

canada's #1 movie magazine in canada's #1 theatres

Famous

june 2002 | volume 3 | number 6

BEN AFFLECK
*ON THE SUM OF
ALL FEARS*

SANDRA BULLOCK
*REVEALS DIVINE
SECRETS OF THE YA-YA
SISTERHOOD*



MINORITY REPORT

IRISH ROOKIE COLIN FARRELL TALKS ABOUT STARRING WITH
TOM CRUISE IN THE FUTURISTIC COP PIC

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WARREN BEATTY, MEG RYAN AND OTHER STARS SHARE THEIR MISERY

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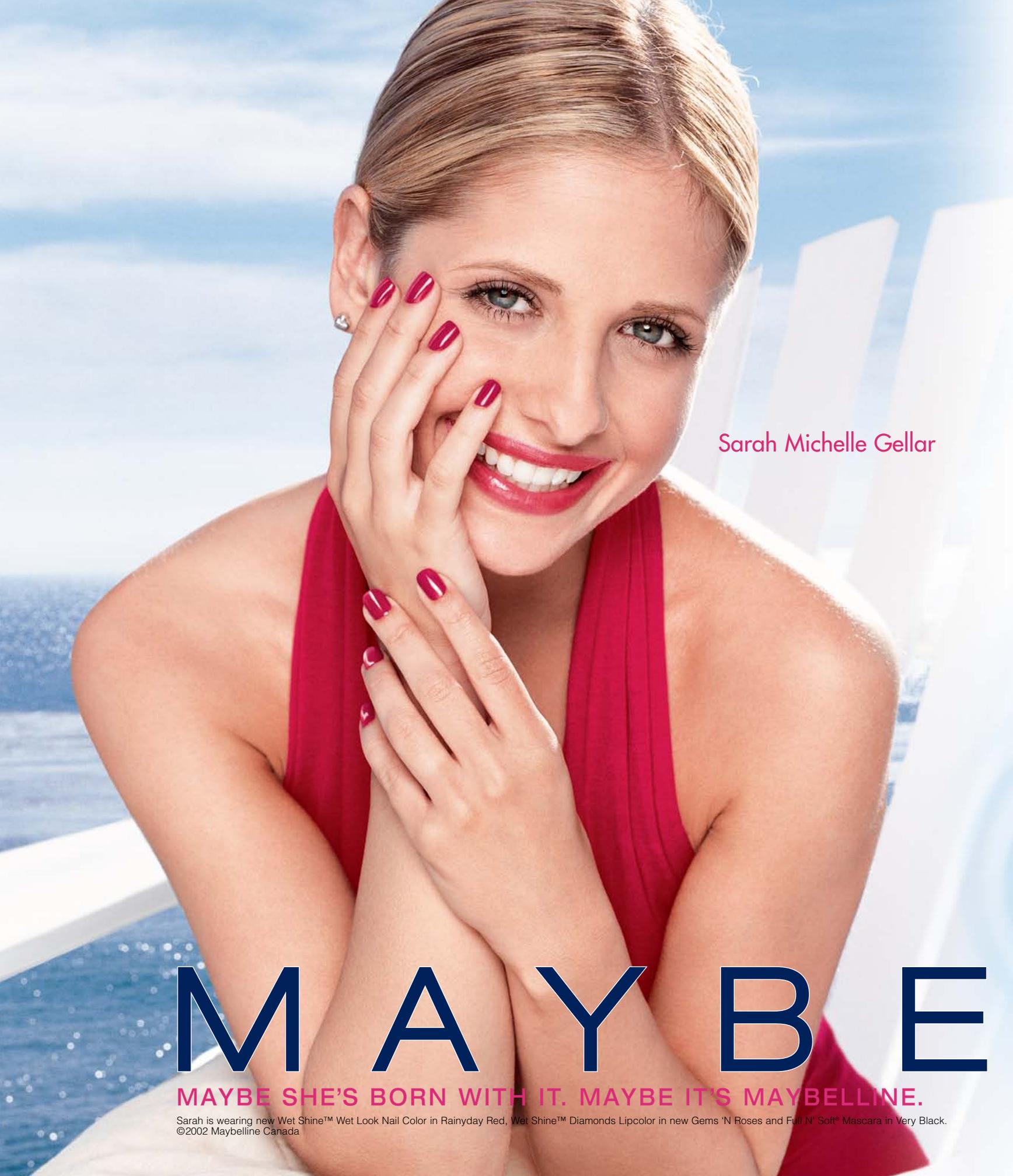
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Sarah Michelle Gellar

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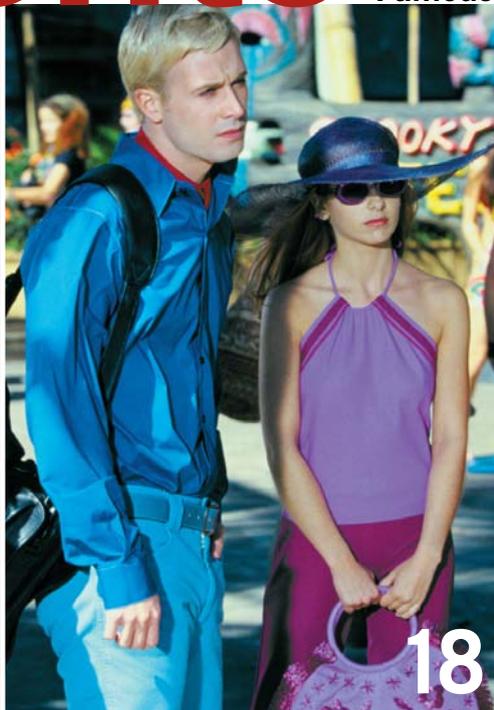
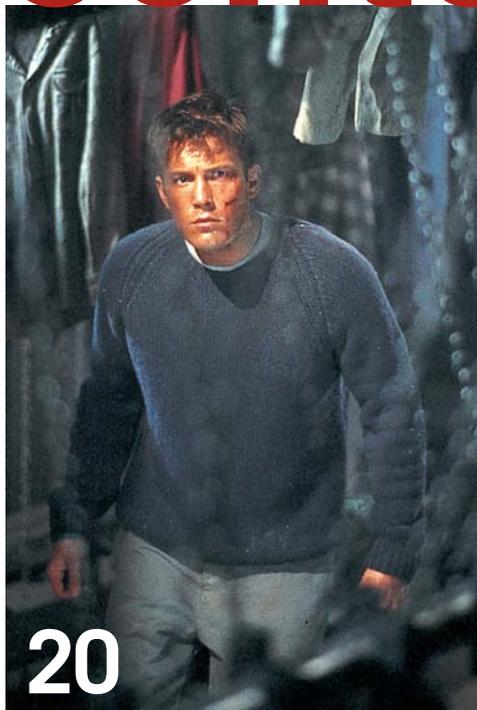
CHRYSLER



This is my car

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20 FEARS FACTOR

Taking over for Harrison Ford is a big deal. So before Ben Affleck agreed to play Jack Ryan in the new spy thriller *The Sum of All Fears*, he asked the action veteran for his blessing. Then he went to the CIA, and asked for their help **By David Giammarco**

26 GET YER YA-YAS OUT

No, really. *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* is not just a chick flick, says Sandra Bullock. Sure, Oprah loved the book and the director wrote *Thelma & Louise*. But it's also got James Garner. Men still like him, right?

COVER STORY

30 COLIN ALL CARS

Minority Report star Colin Farrell talks about playing a cop in the sci-fi action picture and working alongside Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg. And what was the deal with his five-month marriage? **By Earl Dittman**
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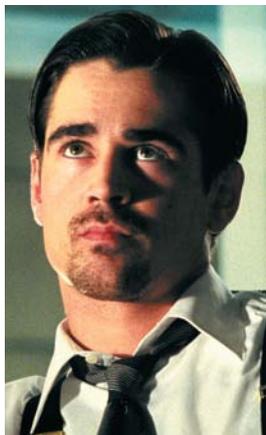
Going once, going twice...

40 NAME OF THE GAME

Crazy Taxi 3 hits the streets



Minority Leader



He's got that edge-of-danger scruffy look that's sexy, without being too intimidating. There's that accent that seems to drive the gals crazy. And then there's his oh-so cool attitude. So is **Colin Farrell** going to be *Movieland*'s next big sex symbol from abroad? Or just an also-ran Irish cutie-pie?

Only time will tell, but the release of this month's *Minority Report* might hasten the process. After all, starring opposite Tom Cruise, in a movie directed by Steven Spielberg, does tend to get you a little bit of press.

In "Future Shock," page 30, Farrell tells you about shooting the futuristic cop flick, working with two of Hollywood's biggest bigwigs and what his soccer-playing dad thinks of his son being an actor.

Have you seen the trailer for **Sandra Bullock's** *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*? The only thing missing is the booming voiceover, "In the spirit of *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *Terms of Endearment* and *Steel Magnolias*..." You've got your mother-daughter relationships, much of it takes place in the South, it dips back and forth in time, there's tons of star power...

And, yeah, it's a chick flick (although Bullock will try to tell you otherwise). But what's wrong with that? Those other movies were chick flicks, and they didn't do so bad. *Terms of Endearment* won five Oscars and was nominated for six more. *Fried Green Tomatoes* took in \$80-million in the U.S. alone — not bad for 1991. And *Steel Magnolias* became a symbol of sorority for women in their 20s and 80s alike.

Bullock's own story would probably make a pretty good chick flick. In "Sister Act," page 26, the Virginia-born, Texas transplant discusses doing the film with one of her best girlfriends, tells you how disappointing it is that she can't watch it with her own late mother, and shares a chilling story about how mom may have saved her life from beyond the grave.

It's been a memorable year for **Ben Affleck**. In May 2001 he fronted the \$150-million *Pearl Harbor* — which received almost universally bad reviews, but still made enough dough to cover that enormous budget and stuff a few studio pockets. At the same time, Affleck was in Montreal shooting the latest Jack Ryan flick *The Sum of All Fears*.

That was when he spoke with writer David Giammarco about preparing for the role, shooting in Montreal and the price of fame.

It was just a few months later that Affleck had his big crash, landing in a pricey Malibu substance-abuse centre where — we hope — he got his stuff together. For a glimpse into Affleck's mind just before the fall, read "Ryan's Hope," page 20.

—Marni Weisz

Famous

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WILL RUSTY RIDE AGAIN?

Do you know whether anyone's going to do a *Joy Ride II*, and could you please let us know who the voice of the truck driver was? We cannot find it listed anywhere. It would put to rest the bets in our house.

Vicki Warren — Calgary, Alta.

No official word yet about a sequel to the cat-and-mouse thriller. We can, however, tell you that it was Ted Levine who turned in an uncredited performance as evil trucker Rusty Nail. Among Levine's other creepy roles was the twisted tailor Buffalo Bill in Silence of the Lambs.



Dogface Nicolas Cage in *Windtalkers*

BLOWING IN THE WIND

I was wondering if you could find out what happened to the Nicolas Cage movie *Windtalkers*. We saw a preview and it definitely looked like a great movie. And there was quite a bit of hype about it.

Dave and Barb LeBlanc — Amherst, N.S.

You're right. That one has been bumped around a bit. Initially, Windtalkers was slated for a June 2001 release, but was then moved to November 2001. Then, after September 11, when just about every movie that had anything to do with war, terrorists, planes or explosions was being rescheduled, MGM sent out a press release saying the World War Two movie had been delayed until June 2002. Strangely, however, that release didn't even mention world events, instead explaining that the film was too good to waste on a late-fall slot, so they were saving it for the summer blockbuster season. As of press time, the movie was still slated for the 14th of this month.

WITNESS TO JOHN Q

I finally saw Denzel Washington's latest movie *John Q*. One point of interest, the major set used — The Hope Memorial Hospital where he holds the hostages for most of the movie — is in reality the Ministry of Health, Hepburn Block, 80 Grosvenor Street [Toronto] where I work. In the year 2000, from the middle of October to November, the employees of the Ministry of Health complex watched the filming and it was very exciting. I have many of Denzel Washington's movies on videotape at home and I hope *John Q* will be available on video in the near future so I can add it to my library.

Kathryn Waller — Toronto, Ont.

SPEARS SKEWERED

While I enjoy reading *Famous* before a movie begins, I was shocked to see that three entire pages of your magazine were devoted to Britney Spears and her *Crossroads* film [February 2002]. Meanwhile, an elite actor like Denzel Washington received the same amount of coverage for his far more important film, *John Q*. This was utterly disappointing and unacceptable from such a fine magazine as yours. Ms. Spears has all but poisoned the music industry with her awful "music," and it's a shame that she now feels the need to do the same to the film industry. However, I'm not worried that she'll succeed on the silver screen. We all saw what happens when pop stars try to cross over into film. Remember *Glitter* and *On the Line*? Neither do I.

Benjamin Tay — Toronto, Ont.

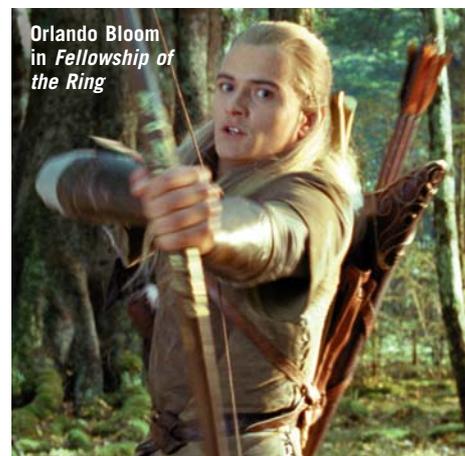
LOOKING FOR CO-ORDINATES

Please can you give me the fan mail of Mariah Carey? I really liked the movie *Glitter*. Thank you.

Shadi Dandan — Kirkland, Que.

Just goes to show, eh Benjamin? The best way to contact the popster-turned-actress is actually by email (MC@mariahcarey.com) via her official website, www.mariahcarey.com. There's even a chance the letter will be posted to the site, complete with an answer from the glitter girl herself.

First of all, I want to tell you that I love your magazine. It has interesting information and things you need to know about all the movies under the sun. They're perfect for reading in the theatre while I wait for the movie to start. Second, I have searched



Orlando Bloom in *Fellowship of the Ring*

for an address to write to Orlando Bloom without success. He was really good in the *Lord of the Rings* movie. Thanks.

Katie Ha — London, Ont.

There's just something about a man who's good with his long bow, isn't there Katie? Even if he is an elf. You can get in touch with Bloom, a.k.a. Legolas Greenleaf, care of Artists Management Group, 9465 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif., 90212.

I love your magazine! I pick it up all the time at the movie theatres and read it beginning to end, completely. Even the advertisements. A total fan! I just recently saw *Legally Blonde*. I loved it! Reese Witherspoon was the best, coolest, greatest ever! Her movie was awesome! So, I was just wondering if you could give me a place to send mail to her. I would so much appreciate it because I need it! PLEASE! Love ya!

