understand everyone's obsession with having to know every little detail of an actor's life,” he says. “It really borders on the ridiculous. I'm not trying to become an enigma or anything by not talking about my personal life, I'm just trying to keep some distance between myself and the people I play on stage or in movies. The more you know about me, the less you are going to believe I'm a certain character. It's as simple as that.”

And Spacey claims the awards, superstar salaries and fame haven't changed the way he chooses which of those characters to play. “I approach my career the same way I did in high school, when I was doing plays. I respond to the material,” he says. “I don't necessarily want to know who else is in it, who's directing it or how much money they are offering me. I don't want to know any of that. I just want to read the story. And if I respond to the story, then I do what I did in high school, which is go around saying, ‘This is a f---ing great story. This is a beauti-

ful story. I want to play this part.”

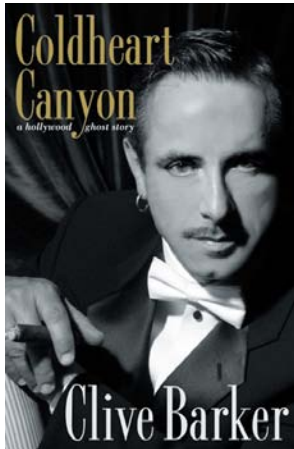
Spacey's next beautiful story will be director Lasse Hallström's adaptation of the Pulitzer-Prize winning *The Shipping News*, scheduled for release this holiday season. In a cast that also includes Julianne Moore, Judi Dench and Cate Blanchett, Spacey plays an emotionally beaten man who moves, with his young daughter, to his ancestral home in Newfoundland to reclaim his life. Filmed in and around Nova Scotia and Newfoundland this past spring, *The Shipping News* is already generating plenty of buzz. Strangely, though, it might have been John Travolta's performance, rather than Spacey's, that had insiders excited.

“Like *K-PAX*, the same thing happened to me when I read *The Shipping News*. I read it and loved it. But, once again, I was told it was already taken. It was a John Travolta movie. But, somehow, some way, his association with it fell apart. Luckily, I had worked long and hard enough so that when it came back around, it came to me,” Spacey explains.

“I may be the one getting seconds when it comes to parts, but they certainly aren't sloppy seconds. I just thank my lucky stars that other actors change their minds as much as they do.” **E**

Earl Dittman is an entertainment journalist based in Houston, Texas. He also interviewed Cate Blanchett for this issue of Famous.

Spooky books to raise your Halloween spirit



Coldheart Canyon: A Hollywood Ghost Story

By Clive Barker
HarperCollins, \$42

There are a handful of movie names that are synonymous with creepy. Stephen King is one, Wes Craven's another. Canada's own David Cronenberg would sure be up there. And so would British-born novelist/filmmaker Clive Barker. The man behind *Hellraiser*, *Candyman* and *Nightbreed* releases his 18th book just in time for Halloween — this one drawing on the deranged characters he's met in Hollywood since his books started being made into films almost 20 years ago. *Coldheart Canyon* tells of big-screen leading man Todd Pickett who sneaks off to the extremely secretive Los Angeles neighbourhood of Coldheart Canyon (it's not even on any maps) to recover from plastic surgery. But an obsessed fan tracks him to the canyon, where she discovers far creepier things than just an aging, bandaged actor.

Mick Foley's Halloween Hijinx

By Mick Foley
HarperCollins, \$30

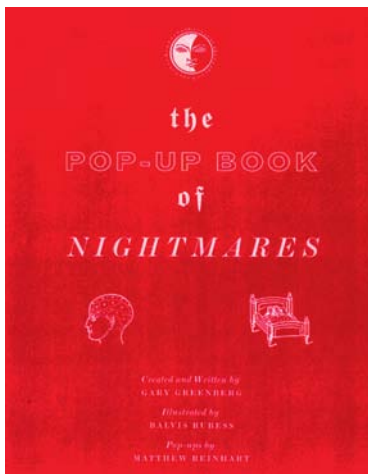
Everyone was surprised when WWF superstar Mick Foley — aka Mankind, Cactus Jack, Dude Love — clawed his way to the top of the *New York Times* bestseller list last year with his first book, *Have a Nice Day!* I mean, c'mon, wrasslers are supposed to be stooopid. But Foley's success as a literati was no fluke, as he proved with the subsequent *Foley is Good* and his first children's book, *Mick Foley's Christmas Chaos*. Now comes *Mick Foley's Halloween Hijinx*, a topic that should be right up this costume aficionado's alley. The story follows the kids of Pumpkin Lane as they try to fend off a werewolf, a witch and a green-skinned boy named Frank. How do they do this? Believe it or not, the kids change into their favourite World Wrestling Federation costumes which protect them against even the scariest ghouls. Hey, we said he wasn't stooopid, and if cross-promotion is gonna make you more dough...