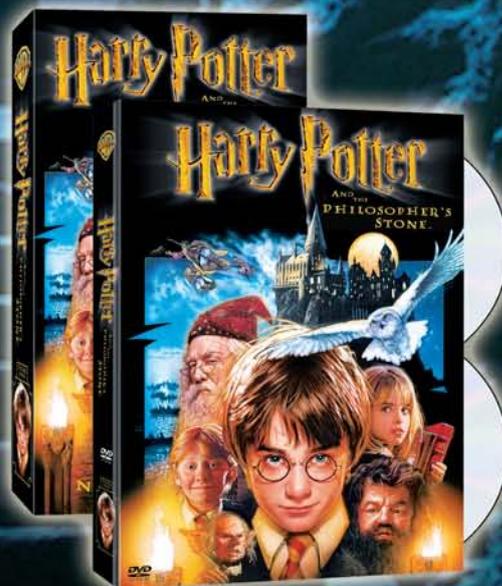
Carly Dargatz — PoCo, B.C.

Sure, but first a few questions. Are you wearing a pink, vinyl suit right now? Or holding a teeny-weeny little lap dog? Perhaps thinking of applying to law school? Anyway, here's the address: Reese Witherspoon, c/o International Creative Management, 8942 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, Calif., 90211-1934.

FAMOUS WELCOMES YOUR COMMENTS

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CARLA COLLINS ON WHAT SEAGAL LEARNED FROM BUDDHA, THE TRUTH BEHIND ELVIS'S LEATHER AND SEQUINS AND WHY GELLAR'S GIRL-ON-GIRL SMOOCH WAS CUT FROM *SCOOBY-DOO*

BOOBY-DOO Sarah Michelle Gellar is upset that producers have cut a lesbian kiss from *Scooby-Doo*. Gellar's Daphne originally planted a wet one on Velma (played by Linda Cardellini) but the scene was cut out of



fears that it might be too provocative. A Warner Bros. employee told *Infobeat.com*, "The kiss was considered too titillating. They felt it would make people chuckle and snicker." Purists might also complain, since the real sexual tension on the cartoon was clearly between Fred and Shaggy.

MID-LIFE CHRYSLER *Knight Rider* will soon be heading to the big screen, starring and produced by David Hasselhoff, who appeared in the 1980s series about a high-tech, crime-fighting car. *Variety* reports, "the film will be action-oriented and aimed at a youth market." Hasselhoff might want to rethink that target demo — unless by "youth market" he means 47-year-old Germans who still think *Trans-Ams* are cool.

A LITTLE LIGHT IN THE BLUE SUEDE SHOES?

A shocking new biography on Elvis Presley claims the legendary entertainer had a secret gay affair. According to David Bret, author of *Elvis: The Hollywood Years*, Presley's manager Colonel Tom Parker, "held secret information about a homosexual affair between Elvis and actor Nick Adams over his head like a sword." Parker made it clear that if Elvis didn't do as he was told, the story would get out. Bret also claims that many journalists' attempts to "out" the star were thwarted by the wily Parker, who passed away in 1997. Gee, it turns out Elvis may in fact have been the Queen of Rock 'n' Roll.



LOOK HUGH'S TALKING Hugh Grant has revealed that he will never pose topless on a magazine cover. The star of *About a Boy* took a swipe at Tom Cruise in an interview with London's *Sun*, calling the actor "not manly" for appearing shirtless on the cover of this past January's *Vanity Fair*. Hey, you in the glass house. I'm not sure if you're familiar with your own body of work there Hugh, but the word "manly" doesn't exactly spring to mind. And once you've mistaken a BMW for a hotel room you're not exactly in a position to question anybody's decision-making process.



HO DE TOILETTE Jennifer Lopez is getting into the perfume business. J.Lo's rapidly expanding Sweetface Fashion Company has signed a deal to license a line of fragrances and cosmetics, with the *Enough* star releasing the following statement: "I think people will find that this fragrance embodies the J.Lo brand's spirit, character, energy." I'm no entrepreneur but maybe it's not such a good idea for a woman best known for her ample booty to release her own scent.

UNDER THE "O" Jodie Foster has an interesting take on the Academy Awards. The twice-crowned Best Actress tells Australia's *The Age*, "The Oscars are kind of like bingo, once you get through the nominations it's no longer about the performance." Okay, that's nothing at all like bingo. I think Jodie may have been confused when she saw the old ladies from *Gosford Park* sitting in the front row or the fact that Gwyneth Paltrow bore a striking resemblance to a lucky troll doll.

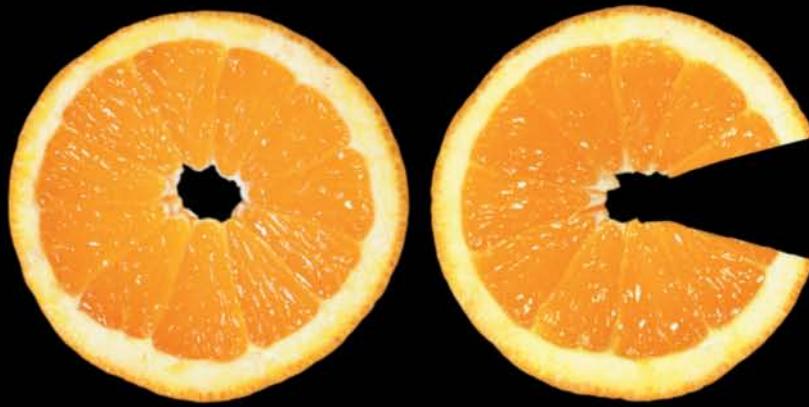


NOW IF ONLY SOMEBODY COULD INTRODUCE JEAN CLAUDE VAN DAMME TO THE DALAI LAMA...

Steven Seagal is being sued for \$60-million by his longtime business partner. Julius R. Nasso, Seagal's producing associate for 15 years, claims the ponytailed has-been broke a contract to star in four movies, after falling under the spell of a Buddhist spiritual advisor named Mukara. *The New York Post* reports "the aging star...was convinced he would be reincarnated as a lesser being if he went ahead with the movies." You've got to hand it to Mukara. Anyone who can single-handedly spare the world from four Seagal films truly is a holy man.



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



COLIN HANKS JACK BLACK

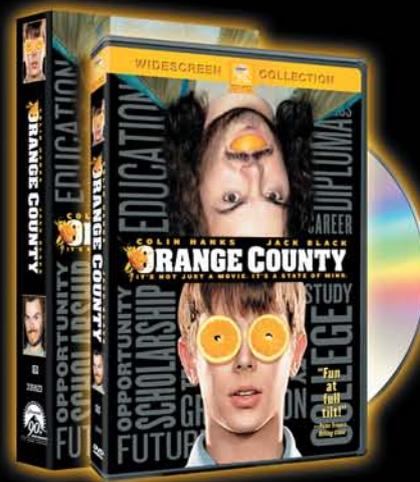
ORANGE COUNTY

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PETER TRAVERS, ROLLING STONE

"CRAZY, SEXY, COOL

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A PINCH OF COOL, A BIT OF CRUDE,
SHAKE REALLY WELL AND YOU'VE
GOT YOURSELF 'ORANGE COUNTY.'
JACK BLACK IS INSANE!"
RICHARD REID, NORTHWEST CABLE NEWS

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A COMEDY WITH AN EQUAL
SHARE OF WIT AND HEART."
ANDREW JOHNSTON, US WEEKLY



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Reach for **the stars**



You'd think astronauts preparing to spend months aboard the International Space Station would have enough to do without having to learn how to become filmmakers. But in the weeks leading up to blast off, 25 spacefarers spent an average of 22 hours each at a

makeshift film school, where they learned how to operate state-of-the-art 3D cameras, light a scene, use sound equipment, even how to use each other's bodies as human dollies to get the best shot possible.

The result is IMAX's *Space Station 3D* — the

first three-dimensional film ever to be shot in space, and the closest most of us will ever get to hovering 352 kilometres above Earth's surface, orbiting our home planet at 28,000 km-h. The 47-minute film is narrated by Tom Cruise and plays in select Famous Players IMAX theatres over the next several months. Check www.famousplayers.com for times and locations.

Between December 1998 and July 2001, 21 kilometres of 65-mm film were transported to the orbiting construction site to record the evolution of the growing structure (it won't be finished until 2006) and reveal various sides of space life — from the technical, like installing new equipment, to the personal, like when Russian cosmonaut Yury Usachev wraps a sprouting onion in a washcloth to keep as a substitute house plant.

Among the other logistic challenges of shooting in orbit, a slimmed down 3D camera that can record both left- and right-eye views on one strip of film had to be invented. The effect is so convincing that audience members at an early screening whipped off their 3D goggles after the launch of a Proton rocket to see if their eyewear had been damaged by flying debris.

Word to those who've never left our atmosphere — empty popcorn bags work well in the event of motion sickness. —*MW*

Utah's **worst-kept secret**

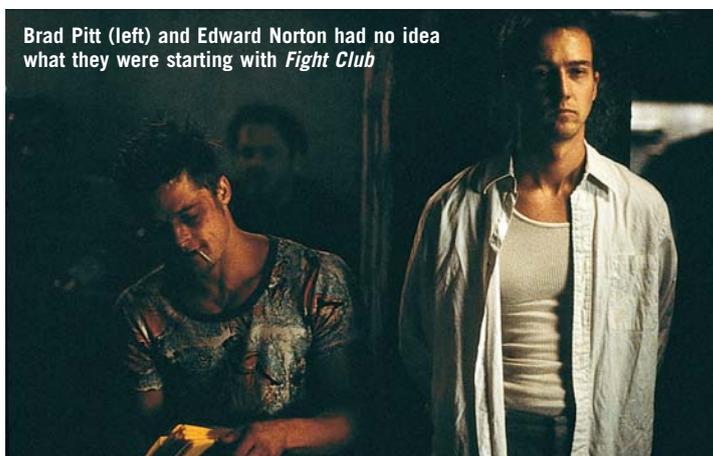
The third and fourth rule should be “Do not videotape Fight Club.” Unlike the combatants in the 1999 movie, who kept mum about their late-night bare-knuckle boxing, imitators in Utah apparently can't keep a secret.

Last December, Salt Lake City police raided a Mormon chapel after getting noise complaints from area residents. Local teens had broken in and were meeting, it turned out, to punch each other silly à la Brad Pitt and Edward Norton. Fliers had been handed out at a nearby high school hyping the “secret” late-night event and as many as 100 very noisy kids were on the scene when the cops arrived.

The crowd scattered but police seized a videotape of the event and, in April, identified and charged 18-year-old Chase Leavitt — son of governor Mike Leavitt — with misdemeanor battery. He can be seen on the tape, say prosecutors, sparring with a minor. Both wore boxing gloves.

College kids in nearby Provo fared no better two years ago when their underground clubs, at Brigham Young University and Utah Valley State College were outted on local and national TV. Footage of two female students duking it out in front of a cheering crowd in a BYU dorm hit the local news in May 2000, prompting an investigation at the Mormon college. TV crews from the Fox network also caught up with Utah State's fight clubbers — a large

Brad Pitt (left) and Edward Norton had no idea what they were starting with *Fight Club*



organization of roughly 400 men and women who met *sub rosa* every Monday night, at locations announced to members just a few hours in advance. Police kept watch on both campus clubs, but no charges were laid. Both, it seems, have since disbanded.

We look forward to further news of underground *Spy Game* and *Death to Smoochy* clubs. —*SD*

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KEEP SOME **BAD COMPANY**, RUN WITH **THE WINDTALKERS**
OR PERUSE **MINORITY REPORT**



Matt Damon
in *The Bourne Identity*

MAY 31

THE SUM OF ALL FEARS

Who's In It? Ben Affleck, Morgan Freeman

Who Directed? Phil Alden Robinson (*Sneakers*)

What's It About? Neo-Nazi terrorists get their hands on a nuke, and will set it off at the Super Bowl unless rookie CIA man Jack Ryan — Affleck, playing a younger version of the role popularized by Alec Baldwin (*The Hunt for Red October*) and Harrison Ford (*Patriot Games*) — can crack the case. **See Ben Affleck interview, page 20.**

UNDERCOVER BROTHER

Who's In It? Eddie Griffin, Dave Chappelle

Who Directed? Malcolm Lee (*The Best Man*)

What's It About? Check it out y'all. Brothers be fightin' the Man and the white Establishment in this comedy wit' dem crazy mothers Griffin 'n' Chappelle. Solid.

JUNE 7

BAD COMPANY

Who's In It? Chris Rock, Anthony Hopkins

Who Directed? Joel Schumacher (*Tigerland*)

What's It About? Rock is a street-wise hustler recruited by the CIA to replace his identical, now dead, twin brother on a mission. Hopkins is the lucky agent given just nine days to train him.

DIVINE SECRETS OF THE YA-YA SISTERHOOD

Who's In It? Ellen Burstyn, Sandra Bullock

Who Directed? Callie Khouri (debut)

What's It About? Like the Oprah-approved novel, the movie follows the friendship of four women from childhood in the 1930s to present-day old age. At the centre is Vivi, played at various ages by Burstyn, Ashley Judd and newcomer Caitlin Wachs. Bullock plays Vivi's daughter

Siddalee, who looks to the past in an attempt to figure out her eccentric mom. **See Sandra Bullock interview, page 26.**

LIKE MIKE

Who's In It? Lil' Bow Wow, Morris Chestnut

Who Directed? John Schultz (*Drive Me Crazy*)

What's It About? A little kid (teen rapper Lil' Bow Wow) with big hoop dreams finds a magical pair of sneakers that turn him into an NBA star. League players putting in appearances include Allen Iverson, Tracy McGrady and possibly Michael Jordan.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST

Who's In It? Rupert Everett, Colin Firth

Who Directed? Oliver Parker (*An Ideal Husband*)

What's It About? This will be the third time that Oscar Wilde's comedy has been reworked for the big screen — following the adaptations of 1992 and 1952. Everett and Firth star as two Victorian gents whose use of the same fake name causes well-mannered romantic mayhem.

JUNE 14

SCOOBY-DOO

Who's In It? Sarah Michelle Gellar, Freddie Prinze Jr.

Who Directed? Raja Gosnell (*Big Momma's House*)

What's It About? Pretty boy Fred, sexy Daphne, bookish Velma and, it seems quite likely, big-time stoner Shaggy pile into the van and drive off to solve a mystery on magical Spooky Island. Along for the ride is a computer-animated version of the title pooch. And Rowan Atkinson.

WINDTALKERS

Who's In It? Nicolas Cage, Adam Beach

Who Directed? John Woo (*Mission: Impossible 2*)

What's It About? Canadian Beach is partnered with Cage and Christian Slater in this bullet-riddled World War Two drama — playing a Navajo code expert who must be kept from the clutches of the Japanese.

THE BOURNE IDENTITY

Who's In It? Matt Damon, Franka Potente

Who Directed? Doug Liman (*Go*)

What's It About? His buddy Ben Affleck just inherited the Jack Ryan franchise, and now Damon is expected to star in three Jason Bourne movies, based on the spy thrillers by Robert Ludlum. It all starts when a mystery man (Damon) washes up on the shores of the Mediterranean with a chest full of bullets and no memory.

JUNE 21

LILO & STITCH

Who's In It? Daveigh Chase, Jason Scott Lee

Who Directed? Chris Sanders, Dean DeBlois

What's It About? Young Lilo is unaware that her new "dog" is actually a

hypersmart alien on the run from intergalactic police in this summer's big animated feature from Disney. She must not have seen many dogs, because *Stitch* looks more like a giant blue bat with six legs.

JUWANNA MANN

Who's In It? Miguel A. Nunez Jr., Vivica A. Fox

Who Directed? Jesse Vaughan (debut)

What's It About? When an NBA bad boy (Nunez) is banned from the league he dresses up like a woman and joins the WNBA. Hilarity ensues.

MINORITY REPORT

Who's In It? Tom Cruise, Colin Farrell

Who Directed? Steven Spielberg (A.I.)

What's It About? Another mind-bender from sci-fi great Philip K. Dick — whose stories gave us *Blade Runner* and *Total Recall* — is re-purposed for the big screen. It's 2054 and advanced technology allows the police to investigate crimes before they happen. Works just fine for Washington, D.C. flatfoot John Anderton (Cruise) until he's charged with a murder-to-be and chased down by another cop (Farrell). See Colin Farrell interview, page 30.

THE DANGEROUS LIVES OF ALTAR BOYS

Who's In It? Kieran Culkin, Jena Malone

Who Directed? Peter Care (debut)

What's It About? Not what you probably think. Punished for drawing an obscene comic book, a gang of Catholic schoolkids in 1974 Savannah plan their revenge against a mean-spirited, one-legged nun, played by Jodie Foster.

JUNE 28

HEY ARNOLD! THE MOVIE

Who's In It? Spencer Klein, Craig Bartlett

Who Directed? Tuck Tucker (debut)

What's It About? Listen closely. Dan "Homer Simpson" Castellaneta is one of the voices in this animated feature, based on the long-running Nickelodeon series. When an evil industrialist tries to buy, and knock down, the entire city it's up to young Arnold and his bud Gerald to save the day.

MR. DEEDS

Who's In It? Adam Sandler, Winona Ryder

Who Directed? Steven Brill (*Little Nicky*)

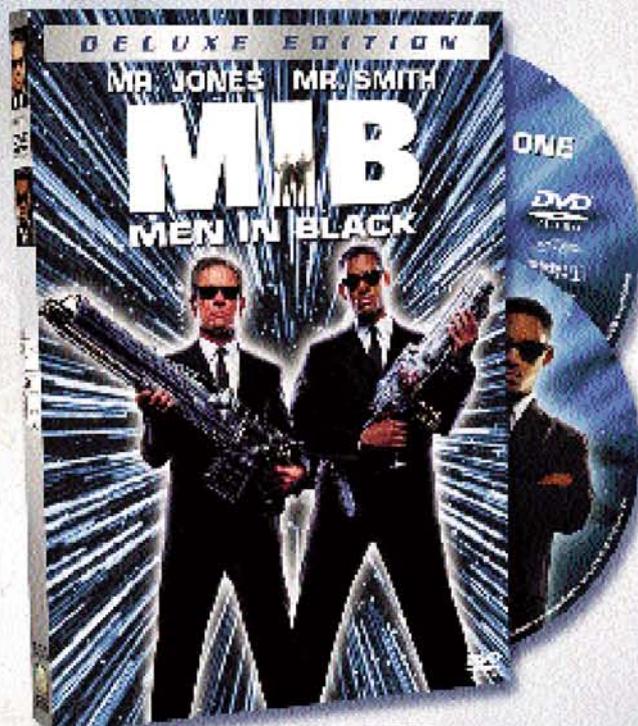
What's It About? If director Frank Capra, as so many opined, turned over in his grave after last year's *The Majestic*, he might well start doing triple one-handed cartwheels when this loose adaptation of his 1936 comedy *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* hits screens. Only time, and a lot of digging, will tell. Sandler takes over the Gary Cooper role as a poetry-spouting hayseed who inherits, and struggles to run, a multibillion-dollar media empire. Ryder plays the muckraking undercover reporter and love interest.

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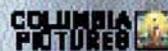


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now appearing in...

SCOOBY-DOO



Gellar in *Scooby-Doo*

SARAH MICHELLE GELLAR

Now appearing in... *the live-action update of TV's Scooby-Doo as sexy crime-fighting teen Daphne, opposite her real-life fiancé Freddie Prinze Jr.*

Bio bits: With that perma-tan, blond hair and buff body, 25-year-old Sarah Michelle Gellar must have been plucked from the sands of Venice Beach, no? No. The five-foot-three golden girl is actually a New Yorker — born in The Big Apple on April 14, 1977, raised on the Upper East Side by her teacher mom Rosellen, and discovered by a talent scout in an uptown Manhattan eatery when she was just four.

Within weeks the wee Gellar was making her first TV movie, *An Invasion of Privacy*, opposite Valerie Harper. A slew of commercials followed, including an infamous spot for Burger King which landed the then-five-year-old on the wrong end of a lawsuit. In the commercial, Gellar accused McDonald's burgers of being skimpy — the first time an ad had criti-

cized a competitor by name. The suit was eventually settled out of court.

It was also a difficult period for Sarah because her parents' marriage was falling apart. They eventually divorced when she was seven, and Gellar rarely talks about her dad, who died last year.

Appearances on TV shows like *Love*, *Sidney* and *Spenser: For Hire* were abundant over the next few years, but the downside was that Sarah's jealous schoolmates made her life hell. So, she transferred to the Children's Professional School, which she also hated, and finally to New York's LaGuardia High School for the Performing Arts (often referred to as the *Fame* school) and graduated with a 97 average.

A role as Erika's illegitimate, scheming daughter on *All My Children* earned Gellar a Daytime Emmy in 1995, and movie parts in *I Know What You Did Last Summer* (her first pic with Prinze), *Scream 2* and *Cruel Intentions* earned her a pass into Hollywood's young elite — a position that was solidified by her best-known part to date, the fiend-bashing hero of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.

Gellar and Prinze moved into an L.A. house a few months ago and are expected to tie the knot later this year.

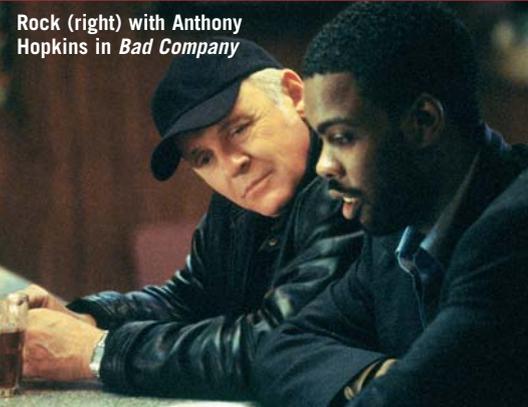
Love Life: Dated actor Jerry O'Connell and professional tennis player Jan-Michael Gambill before getting engaged to Prinze in April 2001.

Sample roles: Cindy in *Harvard Man* (2001), Kathryn in *Cruel Intentions* (1999), Amanda in *Simply Irresistible* (1999), Casey in *Scream 2* (1997), Helen in *I Know What You Did Last Summer* (1997), Karen in *High Stakes* (1989)

Trivia: Has three tattoos. • There's a popular drinking game that involves downing a shot every time you see Gellar's bra strap on *Buffy*.

On her father: "I like to believe that I was an immaculate conception but, unfortunately, my mother says no.... I just don't think there's any reason to give him credit for anything. I am who I am because of my mother." —*Detour*, March 1999

BAD COMPANY



Rock (right) with Anthony Hopkins in *Bad Company*

CHRIS ROCK

Now appearing in... *Bad Company with Anthony Hopkins. Rock plays a street-wise hustler recruited by the CIA to replace his recently deceased twin brother on a dangerous mission.*

Bio bits: Thanks to the school busing of the 1970s, which sent him to a mostly white school on the other side of New York City, Chris Rock got beat up a lot as a kid. The "white toxic waste" in Gerritsen Beach didn't like hosting black kids from Brooklyn's notorious Bedford-Stuyvesant neighbourhood and Rock got an early lesson in violence and prejudice.

Rock was born February 7, 1966, in Georgia, South Carolina — the first of six kids born to Julius, a trucker, and Rose, a schoolteacher. The family moved to Brooklyn when he was very young and Rock grew up idolizing comics like Richard Pryor, Bill Cosby and, later, Eddie Murphy. His other childhood hero was boxer Sugar Ray Leonard. But after dozens of lost schoolyard fights, Rock realized he was far better at joking, not punching, his way out of trouble.

He started doing stand-up comedy in his teens and was discovered one night, by Murphy no less, while performing at New York's Comedy Strip. Murphy liked what he saw in the 18-year-old comic and pulled a few strings, getting Rock a bit part as a parking valet in *Beverly Hills Cop 2* and mentioning his name to *Saturday Night Live* poobah Lorne Michaels. In 1990 — after honing his act on the U.S. comedy circuit for several years alongside fellow comics Adam Sandler, Paul Reiser and Jerry Seinfeld — Rock joined SNL but saw little screen time, appearing only occasionally as token black characters. After four seasons, he left the NBC show for Fox's *In Living Color*, which was then cancelled.

The mid-'90s were a lull for Rock. He toured, had a few minor movie roles and was, perhaps, on the expressway to insignificance when HBO handed him a talk show. *The Chris Rock Show* and his comedy special *Bring the Pain* wowed both audiences and critics in 1997, and the show continued for five hit seasons, after which Rock left on a high note and went back to movies.

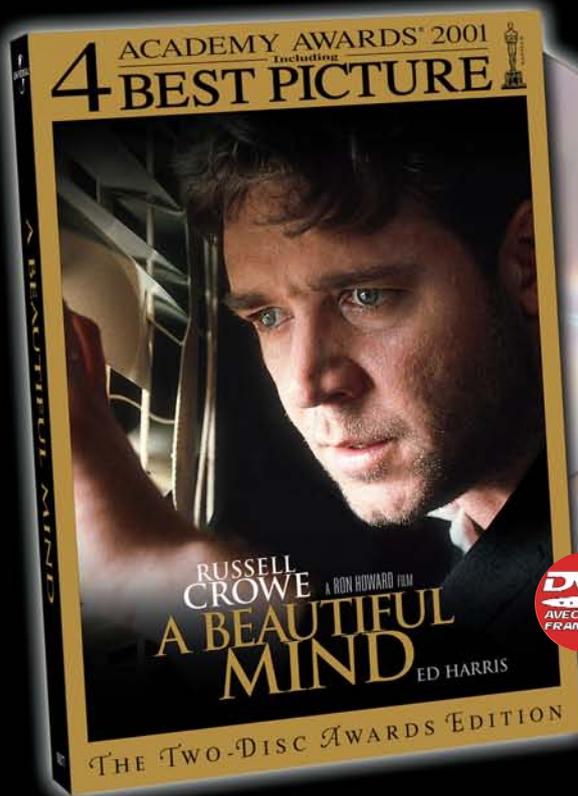
Sample roles: Lance/Charles in *Down to Earth* (2001), Wesley/Dwight in *Nurse Betty* (2000), Rufus in *Dogma* (1999), Lee in *Lethal Weapon 4* (1998), Rodney in *Doctor Dolittle* (1998), Pookie in *New Jack City* (1991)

Trivia: Went to the same school as Andrew Dice Clay.

Love life: Married girlfriend Malaak Compton in 1996. They live in Brooklyn and are expecting their first child this summer.

On his attitude: "I guess I am a pessimist.... But it's the beauty of being a New Yorker. You just know everybody's full of sh-t." —*Famous*, February 2001

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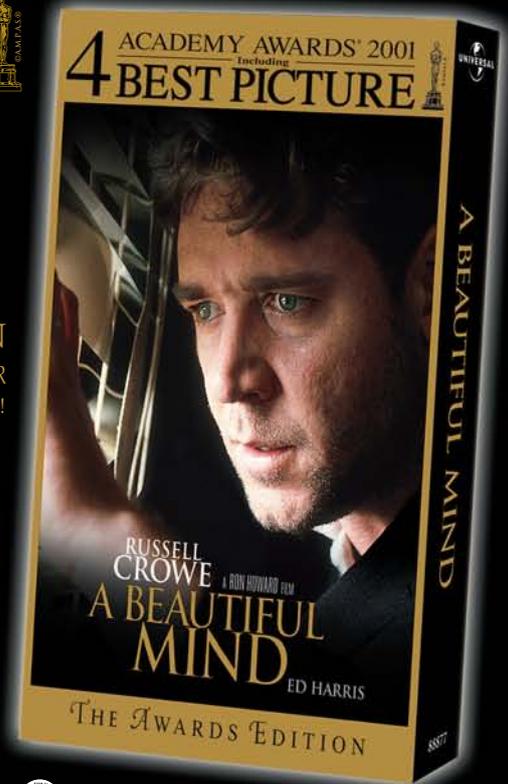
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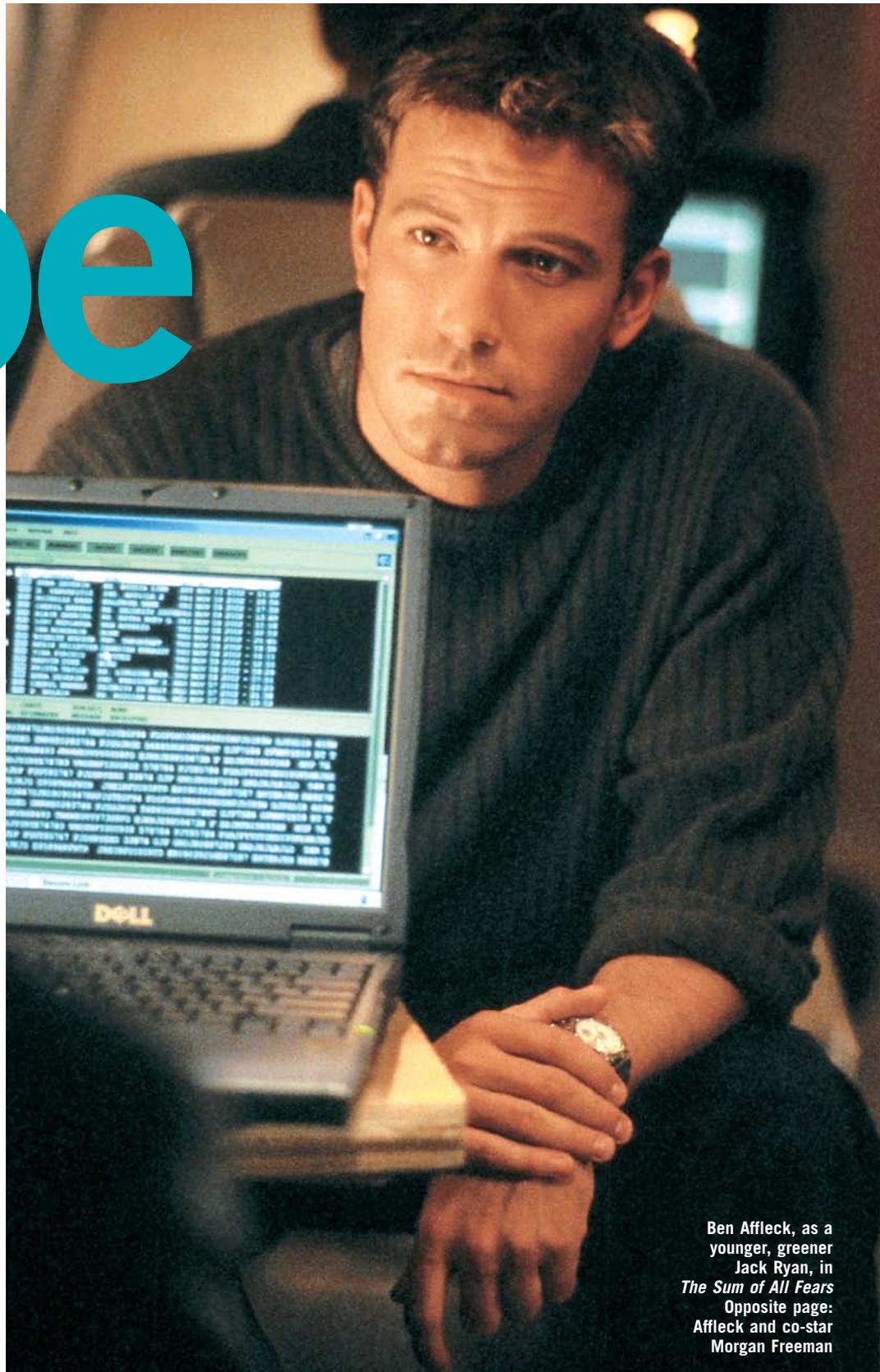
Ryan's hope