The Pop-up Book of Nightmares

By Gary Greenberg
St. Martin's Press, \$45

Have you ever wished that you could relive your dreams the next day, maybe watch them on TV or read their plots in a book? Wouldn't that help you understand your sleeping psyche better, or at least just be kinda neat? What if those dreams weren't always pleasant? Would that make you more or less interested? *The Pop-up Book of Nightmares* brings 10 of the most common nightmare scenarios to life with intense 3D illustrations that place you deep in the dark corners of the mind. Whether your subconscious has been spending time being chased by a menacing force, finding rats where you least expect them or free-falling for what seems like an impossible stretch of time, this adult-oriented pop-up book will bring your hidden fears into the light of day. —Marni Weisz



OUTTHIS MONTH

Power Spells: Get the Magical Edge in Business, Work, Relationships and Life

By Lexa Roséan

If the idea of using witchcraft to get the upper hand in your personal dealings doesn't seem offensive, then this book's for you. The author, a Wiccan high priestess, tells you how to cast the spells and explains the power of their special ingredients.

Extreme Success: Risk, Daring and What it Takes to be a Lifelong Winner

By Mark Burnett

Yes, that Mark Burnett. The Mark Burnett who came up with the show that started this whole reality TV craze, *Survivor*. But just 10 years ago Burnett was selling T-shirts on a beach in Southern California. Now his inspirational guidebook teaches you how to learn through failure to accomplish your goals.

Collector's Guide to Celebrity Dolls

By David Spurgeon

You might not be able to get a date with your favourite celeb, but you can probably get a plastic replica of him or her that you can keep in a cardboard box, on your mantel, under your pillow...(shudder). Seriously, doll collecting is big business and this book features more than 950 colour photos of them, including figures from *90210*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Alien*.

I Loved Lucy: My Friendship with Lucille Ball

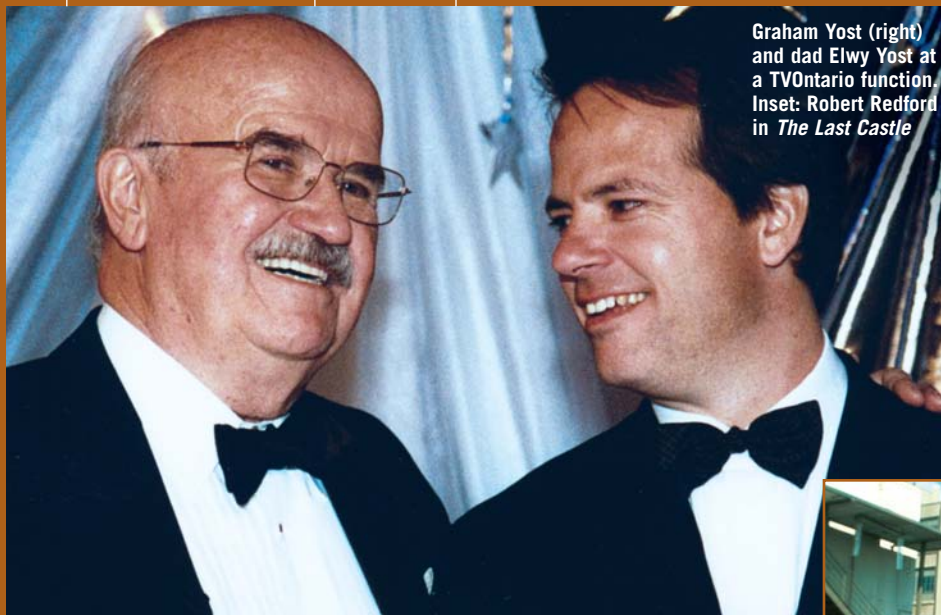
By Lee Tannen

A distant relative of Ball's second husband Gary Morton, Tannen became friends with Lucy in the last 10 years of the star's life. Here she recounts that close, personal relationship for the rest of the world.