*When Harrison Ford abandoned the Jack Ryan character, movie fans wondered whether they'd seen the last of Tom Clancy's secret agent. With *The Sum of All Fears*, Ben Affleck takes over the role and tries to jump-start the series*

BY DAVID GIAMMARCO

One has to wonder whether Ben Affleck would be free to wander CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia today, as he did a year-and-a-half ago while researching *The Sum of All Fears*. "How I got past the security checkpoints I do not know," the actor says, grinning ear to ear. It seems there are places a SAG card can get you in that even a retinal scan can't.

Not only did Affleck meet the director of the CIA, he also got to "hang out" with the agents he would represent on screen in this fourth adaptation of novelist Tom Clancy's series about CIA-man Jack Ryan. And, although much has been made of the pressure Affleck faced in playing a character already popularized by Alec Baldwin and Harrison Ford, the more imposing



Ben Affleck, as a younger, greener Jack Ryan, in *The Sum of All Fears*
Opposite page:
Affleck and co-star
Morgan Freeman



“This film takes you back to Ryan’s origins, when he first meets his future wife and goes to work for the CIA,” explains Affleck. “And this is also the one movie where Tom Clancy has been most closely involved in the process”



challenge for the 29-year-old may have been doing justice to the Central Intelligence Agency itself.

“The CIA often gets a bad rap for its failures, but no one ever knows — or hears — about its successes. These guys are really sort of our unsung heroes who don’t get the recognition for their triumphs,” Affleck muses while on a break from shooting *Sum*. He’s dressed casually in khakis, a blue polo shirt and loafers. He wearily rubs his bloodshot eyes and stubbled cheeks, and then lights up a Camel cigarette.

“It was so cool just to be there and to be walking through those halls...the CIA was so extremely helpful in giving us such unprecedented access,” Affleck continues. “This will probably be the most authentic movie about the CIA ever made.”

This time, Ryan has to track down a group of terrorists who plan to detonate a nuclear device at the Super Bowl, and pin it on the Russians in order to restart the Cold War. But those who’ve read Clancy’s novel will notice a couple of major changes. First, while the book’s terrorists

are Muslim, in the film they’re neo-Nazis — a decision made well before the attacks on New York and Washington in an attempt to combat the overuse of stock Arab villains. Also, to better reflect the casting of the much younger Affleck, the Jack Ryan character is still single and has been demoted from CIA director to a simple analyst.

“It’s the same guy, the same Jack Ryan, but it’s kind of like what the *Batman: Year One* movies are to the *Batman* franchise,” Affleck explains. “This film takes you back to Ryan’s origins, when he first meets his future wife and goes to work for the CIA. And this is also the one movie where Tom Clancy has been most closely involved in the process.”

Although Baldwin did star as Ryan in 1990’s *The Hunt for Red October*, the character really became Ford’s with 1992’s *Patriot Games* and 1994’s *Clear and Present Danger*. So it was approval from the latter that Affleck sought before taking over the role.

“I called him up and said, ‘You know, I just want to make sure that you’re cool with it. And he said to me, ‘I’m totally cool with it. I love the character and I think you’ll be terrific. You have my blessing.’ He was very sweet and very nice,” says Affleck. And then he starts to laugh, “I actually hung up the phone really fast after that because I knew if I spent any more time talking to him I was going to turn into this big geek and start asking him all these questions about *Star Wars* and playing Han Solo.”

The big-budget action pic was shot around the globe, taking the Massachusetts native to Moscow, Haifa, Washington, D.C., the California desert and Montreal, where almost all of the interior shots were filmed. Affleck says he enjoyed his time north of the border, “but I would’ve liked it a lot more if it wasn’t *so damn cold*,” he says with a shudder. “I’ve now shot in Vancouver [*Reindeer Games*], Toronto [*Good Will Hunting*], and Montreal, and Montreal was definitely the coldest. But on the other hand, I was able to pick up some great French swear words, so I now feel culturally enriched.”

Affleck was also reported to have made many trips to Montreal’s Chez Paree strip club during filming. Which brings us to the actor’s other side. Behind the patriotism, the seeming professionalism and the reverence for acting elders like Ford, there’s Ben Affleck the partier.

Given his track-record of full-throttle

▶ cavorting and inebriation it wasn't exactly a shock when, after filming had wrapped on *Sum* and shortly after this interview, Affleck landed in the Promises rehab clinic for alcohol abuse.

The final straw came last August, when Affleck spent an alcohol-fuelled weekend glued to his seat at one of the high-roller room's blackjack tables at the Hard Rock Hotel Casino in Las Vegas. Affleck was allegedly wagering up to \$60,000 (U.S.) a round — playing three hands at once — and by the time he finally cashed in his chips, his reported winnings were more than \$800,000, with Affleck tipping his waitresses and dealers a total of \$150,000. After his gambling blowout in Vegas, Affleck flew back to L.A. where he continued partying at a Manhattan Beach bash that followed him back to his Hollywood Hills home.

By the time he awoke late Sunday night, Affleck realized he'd fallen as close to rock bottom as he cared to get. A series of phone calls followed and Affleck was soon put in touch with reformed bad boy Charlie Sheen, who got him a room at Promises and then drove him to the \$33,850-a-month rehab centre located on the beachside cliffs of Malibu.

It was the culmination of what had been an increasingly stress-filled period of Affleck's life, which began in early 2000 after his breakup with girlfriend Gwyneth Paltrow, followed by an exhausting schedule of back-to-back films, including *Changing Lanes*, *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back*, and the physically gruelling and lengthy shoots for *Pearl Harbor* and *The Sum of All Fears*.

Then, of course, there was the genetic factor.

Affleck's father, Tim, was an alcoholic and gambler, and Ben was just 12 years old when his parents divorced. His mom Chris had been working as an elementary school teacher and his dad worked odd jobs as a janitor, bartender and mechanic. But it was Tim's job as a stagehand at a Boston theatre company that was perhaps the most positive influence on Ben and his younger brother Casey. (Tim eventually left the family, and moved to California where he entered rehab. Sober for 11 years, he now works as an addiction counsellor.)

When Ben was seven, a casting director friend of his father got him a small role in the independent movie *The Dark End of the Street*. After winning a part in the PBS series *The Voyage of the Mimi* and a brief stint as a Burger King pitch boy, Affleck

was hooked.

It was in a children's theatre company that eight-year-old Affleck first forged a friendship with Matt Damon, who was two years his senior and a neighbour in Cambridge. The two found a shared passion in Little League baseball, but an even greater passion for performing. Affleck recalls that, at high school, they would meet in the cafeteria and have "business-meeting lunches over cheeseburgers, where we would discuss plans to attain our goals of becoming actors."

Eventually those goals materialized in the near-legendary *Good Will Hunting* — whereby, tired of not being able to find any good roles, the young actors wrote their own screenplay, cast themselves, made a huge hit and won a Best Original Screenplay Oscar in the process.

So was the experience simply more good fortune than the two friends could have hoped for? Or an adjustment too large for a young man with a predisposition toward alcoholism? In hindsight, his answer seems to hint at his approaching breakdown.

"To expose yourself and your name to hundreds of millions of people — and not just in America but around the world — to the point where there's practically no refuge...it really changes your life dramatically," explains Affleck, as he lights up another Camel and laments never following through with his idea for a documentary about his and Damon's sudden rise to fame. "I wanted to start shooting before *Good Will Hunting* and follow us to see not only how our lives changed, but how *people* changed around us.

"Fame completely changes your life, your family's life, your friend's lives and it changes the way you relate to the world and presents a whole different set of challenges," he continues. "There's a part of you that originally thinks 'Wouldn't that be fun,' and then it actually isn't that fun when it really happens, you know what I mean? 'Cause you want to leave your house and you're constantly followed...I mean everybody knows who you are and you don't even know who you are yet..."

Affleck breaks into a smile and says with a roll of his eyes, "Geez, listen to me! Man, nobody complains better than actors do, huh? We've, like, perfected it. Gripping and whining is an art form in Hollywood."

David Giammarco is an entertainment writer based out of Toronto and L.A. His last piece for Famous was an interview with Alanis

famous trivia

- 1 On which 1970s kids TV show did *Sum of All Fears* star Morgan Freeman appear as a character named Easy Reader?
- 2 Which star of the thriller *Insomnia* went to the ruins of the World Trade Center to help rescue stranded dogs and cats — Al Pacino, Hilary Swank, Maura Tierney or Robin Williams?
- 3 *Minority Report* is being billed as the first time Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg have worked together. But in which Cruise movie did the director have an uncredited role as a party guest?
- 4 Where was *Mr. Deeds* star Winona Ryder born?
- 5 Which star of *The Tuxedo* is actually referred to by her middle name "Love" by friends and family?
- 6 Which role in the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy did *Bad Company*'s Anthony Hopkins turn down?
- 7 Each year Golden Globe organizers choose the offspring of a famous mother or father to assist during the ceremony. Which star of *Scooby-Doo* was given this honour in 1996?

ANSWERS

- 1 The Electric Company 2 Hilary Swank
- 3 Vanilla Sky 4 Winona, Minnesota
- 5 Jennifer Love Hewitt 6 Gandalf
- 7 Freddie Prinze Jr.

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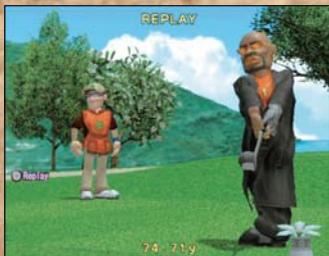
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SISTER act

*It was directed by the woman who wrote *Thelma & Louise*. It was based on an Oprah-approved book. It was produced by All Girl Productions. It's about four women and their feelings. So is there a man alive who's looking forward to *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*? Sandra Bullock says "Yes" | BY EARL DITTMAN*

While Sandra Bullock would be the first to acknowledge that her latest film, *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, contains all the necessary ingredients of a bona fide "chick flick" (a mostly female cast in a story about the trials and tribulations of mothers and daughters from the South), the 37-year-old actor insists that male test audiences are actually takin' quite a likin' to the Southern-flavoured, estrogen-laden dramatic comedy.

It's a fact that even comes as a surprise to this Virginia-born, box-office belle.

"I think most of us involved with the film thought it was going to be thought of as just another woman's film," Bullock admits, adjusting the straps of her stunning, low-cut dress as she sits in a Manhattan hotel suite. "But that all changed when men started to go see it. A lot of the guys said, 'We thought this was a chick movie,' and then walked out going, 'We get it.' That was great news.

But I guess we shouldn't have been all that surprised by it, because the film also gives the male perspective on mother/daughter relationships — which are insane."

Based on Rebecca Wells' best-selling novels *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* and *Little Altars Everywhere*, the film also features Ashley Judd, Ellen Burstyn, Fionnula Flanagan, Shirley Knight, Maggie Smith and James Garner. ("See we have guys in the movie, you can't get more macho than James Garner," Bullock teases.) It was directed by Callie Khouri (whose biggest Hollywood success to date was as the screenwriter of *Thelma & Louise*), and was the final film produced by All Girl Productions — Bonnie Bruckheimer, Hunt Lowry and Bette Midler's production company — before it disbanded last November. The narrative follows a group of lifelong friends as they stage a rather unorthodox intervention to help a young playwright (Bullock) unravel the truth

about her eccentric mother.

But, while Bullock was a fan of both the books and the screenplay, she initially rejected the offer to appear in the film, even though it was going to be directed by Khouri, one her closest friends.

"I didn't want to ruin my friendship with Callie," she confesses. "She's a first-time director, and I didn't know what was going to happen. It could have been a disaster or wonderful. I didn't know if I wanted to take the chance."

Khouri finally talked her into it. "I love the role, but [my character] is basically everyone else's eyes peering into the insanity. So I told Callie, 'Maybe I should play a flashier role.' She quickly answered back, 'That is exactly why you need to do this.' So I finally said, 'All right.' Callie basically talked me into it, but now that I've done it, I'm so glad she did."

Bullock's only regret is that she won't be able to share the film with her own mother, the late German opera singer Helga Bullock.

"I think she would have loved the movie because we had a really special mother/daughter relationship," she says with a hint of sadness. "But we just had our second anniversary of my mother's death, and it's kind of nice to know she's in heaven. I feel like I always have someone watching my back. Recent things have happened in my life where I've said, 'I know she is up there taking care of me.' I felt it before my little plane crashed last year."

That happened in December 2000, when the small plane in which Bullock was a passenger missed the runway on landing and slid into a snowbank.

"My mother told me to pull my seat belt, I kid you not," she recalls. "I just sat up and felt compelled to pull it. Nothing was wrong with the plane at that point. Something just said, 'Pull it really tight before it begins its descent.' And, when we landed, the plane didn't hit the runway. So we lost control and hit a snowbank. The wheels broke off the plane, the nose and the wings broke off, and we crashed. I was thinking this was it. We were going to die. But your life does not flash before your eyes. You just Zen out and go, 'It's going to rip through your body any minute.' Then I opened my eyes and we were alive. We were fine. So I now know that Helga Bullock is up there still dictating."

It appears Sandra Bullock has always had a guardian angel or two watching over her, especially when it comes to landing choice ▶▶

RAW



SMACKDOWN

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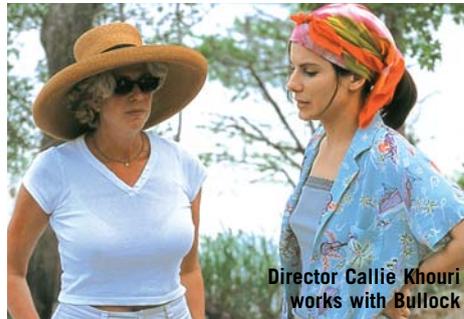
KING OF THE RING

►► film roles. From the moment she teamed up with Keanu Reeves for that wild bus ride in the 1994 blockbuster *Speed*, her career has been peppered with hits — *While You Were Sleeping*, *The Net*, *A Time to Kill*, *Practical Magic*, and *Miss Congeniality*. Of course, she has hit a few cinematic potholes along the way — *Speed 2*, *In Love and War*, *Two if by Sea* — but their less than stellar box-office reception only reinforced Bullock's desire to take control of her career.

"If you don't look out for yourself, nobody in this business will," the former bartender, dog groomer, coat-check girl and disco dancer in a gay club explains. "I mean, no one is out to make you fail, but they are not always looking out for your best interests — the big picture. That's why I've started producing a lot of my own films [*Miss Congeniality*, *Hope Floats*, *Murder by Numbers*]. I want to be proud of everything I do, and that can only happen if you have greater control over the projects you do. But I'm also taking that a step further by producing projects for other people [the new TV sitcom *The George Lopez Show*].

"I'm not a control freak or anything," she adds, "I just want to be well-rounded and give the public quality movies and television. So far, I've been pretty lucky."

Bullock hasn't always been as fortunate in her romantic relationships as she has with her show business endeavors. Linked at various times to such Hollywood heartthrobs (and co-stars) as Tate Donovan (*Love Potion No. 9*), Matthew McConaughey (*A Time to Kill*) and Ben Affleck (*Forces of Nature*), Bullock insists she's currently "available." This despite the fact that



Director Callie Khouri works with Bullock

tongues wagged and rumours circulated when she walked the red carpet at this year's Academy Awards with Hugh Grant.

"Hugh and I are not dating — you heard it straight from the horse's mouth," she says with a laugh. "I normally never do the red carpet, but the studio, Castle Rock, said, 'Look, you and Hugh Grant are doing a movie together this year [*Two Weeks Notice*]. Do us this favour and go.' So I said to Hugh, 'Look, I'll go to one party with you and then I have to leave.' And that's what I did."

Truth be told, Bullock actually got a kick out of some of the press coverage their Oscar-night hand-holding incited.

"I'm bummed that we didn't even have a pregnancy scare within the so-called relationship," she jokes. "Of course, I got home a few nights ago and a friend said to me, 'Check this Australian newspaper.' There was a picture of Hugh and I on the front with this massive headline that read: 'She's pregnant!' But we've already broken up. I don't know if you've read it, but we supposedly had a big fight during rehearsals for the Academy Awards. I'm

still trying to piece together what happened. But I'm crushed, nonetheless."

Bullock is hoping that once her promotional duties for *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* and filming for *Two Weeks Notice* are over and done with, she'll be able to concentrate on making some significant changes in her personal life.

"When all my current commitments are finished, I'm taking a year off to just think about my life," Bullock says. "I'm going home to Austin and just kickin' back and see what transpires. Love will happen when it happens. That's something my mother always told me. She would tell me, 'Sandy, if you try and make it happen, you'll fail.' So far, she's been right. Mothers are very wise people. Don't ever think otherwise."

With baby adoptions the latest rage in Hollywood, could Bullock be the next single actress to become an instant mom?

"I must be absolutely out of my mind, but I'd really like to go through childbirth at least once," she confesses. "So if you see me pregnant next year it will be with a good man who will be a good husband and father. But I need to find that man first. Let's not rush things, okay? I've got a year, so anything can happen in those 12 months. And I mean anything. But, look, I've got to go. I need to check out this week's Australian newspapers, because I might already be pregnant again. I've always wanted to experience an immaculate conception." **E**

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

Now, Chicken You Can Call a **WHOPPER**



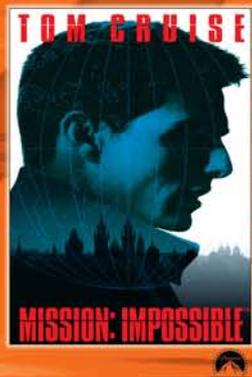
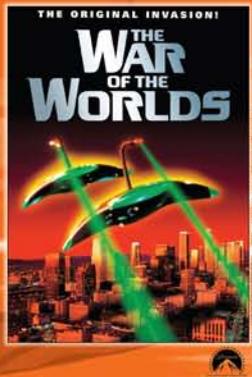
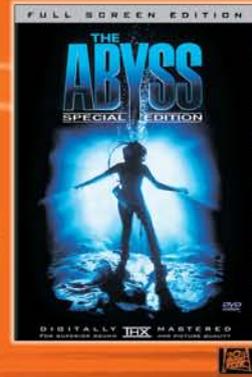
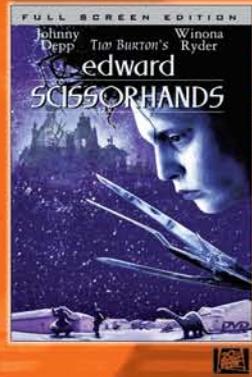
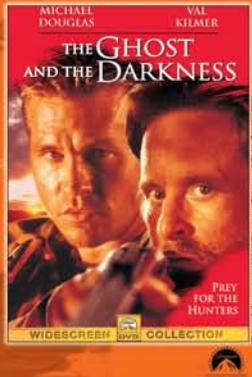
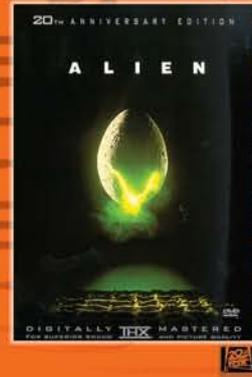
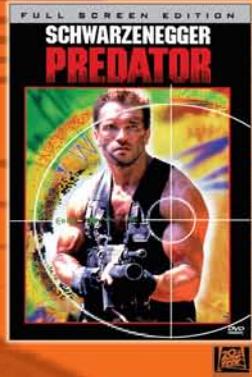
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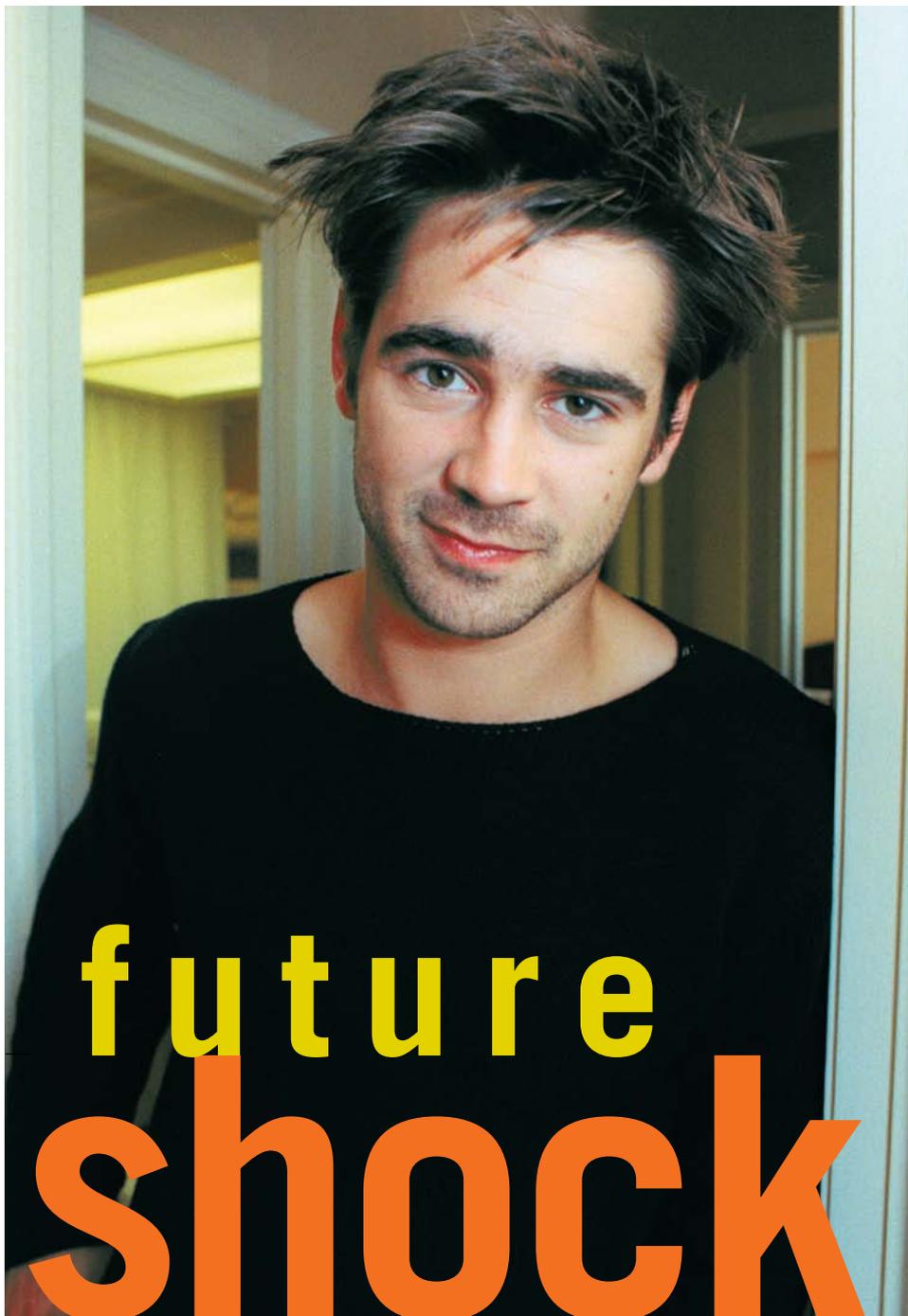
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future shock

It wasn't easy for small-budget star Colin Farrell to play a cop in the sci-fi picture *Minority Report*. The poor lad got stuck with a giant trailer, was surrounded by gobs of money and had to work with Tom Cruise and Steven Spielberg. **Earl Dittman** commiserates with the Irish star about the mind-bending movie, his brief marriage and keeping busy

The past two-and-a-half years have been one big blur for Irish actor Colin Farrell. From the moment he landed the lead role in Joel Schumacher's critically acclaimed Vietnam drama *Tigerland*, the 26-year-old has been on a star-making jaunt across the globe, hopping from film sets in Texas to New York City to the Czech Republic to shoot such films as *American Outlaws*, *Hart's War* and the Steven Spielberg/Tom Cruise sci-fi *Minority Report*.

Farrell did take five months of personal time to get married to actress Amelia Warner (*Quills*), honeymoon in Tahiti and then file for divorce. But other than that, it's been non-stop work for this Dubliner.

"Sometimes I feel like I don't even know what city I'm in — I'm like a rock 'n' roller out on the road," Farrell jokes in his thick Irish accent as he plops himself down on one of the couches that litter his massive Las Vegas hotel suite, and lights up a Camel.

Decked out in dingy blue jeans, beat-up black hiking boots and a tight navy-blue sweater, Farrell says he's particularly proud of his performance as Officer Ed Witwer in *Minority Report*, a role he took over after Matt Damon dropped out because of scheduling conflicts.

But, as with most Spielberg movies, *Minority Report's* participants have been ordered to remain tight-lipped about the film's plot ("We have to sign in blood that we won't talk about it," Farrell says with a laugh). What the studio has revealed is that the loose adaptation of a Philip K. Dick short story is set in Washington, D.C., circa 2054, and focuses on an elite police unit that uses psychic technology to hunt down, arrest and convict murderers before they are able to kill their victims. The fun starts when the head of the "Precrimeunit" (Cruise) becomes the hunted after it's predicted that he will savagely murder a man he doesn't even know.

[Q] What can you tell us about *Minority Report*?

[A] "The technology in it is amazing. It uses special effects and CGI in ways they've never been tried on film before."

[Q] Was working with Spielberg what you thought it would be?

[A] "Oh God yes, and even more! It was really amazing. I mean, here is a guy who is basically a legend in the movie industry and he's the most accessible and friendly guy in the world. He was great. But he was

EDWINE SEYMOUR/CORBIS SYGMA

like that to everyone — from the crew to Tom Cruise. Everybody who is helping him realize his vision is equal in his eyes.”

[Q] What was it like being in a big budget, sci-fi studio film?

[a] “Amazing. I think the thing I was most impressed about was the size of my trailer. When it comes to trailers, size certainly counts [laughs]. Being in a massive production like *Minority Report* is like stepping into a whole new world unto itself. There is a lot of money being spent, but you definitely see where it’s going, because there is so much attention paid to every little detail.”

[Q] Is there a downside to acting in a special effects-laden film?