Fun with Phone Solicitors: 50 Ways to Get Even

By Robert Harris

If you're tired of using Jerry Seinfeld's famed response to a phone solicitor — "I'm busy right now, why don't you give me your home phone number and I'll call you back later" — here are 50 new ones designed to stump those annoying vendors and let you get on with your day.



Graham Yost (right) and dad Elwy Yost at a TVOntario function. Inset: Robert Redford in *The Last Castle*

Graham Yost makes his picks

He grew up in Toronto the son of Elwy Yost, host of two beloved film shows on TVOntario — *Saturday Night at the Movies* and *Magic Shadows*. But in 1994, screenwriter Graham Yost made a name for himself in the movie biz when one of his scripts was turned into a little flick called *Speed*.

The action pic's immense success made the Canadian writer an instant commodity in Hollywood, allowing him to split his time between writing his own scripts — like *Broken Arrow*, *Hard Rain*, and parts of the Tom Hanks HBO series *From the Earth to the Moon*, and retooling existing scripts for movies like *Mission to Mars* and this month's Robert Redford film, *The Last Castle*.

The latter was written with newbie screenwriter David Scarpa, and tells of a three-star general (Redford) who disobeys an order in a "Rwanda-like situation," is court-martialled and sentenced to a maximum security prison where he inspires his fellow inmates to revolt.

Yost now lives in Carmel, California with his wife and two kids, but was at his office just up the coast in Monterey ("If I stand in one corner on my tiptoes I can see the ocean") when he spoke with *Famous* about his most-loved flicks, his new film and his dream writing assignment.

WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"Number one is **Citizen Kane** [1941], which is something that my dad forced me to watch when I was 12 or 13, and I didn't get what all the fuss was about. Then I saw it again in college. The thing about *Kane*, to me, is that it's truly timeless. And, for a Canadian, it's the quintessential American story. ● Number two is **Godfather** [1972] and **Godfather II** [1974]. Coppola was firing on all cylinders, it just looks effortless. And *Godfather II* is not just a sequel, he took these characters deeper, to the point where Michael can order the murder of his own brother. ● Number three is **Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior** [1981]. The final 20 minutes, where Mel Gibson is driving away from these hooligans, is an amazing sequence, brilliantly

structured. You're aware of where everything is, unlike some action movies where you're never sure what's going on. ● Number four is a movie I've only seen once, partly because I'm afraid it won't hold up — **Fearless** [1993] with Jeff Bridges. It starts right after he's been in a plane crash and the whole movie leads up to what his character did during the crash. You think you understand why he's suddenly fearless after surviving this accident, but you really don't until you see what actually happened. ● And number five is **Badlands** [1973], directed by Terrence Malick and starring Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek. It roughly follows the true story of this guy Starkweather who, along with his girlfriend,

went on a killing spree. What Terrence Malick was able to do was get inside the guy's head. While it sounds gruesome there's a strange beauty to it. He's not a bad guy, he just ends up doing these things."



DID YOU HAVE ROBERT REDFORD IN MIND WHILE YOU WERE WORKING ON *THE LAST CASTLE*?

"I think he was mentioned fairly early on just because [like the general] he's an 'American hero' too. Although, it's a little bit against type because, through Sundance and his environmental work, people think of him as left-leaning, and here he is playing a general."

WHICH FILM BASED ON ONE OF YOUR SCRIPTS WERE YOU HAPPIEST WITH?

"Probably *Speed* because we were all on the same page. When I saw it I thought the elevator sequence at the beginning was okay, [director] Jan [de Bont] has a style that's crisp and clean, and I thought it could have been messier. But once it got onto the bus it was as good as anything I had imagined, or better."

WHICH FILM BASED ON ONE OF YOUR SCRIPTS WERE YOU LEAST HAPPY WITH?