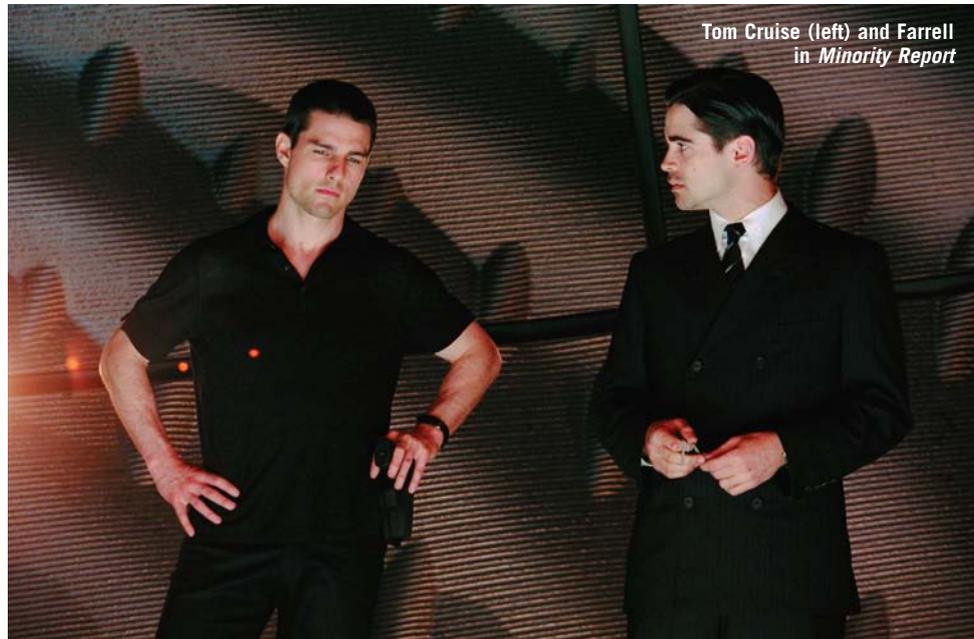
[a] “Of course, but I really wouldn’t call it a downside. It’s just a different environment for an actor, especially one like myself, who had been basically working in smaller films. You really have to dig deep within yourself to appear believable, because a lot of the time you are working in front of blue screens or reacting to something that’s not there but will be put in later in post-production.”

[Q] Here you star with Tom Cruise. You just finished *The Farm* with Al Pacino and last year you did *Hart’s War* with Bruce Willis. Was it daunting to work with three of Hollywood’s biggest stars?

[a] “Not at all because they were all good to me.... I mean, if I arrived on the set and Bruce had decided to be an ass to me, he could have made my job a lot harder, but he didn’t. Tom didn’t. Al certainly didn’t. At the end of the day, you learn that while they’re stars and larger-than-life characters that look out at us from magazines, TV sets and cinema screens, they are still normal guys. You quickly realize that if you cut them, they bleed. If you hurt them, they’ll cry, and they have families that get sick. They are human beings. So you learn to co-exist in a world with them and you all work as hard as you can to make the movie as great as possible.”

[Q] But an actor like Cruise takes home more than \$25-million per picture. That alone makes him a lot different than most of the population, doesn’t it?

[a] “Maybe, but not any more so than some CEO of a Fortune 500 company. Tom is a really down-to-earth guy. Honestly, I sometimes think we, as actors, are overpaid, because it’s not the hardest



Tom Cruise (left) and Farrell
in *Minority Report*

“I THINK THE THING I WAS MOST IMPRESSED ABOUT WAS THE SIZE OF MY TRAILER. WHEN IT COMES TO TRAILERS, SIZE CERTAINLY COUNTS,” SAYS FARRELL

job in the world. But someone like Tom is not overpaid in relation to what he brings in — in terms of money. If a movie makes \$150-million, why shouldn’t Tom Cruise take 20 percent of that because of all the people that come to the theatres to see him?”

[Q] Most of us don’t know much about Colin Farrell, the man. Do you mind talking about your personal life?

[a] “Sure, why not? I haven’t done anything, or I’m not in the midst of doing things, I’d be ashamed of talking about.”

[Q] What was your childhood like?

[a] “Fantastic, I had a really great time. But mine was just like anyone else’s. I went to school, I hated it. I got into a little bit of trouble. I drank, I kissed girls, I played football and I had a great time.”

[Q] How did you become interested in acting?

[a] “I’ve always loved films, ever since I was a kid. I had quite a passion for them. When I was about 16 or 17 I did a couple of workshops and really enjoyed them. It was not like it was brain surgery or anything, but I found it challenging and fun. So I thought, ‘I’ll give this a go.’”

[Q] How did your parents react?

[a] “My dad just laughed and said, ‘You want to be a play actor? Fine, be a f-cking play actor if you want, son.’ But then when my first cheque came in, he thought, ‘Oh, good idea.’ My mother, as seems to be their natures, was always very supportive — from the start. She said, ‘Whatever you want to do, as long as you’re happy.’”

[Q] What did your father have against acting?

[a] “Well, for one thing, he played football and played at a professional level. So I don’t think he initially saw acting as a very masculine profession. But, once, he came to see a play I did in London on opening night. It was a full house, but it was only like 150 people there. It was a really small theatre. Afterwards he came up to me and said one of the nicest things that he’s ever said to me.”

[Q] Which was?

[a] “He said, ‘You know son, I played football in front of 50,000 people, but I couldn’t have done what you did in front of those 150 people tonight.’ So he’s very proud, and it’s not just because of the money. I think some of my mom has rubbed off on him.”



►► [Q] You have a tattoo on your arm that says “*Carpe Diem With My Girl.*” Is that a reference to someone you’re now dating?

[a] “No, it was my ex.”

[Q] Do you regret getting that tattoo now?

[a] “Nope, ‘*Carpe Diem*’ — I seized the day when I got it done.”

[Q] Did the rapid rise of your career contribute to your divorce?

[a] “No, nothing like that. It was just about two people, it had nothing to do with my career.”

[Q] Would you be willing to give marriage another chance?

[a] “Of course, yeah, I’ll try anything once, twice, three times a lady [laughs]. Yeah, I mean, I would never cancel out anything and would never say never. You know, it wasn’t exactly a horrible experience. I had a great year with her.”

[Q] Is it harder to keep a relationship together when you’re both actors?

[a] “I’m sure it is. But there are really two ways to look at it. It’s easier because we both understand what the other is going through. On the other hand, it’s harder because we spend so much time away from each other — that’s tough. When you’re in love with someone and you’re trying to maybe build a life together, that time away doesn’t always make the heart grow fonder and the love can fade. It’s not the reason why it didn’t work out with us, though. But anyone involved in this business will tell you that it’s very hard to be away from those that you love for long periods of time.”

[Q] You’re heading to L.A. to play Bullseye in the Marvel Comics adaptation *Daredevil*, and then you reteam with Joel Schumacher for *Chasing the Dragon*, the true story of a journalist assassinated for writing about drug dealers. Do you think you’ll take a break soon?

[a] “You never stop when you are on a winning streak.... Plus, it’s a job. Who gets a break from his job? Is the bank manager going to come over and say, ‘Hey, teller, do you want a break for a couple of months?’ No. Never. I love me job, darlin’. There’s always time to rest. I think they call it retirement.” ☺

Earl Dittman is an entertainment journalist based in Houston, Texas. His last piece for Famous was an interview with Richard Gere for the May issue.

coming soon

ROAD TO PERDITION >> JULY

Stars: Tom Hanks, Paul Newman

Director: Sam Mendes (*American Beauty*)

Story: Just because this is Tom Hanks’s first movie since his Oscar-nominated performance in *Cast Away*, and Sam Mendes’s first since he won the coveted director statue for *American Beauty*, doesn’t mean there’s any pressure here. Yeah, right. Lovable Hanks plays Michael Sullivan, a hitman — believe it or not — in the Depression-era Midwest. But, lest ye think this is the amiable actor’s first foray into pure evil, word is Sullivan’s a hitman with a heart of gold. Much soul-searching is also triggered when Sullivan’s wife and son are killed as a result of his profession, and he’s forced to take his remaining son on the run.

K-19: THE WIDOWMAKER >> JULY

Stars: Harrison Ford, Liam Neeson

Director: Kathryn Bigelow (*Strange Days*)

Story: Filmed in Russia, Toronto and Halifax last year, this one follows in the wakes of submarine thrillers *Das Boot* and *The Hunt for Red October* — except this story’s for real. On June 4, 1961, and on its maiden voyage, the U.S.S.R.’s first nuclear ballistic submarine suffered a malfunction in its reactor. Had its crew (Ford plays the captain) not prevented a meltdown, the explosion could have been incorrectly interpreted as the first strike in a nuclear war.

SIGNS >> AUGUST

Stars: Mel Gibson, Joaquin Phoenix

Director: M. Night Shyamalan (*Unbreakable*)

Story: Perhaps writer/director Shyamalan was inspired by *Field of Dreams*’ successful combination of baseball and weird things afoot in rural corn fields when he penned this script. This time it’s a former minor-league ball player (Phoenix) and his big brother (Gibson) who discover a baffling pattern of circles and lines in their Bucks County, Pennsylvania crops.

SPY KIDS 2: THE ISLAND OF LOST DREAMS >> AUGUST

Stars: Daryl Sabara, Alexa Vega

Director: Robert Rodriguez (*Spy Kids*)

Story: You thought one pair of prepubescent secret agents was implausible. Now pint-sized spies Carmen (Vega) and Juni (Sabara) Cortez have another pair of spy siblings horning in on their niche. Will Gary and Gerti Giggles (Matt O’Leary and Emily Osment) help the Cortez youngsters save the world when their parents, once again, find themselves in trouble? Or are four miniature spies two too many?

FOUR FEATHERS >> SEPTEMBER

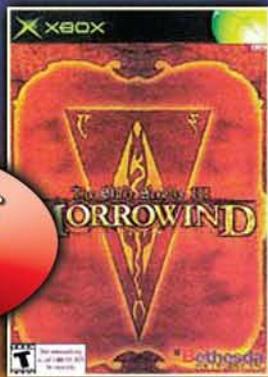
Stars: Heath Ledger, Kate Hudson

Director: Shekhar Kapur (*Elizabeth*)

Story: Based on the novel by A.E.W. Mason, and set in the Sudan circa 1898, *Four Feathers* tells of a British officer (Ledger) who resigns his post right before a battle against rebel forces. Perceiving his flight as fear, his girlfriend (Hudson) and three friends give him four white feathers to symbolize his cowardice. What his fair-weather friends don’t know is that their brave comrade is putting himself in even deeper danger by going undercover. This is the fifth time Mason’s book has been adapted for the big screen.

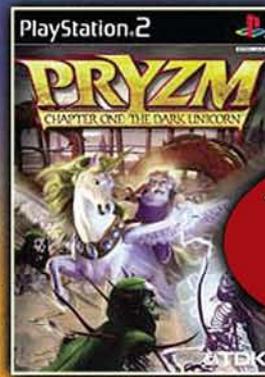
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CRUISE GOES EAST, KUTCHER TRAVELS THROUGH TIME AND DUCHOVNY TURNS TO CRIME

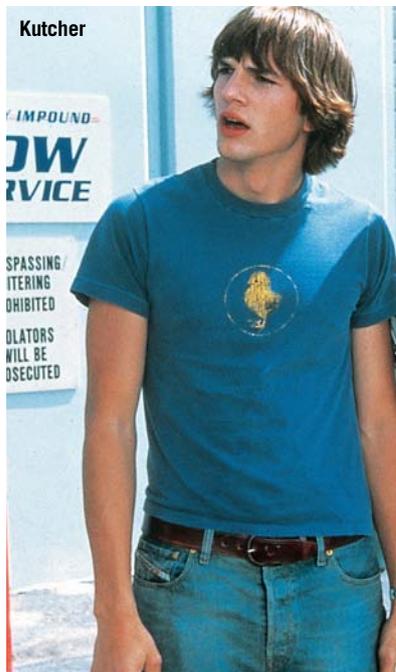
BY SEAN DAVIDSON

BUT SERIOUSLY

Ashton Kutcher, better known as feather-haired Michael Kelso on *That '70s Show*, will, once again, travel back in time as star of the thriller *The Butterfly Effect*.

Taking his cues from writer-director team

J. Mackye Gruber and **Eric Bess**, who just finished work on *Final Destination 2*, Kutcher will play a troubled young man who sends his mind back in time to inhabit his childhood body, changing the past and his future in the process. He is also in final talks to reteam with co-star **Seann William Scott** for a sequel to *Dude, Where's My Car?* *Seriously Dude, Where's My Car?* is expected to start shooting next year.



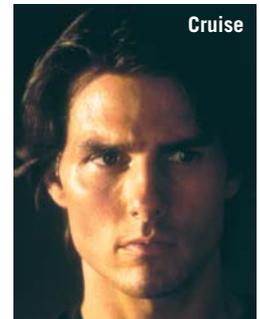
Kutcher

THE WAGES OF SINBAD

Exactly zero Arab actors have been attached, so far, to either of the two *Sinbad* movies currently in the works. **Brad Pitt**, taking over for last-minute dropout **Russell Crowe**, will be the voice of the eighth-century Mediterranean swashbuckler in an animated feature for DreamWorks, and will be joined by **Catherine Zeta-Jones**, **Michelle Pfeiffer** and **Joseph Fiennes**. It's due out May 2003. Across town at Columbia, *Shaft* director **John Singleton** has been handed the keys for a live-action effects-heavy adventure, expected to be in the spirit of that studio's *Sinbad* franchise from back in the 1970s. Ironically, stand-up comic *Sinbad* remains underemployed.

THE SEVERAL SAMURAI

Katanas will cross and *ronin* will battle with *bushi* on screens before too long — as three, possibly four, movies about samurai warriors move into production. Now that he's backed out of **Anthony Minghella's** *Cold Mountain*, **Tom Cruise** is being lined up to star in *The Last Samurai* for *Glory* director **Ed Zwick**. It's about a western mercenary sent to train troops in the last days of imperial Japan. A similar, rival project is also in development at New Regency studios. Meanwhile, Miramax and MGM are plotting to remake *The Seven Samurai*, **Akira Kurosawa's** 1954 masterwork and the "mother of all 'guys on a mission' movies" according to Miramax head Harvey Weinstein. No word yet on a director, but *Rush Hour's* **Brett Ratner** is unavailable. He's been tapped to shoot a live-action version of the cartoon series *Samurai Jack*.



Cruise



Duchovny

THE DARK SIDE

Even though they look nothing alike, **David Duchovny** has somehow snagged the role of **James Ellroy** in a forthcoming life story about the celebrated crime writer. Like Ellroy's 1996 memoir, *My Dark Places* will recount the grisly 1958 murder of Ellroy's mother Jean, and his efforts to find the killer 35 years later. **Robert Greenwald**, of *Steal This Movie* and 1980's *Xanadu*, will direct. Ellroy — whose novels include *L.A. Confidential*, *American Tabloid* and *The Cold Six Thousand* — admitted to *Variety* that the *X-Files* and *Evolution* star "doesn't resemble me physically in the least," but added, "he impressed me as a sharp and alert guy.... I've no doubt he can pull it off."