"*Mission to Mars*. I came onto it as a project that other people had already been working on. There was this one sequence, in particular, where the spacecraft was hit by micrometeors and decompresses. After having worked on *From the Earth to the Moon*, I learned that when that happens you really bounce around so I saw it as a sequence with them flying around in zero gravity like it's never been done before. But they didn't do it like that."

IF YOU COULD LIVE IN ANY MOVIE, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

"Well, it's not a movie yet, but *Lord of the Rings*. That book changed my life. I would just stare at the map and try to imagine all the different places and what they were like. I'm very excited, I have great hopes for the movie."

IF YOU COULD WRITE FOR ANY ACTOR, WHO WOULD IT BE?

"It would be a guy I've worked with twice but never written for — Tom Hanks. I think he's pretty much the best American actor right now. He doesn't go very far afield, all of his characters are variations of himself. But to every role he brings feeling, empathy, reality and intelligence. I go to a Tom Hanks movie and I'm pretty sure I'm not going to be disappointed."

—Marni Weisz

new RELEASES

CATCH CATS & DOGS, SAMPLE SWORDFISH OR LOOK INTO BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY

OCTOBER 9

BRIDGET JONES'S DIARY

Stars: Renée Zellweger, Colin Firth

Director: Sharon Maguire (debut)

Story: It seems that everyone who read the book *Bridget Jones's Diary* and saw the BBC version of *Pride and Prejudice* on which it was l-o-o-s-e-l-y based, absolutely loved this big-screen adaptation. Those who didn't, thought it was just okay. Zellweger loses her Southern belle accent to play British single gal Bridget who must learn the hard way that slick boys aren't worth the trouble, and the quiet ones, like Firth's Mark Darcy, often are. **DVD**

OCTOBER 16

CATS & DOGS

Stars: Jeff Goldblum, Elizabeth Perkins

Director: Lawrence Guterman (*Headless!*)

Story: Combining computer animation with live action, this kids' flick follows the secret war being fought among our culture's domestic animals. As a scientist (Goldblum) closes in on a formula that would make allergies to dogs a thing of the past, the cats realize the cure would give their canine competitors the edge in the fight for pet supremacy, and plot to destroy it. **DVD**

OCTOBER 23

TOWN AND COUNTRY

Stars: Warren Beatty, Diane Keaton

Director: Peter Chelsom (*The Mighty*)

Story: More than a year late and lots and lots over budget, this mid-life crisis romantic comedy finally arrived in theatres last spring, and was pretty much the disappointment everyone expected. Beatty plays a restless husband



Zellweger as Brit lit's Bridget Jones

who goes out lookin' for love in all the wrong places only to realize that it's his wife (Keaton) he's wanted all along. **DVD**

FINAL FANTASY: THE SPIRITS WITHIN

Voices: Ming-na, Alec Baldwin

Director: Hironobu Sakaguchi (debut)

Story: The eye-popping computer animation is the big draw for this pic about a squadron of soldiers and scientists trying to save Earth from millions of aliens who arrive on a crashed meteor. **DVD**

GINGER SNAPS

Stars: Katharine Isabelle, Emily Perkins

Director: John Fawcett

Story: Fifteen-year-old Ginger (Isabelle) is attacked by a werewolf on the eve of her first period. She soon discovers her own taste for blood, ripping apart neighbourhood dogs and engaging in rough sex. It's up to her younger sister Brigitte (Perkins) to stop the disease that's turning sis into a monster. **DVD**

FREDDY GOT FINGERED

Stars: Tom Green, Drew Barrymore

Director: Tom Green (debut)

Story: Love birds Tom and Drew star in this gross-out comedy about a guy in his late 20s (Green) who infuriates his father by refusing to move out of the house. **DVD**

DR. DOLITTLE 2

Stars: Eddie Murphy, Kevin Pollack

Director: Steve Carr (*Next Friday*)

Story: In this sequel to Murphy's 1998 hit, the doctor must find a suitable mate for an endangered bear or the species will become extinct. *Friends*' Lisa Kudrow and *Saturday Night Live*'s Molly Shannon are just a couple of the names lending their voices to the film's four-legged characters. **DVD**

OCTOBER 30

SWORDFISH

Stars: John Travolta, Hugh Jackman

Director: Dominic Sena (*Kalifornia*)

Story: Travolta plays a dangerous spy who's trying to steal billions of dollars in illegal government funds. But he needs the help of a brilliant computer hacker (Jackman) who's



Green in *Freddy Got Fingered*

just been released from jail where he was doing time for tapping into the FBI's surveillance system. Halle Berry, who bares her breasts for the first time on screen, plays Travolta's partner Ginger. **DVD**

THE ANIMAL

Stars: Rob Schneider, Colleen Haskell

Director: Luke Greenfield (debut)

Story: *Survivor*'s Colleen Haskell was the big draw for many who shelled out for this wacky comedy. The reality-TV cutie makes her film debut as the girlfriend of a police cadet (Schneider) who, after an accident in the mountains, is rescued by a strange being who fixes him up with transplanted organs from various wildlife. **DVD**

DVD indicates movie is available on DVD.

D V D S P O T L I G H T

A DVD GIFT SET YOU CAN'T REFUSE

It seems 2001 is Francis Ford Coppola's year for revisiting his past greatness. First, the legendary director released a director's cut of his 1979 Vietnam masterpiece *Apocalypse Now*, and now comes this five-disc "collector's gift set" featuring all three *Godfather* movies, plus a whole lot of extras. Each movie is now layered with a full-length director's commentary, while bonus materials include original storyboards, theatrical trailers and a walk, with production designer Dean Tavoularis, through many of the old locations on New York's Lower East Side. There's also a feature about that instantly recognizable musical score and another about the collaborative screenwriting process between Coppola and novelist Mario Puzo.

stargazing

BY DAN LIEBMAN

LIBRA

September 23-October 22

You continue to take charge, with the emphasis on dicey family situations. Romantic storm clouds won't just blow over, so don't put off that difficult discussion on a touchy subject.

SCORPIO

October 23-November 21

It's been a long time coming, but at last you get recognition for your recent stretch of hard work. Confidential information crosses your desk around the 20th, and how you handle it reveals a lot about your character.

SAGITTARIUS

November 22-December 22

Older friends are more than willing to provide advice and guidance in various areas — especially sensitive ones. Romantic interests respond warmly to your poetic side.

CAPRICORN

December 23-January 20

"Balance" is the operative word, so forgo extremes in all areas. It seems like there's no pleasing an unusually finicky partner, but with perseverance, creativity and, yes, a balanced approach, you can do it.

AQUARIUS

January 21-February 19

Work challenges require creative solutions, not instant ones. Bargains may not be the deal of the century, so you may want to bring

along that professional-shopper friend. Knowledge of foreign languages can be a huge asset.

PISCES

February 20-March 20

The month is like a multiplex — lots of variety, including frothy comedy (on the homefront), high drama (at the workplace) and adventure (in romance).

ARIES

March 21-April 20

Conservative colours suit you this month. Meanwhile, closed-minded people have a negative influence, so keep your distance. The first two weeks are like a good tossed salad — full of variety and surprise.

TAURUS

April 21-May 22

A partner will find you more creative, more assertive, more fun. On the other hand, non-romantic companions — live-ins or travel mates — are unpredictable and possibly difficult. A business deal may be put on hold.

GEMINI

May 23-June 21

In an unusual twist for the zodiac's numero uno communicator, actions speak louder than words, so "demonstrate" is your keyword for October. Also, try to imagine that someone is writing a tell-all biography about you. In other words, don't reveal anything personal.



KATIA SMIRNOVA

CANCER

June 22-July 22

Relationships continue to solidify. You're in a playful mood and, fortunately, so is your partner. Take advantage of Indian summer by doing outdoorsy things. At work, avoid change for its own sake.

LEO

July 23-August 22

Use this month to make plans for the rest of the year and you'll be able to achieve a couple of major goals by December. The full moon of the 2nd marks the start of a competitive cycle.

VIRGO

August 23-September 22

You exude an air of authority. Just remember there's a difference between assertive and pushy. There may also be some pruning in the friendship department as you decide you've had enough of moochers and whiners.