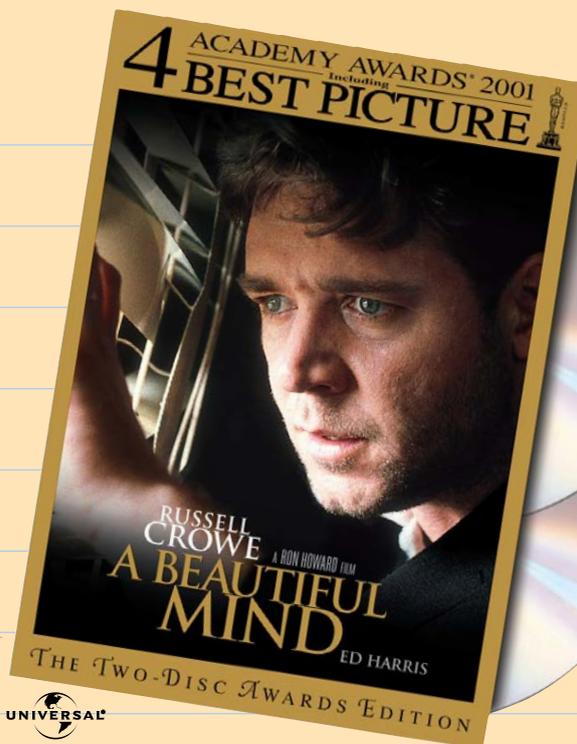
JERRY'S GIGS

Jerry Seinfeld, absent from the little screen for these past four years, will make a big-screen appearance in *Comedian*. The 100-minute documentary, which follows the stand-up comic and erstwhile TV star on his year-long comedy tour across North America, has been in the can for years but only recently got picked up for distribution. No word yet on a release date, however. It reportedly follows the master of minutiae behind the scenes at his many gigs, and includes walk-ons by fellow funny guys **Colin Quinn**, **Chris Rock** and **Garry Shandling**.

B R I E F L Y

Billy Bob Thornton is in talks to play an evil, con-man Santa Claus for director **Terry Zwigoff** in *Bad Santa*. ■ **Mark Wahlberg** will take over **Michael Caine's** former role in the remake of the 1969 heist picture *The Italian Job*. ■ **Nona Gaye**, daughter of late R&B legend **Marvin Gaye**, has replaced equally late R&B newcomer **Aaliyah** in *The Matrix Reloaded*. ■ **David Fincher** of *Fight Club* and *The Panic Room* is being courted to direct *Mission: Impossible 3*. ■ **Paul Verhoeven**, director of *Showgirls* and *Basic Instinct*, is working on a movie about Jesus.

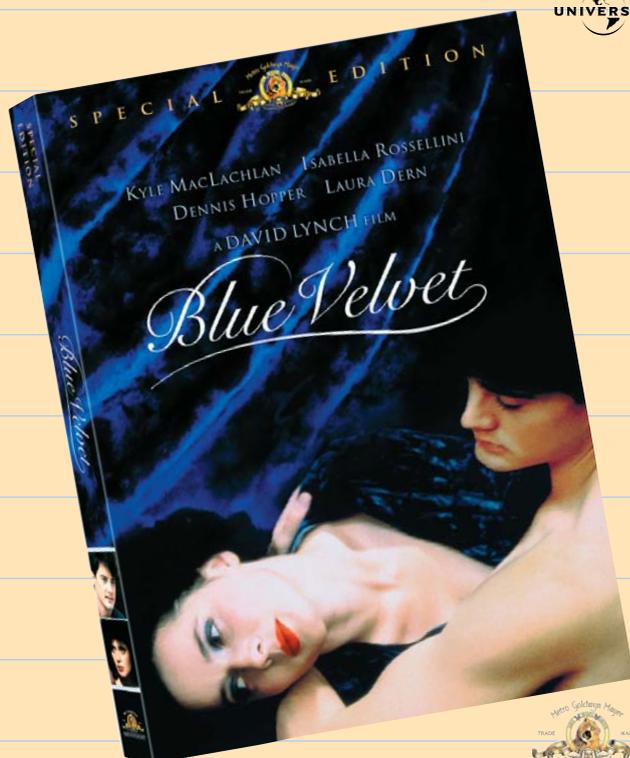
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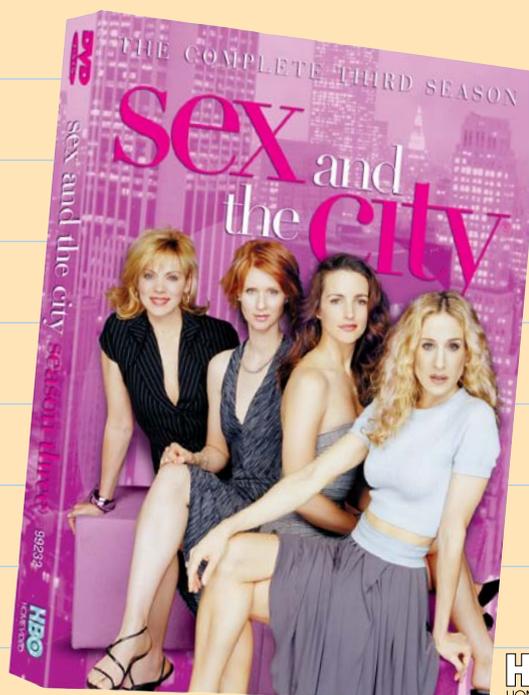
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1





2

1 SHEER RELAXATION

• Earl Jean's drop-needle knit **Western Shirt** (\$155) capitalizes on one of the summer's biggest trends — sheer. Paired here with Earl Jean's **Military Full Flare Jean** (\$225) in garment-dyed canvas. **Available at Holt Renfrew.**

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2 DRESSING UP

• Geometric prints are a great way to take a break from the flowers and frills that abound this summer. This spaghetti-strap **Sundress** (\$40) comes in cool aqua, perfect for soothing tired eyes on hot, humid days. **Available at Winners.**

• Turquoise jewellery goes great with a dress or jeans. This simple Santa Fe-style **Bracelet** (\$50) sets 13 pieces of the polished blue-green mineral in silver. **Available at Winners.**

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The Austin Powers roadster

GOING...GOING...CLICK!

STUDIOS GET IN ON THE ONLINE AUCTION ACTION

BY SEAN DAVIDSON

It's called the "tulip craze." Back in the 1600s, the attractive yet not particularly useful flower was imported to Holland from Turkey and became so popular — such an insanely sought-after status symbol — that an uncontrolled orgy of spending broke out among the Dutch. Single bulbs fetched as much as \$75,000, in adjusted currency, and were sometimes even used as dowries for young women. An entire brewery was traded for a single bulb in 1610.

It's now a textbook example, among money-watchers, of excessive spending, such as that which we all witnessed on pre-2000 internet stocks and which, it seems, still applies to the online auctions of movie props. Elvis Presley's poncho from *Fun in Acapulco* certainly didn't retail for more than a few pesos, but it went for more than \$2,500 (U.S.) on eBay. Likewise, the *I Am Sam* prop department surely didn't spend \$3,000 on that Starbucks uniform for Sean Penn.

Are these inflated hand-me-downs the tulips of the entertainment world? Quite possibly. But profit like that looks good on anyone's spreadsheet, so it's not surprising that studios are taking a more active role in the trade of props, costumes and other collectibles. Twentieth Century Fox, Paramount and Sony now sell on the auction pages at Yahoo [www.auctions.yahoo.com] while Warner and Disney both hock their wares

on eBay; the latter even has its own section [www.ebay.com/disney]. And at New Line Cinemas they've gone one extra step and set up their own online auction house at www.auctions.newline.com, a lean one-person operation staffed by Carrie Williams.

"It was quite easy because we're a smaller studio," she says on the phone from L.A. "We've worked with eBay and Amazon in the past...but there's so much stuff on eBay that our stuff gets lost in it."

The site launched in 1999 as a marketing gambit for the second Austin Powers movie — selling off such props as the stars-and-stripes roadster driven by Heather Graham, which went for \$121,000. Collectors took notice and, to date, the site has sold more than 1,500 items, to the total tune of \$750,000.

"I know who my regulars are. I check who's bidding on a daily basis and there's always new people bidding and new people calling," Williams says.

For studios, auctioning serves a double purpose. It helps keep hype about films alive well past their release dates, but it also makes good money sense. Until recently Hollywood studios tended to stockpile their old props and costumes — squirreling them away in *Raiders of the Lost Ark*-esque warehouses, to be re-used over the next several decades in cheaper productions, or farmed out to TV. But considering the

prop-aganda

Disney on eBay

www.ebay.com/disney

The Mouse House puts just about everything on the block, with original artwork, TV and movie props, theme park "experiences" and other collectibles going to the highest bidders. The artwork section appears to be the busiest and most interesting, offering sketches and other renderings from new and old Disney features.

Yahoo! Auctions

www.auctions.yahoo.com

Like frontrunner eBay, the auctioning off-shoot of the popular search engine is a bit cluttered. So you'll have to wade through a lot of rough to find any diamonds. But bidding doesn't seem as fierce at Yahoo, so your odds of netting a bargain do improve.

demand, and thus the potential auction price, for all forms of movie memorabilia, it's become clear to smaller studios that there's more money to be made by selling, than there is to be saved by storing, all those ape costumes, jeeps, fake newspapers, Spanish conquistador outfits, six-shooters and Easter Island heads.

"We are not really known for our studio name, we're known for our films," says Williams. "[Larger studios] have more reason to hang on to their stuff. Because we're not a branded studio, by name, we feel it's more appropriate to auction off the stuff or use it for charity events. Unless we know there's going to be a sequel."

By having a hand in the market, Hollywood might also reduce online fraud, a persistent problem in the collectible market. Studios almost always provide certificates of authenticity for auctioned items, confirming that, yes, this is indeed an actual license plate from *All About the Benjamins*.

"I do it all myself," says Williams. "I pull the items. I inventory them. I skew them. I photograph them — I see them over and over again through the whole process. I do the letters of authenticity myself and so I know the item is authentic."

Our next item up for bid, these genuine imitation silk flowers, as seen in *The Wedding Planner*. Do we hear \$500?

you can win... tu peux gagner...



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Une Super fête d'anniversaire Barbie au cinéma Famous Players!

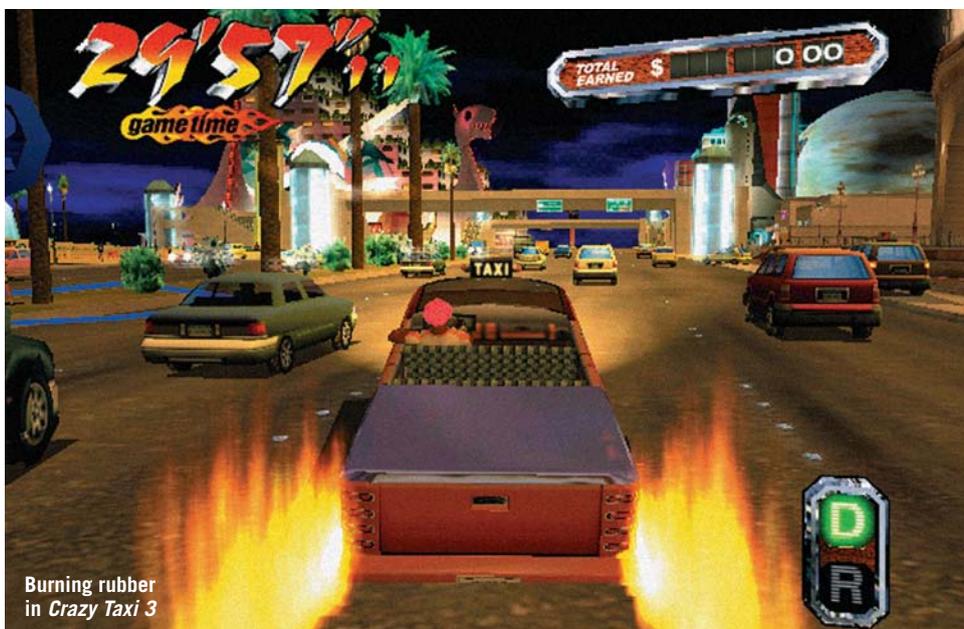
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Barbie sera l'hotesse pour ton anniversaire
- ♥ Glam Packed Loot Bags
Sacs surprise
- ♥ Pizza, Pop and Kiddie Combos
Pizza, boissons gazeuses et friandises
- ♥ 'Lots of Barbie Birthday Gifts
Plusieurs cadeaux Barbie
- ♥ Personalized Barbie Birthday Cake
Des gâteaux d'anniversaire Barbie personnalisés
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Barbie™



fare play

HIGH-SPEED HACKS TAKE TO THE STREETS IN
CRAZY TAXI 3 | BY MARK MAGEE

CRAZY TAXI 3: HIGH ROLLER

>> Xbox

Hardcore thrill-seekers don't get their kicks from rollercoasters or bungee jumps or chugging Mountain Dew — they get them from hopping into a big-city cab and yelling “Get me across town *now!*”

Because, as anyone who has crossed Manhattan in rush-hour traffic can attest, there's nothing scarier than sitting helplessly in the back of a cab as your driver yaks away on a cellphone while barreling the wrong way down a one-way street. And that's probably why the *Crazy Taxi* games are so much fun. After all, how else can you get all the thrills of a maniacal cab ride with none of the life-threatening fender-benders?

For its third instalment, the game has moved to Sin City, U.S.A. (a thinly disguised Las Vegas) but the premise is still the same. You play a slightly deranged cabby who drives around town picking up fares and delivering them to their destinations.

But there's one twist — the crazier you drive, the bigger your tip. So if you want to survive in the cutthroat cab biz you've gotta leap off every bridge, scrape up against every car on the road and go full

throttle around every hairpin turn. Because only in a videogame will paying customers pony up extra loot for the guy who almost got them killed.

ETERNAL DARKNESS: SANITY'S REQUIEM

>> GameCube

Set in a haunted mansion, that was built on a crypt, that is home to a vague but terrible evil (you'd think the building contractor would have said something), this time-shifting psychological horror throws you into the shoes of three unique characters. Each exists at different times in the house's



history, but all have the same mission — to destroy the monsters that dwell within the cursed building's walls. A neat twist is the “sanity meter” — as your characters become more and more frightened, they begin to hallucinate, making it tough to tell the real enemies from the imaginary ones.

RETURN TO CASTLE WOLFENSTEIN

>> PlayStation 2

This long-awaited sequel to the classic *Wolfenstein 3D* — the game that virtually created the first-person shooter — wowed gamers when it was released for the PC last year. You play a World War Two soldier on a quest to stop the Nazis from creating an army of biomechanical undead super soldiers.

Basically just a run-and-shoot game, but the nice level design, sharp graphics and good enemy AI helps this standard issue game rise above the crowd.

RAYMAN ARENA

>> PlayStation 2 & GameCube

Rayman, a weird-looking guy whose head, feet and hands all somehow stay attached to his body without the benefit of limbs, has starred in two of the best platform games ever — *Jak & Daxter* and *Crash Bandicoot*. Now he's in this multiplayer game that lets you and three pals go head-to-head in either foot races or melee battles.

LOONEY TUNES SPACE RACE

>> PlayStation 2

Ever since *Mario Kart* came along, everybody and their mother has put out a go-kart style racing game. But while the vast majority have sucked super-large (we're looking at you, *South Park Rally*) some have been mad fun. Case in point: *Looney Tunes Space Race*, a rocket-themed rally racer that offers all kinds of cartoony weapons, such as anvils and magic holes, in your quest for the checkered flag.

MIKE TYSON HEAVYWEIGHT BOXING

>> PlayStation 2

Get in touch with your inner pugilist with this heavy-hitting boxing title. Choose from different pro boxers or create your own, and head into the ring. Master all the different combos to land some serious uppercuts, jabs and roundhouses. Strangely though, there doesn't seem to be a “bite the ear” combo.

Mark Magee is the associate editor of Premiere Video Magazine.

NEW



**TASTES SO
GOOD
IT SELLS ITSELF**



Marlen Cowpland MAKES HER PICKS

For years Marlen Cowpland was a celebrity simply because she was the wife of Corel bigwig Michael Cowpland and wore outfits that would make Barbarella feel frumpy. Remember the 24k-gold breastplate she donned for a 1999 soirée? The one with the diamond nipple?

But since her hubby resigned as Corel's chairman and CEO two years ago, Marlen has found her own celebrity, most notably as host of Talk TV's *Celebrity Pets*. With her fuchsia-dyed dog Bunny at her side (she had to do it, the floors in her Ottawa mansion are all white and everyone kept tripping over the wee pup), Cowpland has grilled the likes of Fabio, Bif Naked and Sally Jesse Raphael about their pooches, kitty-cats and iguanas.

The unapologetic socialite spoke with *Famous* from her all-white bedroom which doubles as a home office. "I do a lot of things in my bedroom," she says in her thick French-Canadian accent, adding a throaty laugh that, if you didn't already get it, clarifies the double entendre.

WHAT ARE YOUR FIVE FAVOURITE FILMS?

"Number one is definitely *Caligula* [1979], the uncut version. I think in Ontario they remove the good parts, but in Quebec they don't edit it. To me it was a little bit like a gladiators movie — what they do after hours. It is extremely explicit, almost disturbing in some points. But everyone in it is so beautiful. • Number two is *Bedazzled* [2000], with Elizabeth Hurley and Brendan Fraser. I think Brendan Fraser would

be the perfect man because in this movie he is actually seven different men. He makes a deal with the Devil to have seven wishes but he always says something wrong, so he never gets his wish. • Number three is *The Long Kiss Goodnight* [1996] with Geena Davis, it's almost like a female James Bond. She has amnesia, then one day she finds out that she was a secret agent. It's nice to see a woman in that role. • Number four is *There's Something About Mary* [1998]. I loooooove that movie. I went to see it when it first came out. All the reviews were bad, so I thought it must be good. It was just non-stop laughs. • And number five is the new *Ocean's Eleven* [2001]. And I can only explain why in one sentence: To see so many beautiful boys in one movie."

WHICH CELEBRITY PETS GUEST HAD THE WORST-BEHAVED PET?

"I could not say anyone. I guess the people we interview, the pet represents the owner and every one we've had has been very well behaved. Although, the *Frasier* dog, Moose, it was surprising because I thought here is a dog who has been trained to be a celebrity, and I was told I would have to put Bunny away because [Moose] kept barking. I guess he wanted to be the only dog in the limelight."

WHAT'S THE MOST EXTRAVAGANT THING YOU'VE EVER DONE FOR BUNNY?

"I guess her colour. I spend \$200 every two weeks to dye her hair."

HAVE YOU EVER SHAKEN YOUR HEAD AT AN EXTRAVAGANCE SOMEONE ELSE HAS HEAPED ON THEIR PET?

"No. Kids, yes. Not dogs."

WHO SCOOPS BUNNY'S POOP?

"When I travel, I'm the one picking it up. I have these little blue bags that come in a roll. And it's so small. At home I have someone to do it around the house."

AROUND THE HOUSE OR OUTSIDE THE HOUSE?

"Outside the house [laughs]. Around the outside of the house."

YOU HAVE A VERY BRAVE FASHION SENSE. HAVE YOU EVER PUT ON AN OUTFIT, LOOKED IN THE MIRROR AND THOUGHT, "EVEN I CAN'T PULL THIS ONE OFF"?

"Never."

HAVE YOU FOUND SOMEWHERE TO WEAR THAT 24K-GOLD BREASTPLATE AGAIN?

"No, that's the kind of thing you only wear once. I gave it back to the designer Richard Robinson. But I took out the diamond first [laughs]."

YOU DON'T REALLY FIT IN WITH THIS COUNTRY'S UPPER CRUST. DO YOU THINK CANADIANS ARE BORING?

"No. I have so many friends in Toronto and Ottawa that are so much fun. So many people are shocked by me, by what I wear, but if you go to New York or L.A. it's no big deal."

DO YOU THINK YOU WERE BORN IN THE WRONG PLACE?

"No, I love Canada. It's better to be a big fish in a small pond than a small fish in a big pond. One thing's for sure — I'm not too stuffy. In general, the people I go around with are very down-to-earth. The ones who are stuffy are the ones who didn't make it. We have all sorts of friends, some who are zillionaires and some who are bartenders or trainers."

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

"No one. It would be impossible."

—Marni Weisz

new RELEASES

TAKE KATE & LEOPOLD HOME, CHECK OUT
GOSFORD PARK OR RUN THROUGH ROLLERBALL

JUNE 4

THE MOTHMAN PROPHECIES

Stars: Richard Gere, Laura Linney

Director: Mark Pellington (*Arlington Road*)

Story: After his dying wife tells him that a moth-like creature caused her car accident, a reporter (Gere) heads to West Virginia, where he discovers all kinds of unexplained spooky stuff. Like a disembodied voice that knows he's holding Chapstick. Yikes!!!

JUNE 11

BLACK HAWK DOWN

Stars: Josh Hartnett, Ewan McGregor

Director: Ridley Scott (*Gladiator*)

Story: Set during the Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia, 1993, this slick slice of war porn follows a bunch of accident-plagued Rangers through the city streets as they shoot down endless waves of Somalis and lose many of their own.

KATE & LEOPOLD

Stars: Meg Ryan, Hugh Jackman

Director: James Mangold (*Girl, Interrupted*)

Story: She's a no-nonsense career woman from the 21st century who's given up on men! He's a chivalrous duke from the 1800s who's never seen a flush toilet! And now, thanks to a handy time-space wormhole, they're falling in love! Hands down, the best time-travelling romantic comedy of the year.

MONSTER'S BALL

Stars: Halle Berry, Billy Bob Thornton

Director: Marc Forster (*Everything Put Together*)

Story: Berry would love to tell you all about this movie, but she's too busy writing "Thank You" cards to her lawyers. So it's up to us to tell you the film is about a racist white prison guard (Thornton) who has an affair with the black widow (Berry) of one of his former death row inmates.

JUNE 18

THE MAJESTIC

Stars: Jim Carrey, Martin Landau

Director: Frank Darabont (*The Green Mile*)

Story: Set during the Hollywood blacklist days, this Capra wannabe of a film follows a screenwriter (Carrey) who loses his memory and ends up in a small town where he's mistaken for a long-lost WWII hero.

I AM SAM

Stars: Sean Penn, Michelle Pfeiffer

Director: Jessie Nelson (*Corrina, Corrina*)

Story: A mentally challenged father (Penn) has his seven-year-old daughter taken away by the state, and shames a high-priced lawyer (Pfeiffer) into taking the case *pro bono*.

ROLLERBALL

Stars: Chris Klein, Jean Reno

Director: John McTiernan (*Last Action Hero*)

Story: Set in the not-so-distant future, Klein is a star athlete in a brutal "rollerball" league, where players whip around on Rollerblades and score goals with a heavy metal ball. But that's not enough to thrill the crowds — they want blood, and perhaps death.

ORANGE COUNTY

Stars: Colin Hanks, Jack Black

Director: Jake Kasdan (*Zero Effect*)

Story: Shaun (Hanks) wants to go to college, but his guidance counsellor sent in the wrong marks. So now his loving brother (Black) tries to help him get in. And he does it all while sitting around in his underwear.

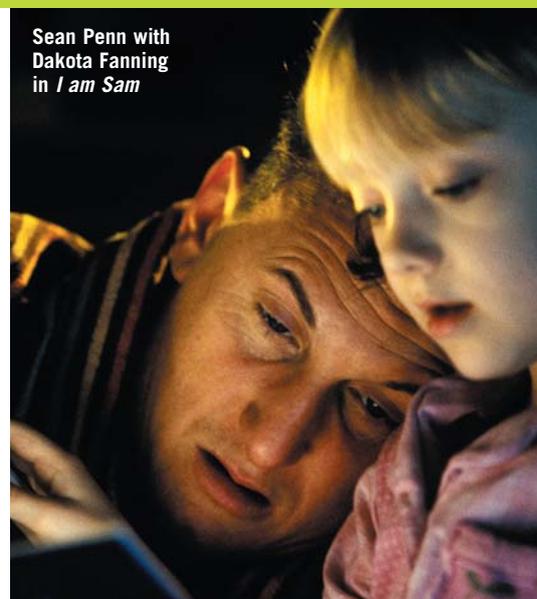
THE SHIPPING NEWS

Stars: Kevin Spacey, Judi Dench

Director: Lasse Hallström (*Chocolat*)

Story: After his no-good wife is killed in a car accident, a mild-mannered ink-setter named

Sean Penn with
Dakota Fanning
in *I am Sam*



Quoyle (Spacey) heads to Newfoundland with his estranged aunt. There he finds a new life as a columnist at a small-town paper and reluctantly falls in love with a local woman (Julianne Moore).

MAX KEEBLE'S BIG MOVE

Stars: Alex D. Linz, Larry Miller

Director: Tim Hill (*Muppets From Space*)

Story: Tormented by school bullies and his smarmy principal (Miller), Max Keeble (Linz) is thrilled when his parents tell him they're moving. He spends his last week at school getting revenge on all those who made his life hell, only to find out that they're not moving after all.

JUNE 25

A BEAUTIFUL MIND

Stars: Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly

Director: Ron Howard (*Edtv*)

Story: Schizophrenic math genius/professor John Forbes Nash Jr. (Crowe) alienates himself from practically everyone in his life, except a beautiful student (Connelly), a CIA agent (Ed Harris) and an old Princeton chum (Paul Bettany). But those last two have a secret that will throw everything Nash believes into question.

GOSFORD PARK

Stars: Maggie Smith, Ryan Phillippe

Director: Robert Altman (*Cookie's Fortune*)

Story: This murder mystery set at a British mansion, and laden with literally dozens of characters, marked the 18th comeback for director Robert Altman.

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



Stephen Fry and
Kristin Scott Thomas
in *Gosford Park*

june

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

gemini

May 23 >>> June 21

In mid- to late June you'll negotiate a tricky deal, perhaps involving real estate. A couple of romantic distractions make things delightfully complicated. Older relatives, meanwhile, are just about ready to share a family secret.

cancer

June 22 >>> July 22

You need to make an important family decision, and you can't rely on intuition alone. A sarcastic streak surfaces toward the 20th — and it can land you in big trouble. Look forward to a celebration with a nostalgic theme around the 30th.

leo

July 23 >>> August 22

You have a knack for extracting information from tight-lipped sources, but the trick is to use this talent in a positive way. Arrangements involving shared expenses need to be ironed out by the 19th.

virgo

August 23 >>> September 22

There's more harmony and balance in your life, thanks to the influence of a platonic friend. And, although it's a good month for exploring new interests, it's not a good time for taking risks with money or health.

libra

September 23 >>> October 22

Despite your best efforts, you're involved in a power struggle during the first chunk of the

month. Your typically diplomatic nature gives way to a cunning approach. On a more harmonious note, art and finance — possibly in tandem — are the focus after the 20th.

scorpio

October 23 >>> November 21

You're feeling less isolated thanks to a new friend with whom you share an important interest. Mix persistence with charm, and a request can be granted by the 11th. Relationships warm up with all the earth signs — Capricorn, Taurus and Virgo.

sagittarius

November 22 >>> December 22

Friendship and reconciliation are key this month — trust is restored early on, and relationships blossom around the start of summer. Your home environment may be hectic throughout June, thanks to an endless parade of unexpected drop ins.

capricorn

December 23 >>> January 20

Your sense of responsibility sees you taking on new family obligations, and it's time to ask relatives to share the load. The month is ideal for launching a fitness program. Professional goals are within reach when an obstacle is removed around the 20th.

aquarius

January 21 >>> February 19

Work priorities are altered and travel plans get rearranged. On the other hand, your romantic partner is less fickle. At month's



KATIA SMIRNOVA

end, you're bailing out one friend while being pampered by another.

pisces

February 20 >>> March 20

Having tended to just about everyone else's physical and emotional well-being, it's important that you focus on your own. It's no coincidence that your self-confidence is gradually restored.

aries

March 21 >>> April 20

A restless May gives way to a more focused June. Spend as much time as you can afford on personal health, education and other areas of self-improvement. You can make huge strides in your professional or romantic life, as long as you don't rely on charisma alone.

taurus

April 21 >>> May 22

It's time to be less self-critical. Your little flaws are actually quite lovable to your nearest and dearest. June is also a good time to focus on personal appearance.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS



1st **Morgan Freeman**
2nd **Dana Carvey**
3rd **Tony Curtis**

4th **Angelina Jolie**
5th **Mark Wahlberg**
6th **Sandra Bernhard**
7th **Liam Neeson**
8th **Keenan Ivory Wayans**
9th **Michael J. Fox**
10th **Elizabeth Shue**
11th **Gene Wilder**
12th **Jim Nabors**
13th **Ally Sheedy**
14th **Yasmine Bleeth**
15th **Helen Hunt**

16th **Laurie Metcalf**
17th **Greg Kinnear**
18th **Isabella Rossellini**
19th **Kathleen Turner**
20th **Nicole Kidman**
21st **Juliette Lewis**
22nd **Meryl Streep**
23rd **Frances McDormand**
24th **Michele Lee**
25th **George Michael**
26th **Chris O'Donnell**
27th **Tobey Maguire**
28th **John Cusack**



29th **Gary Busey**
30th **Monica Potter**

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CONTENT is the key

10 STARS TELL YOU WHAT MAKES THEM MISERABLE

By Susan Granger

PATRICIA ARQUETTE

"Worrying about what people think of me is the worst. I used to think that all these famous people were special, and that I didn't belong there. But then I realized we all have the same fears. We're all screwed up and none of us belong there. I don't want to put energy any more into what people think of me."

JENNIFER LOVE HEWITT

"I had to wear this sports bra when I was playing Audrey Hepburn in a TV biography, and it was really tight. I was bound for hours a day, not the most comfortable thing."

SYLVESTER STALLONE

"What makes me miserable? Rambo III. I don't know what I was thinking making it — all that jingoistic nationalism."

BETTE MIDLER

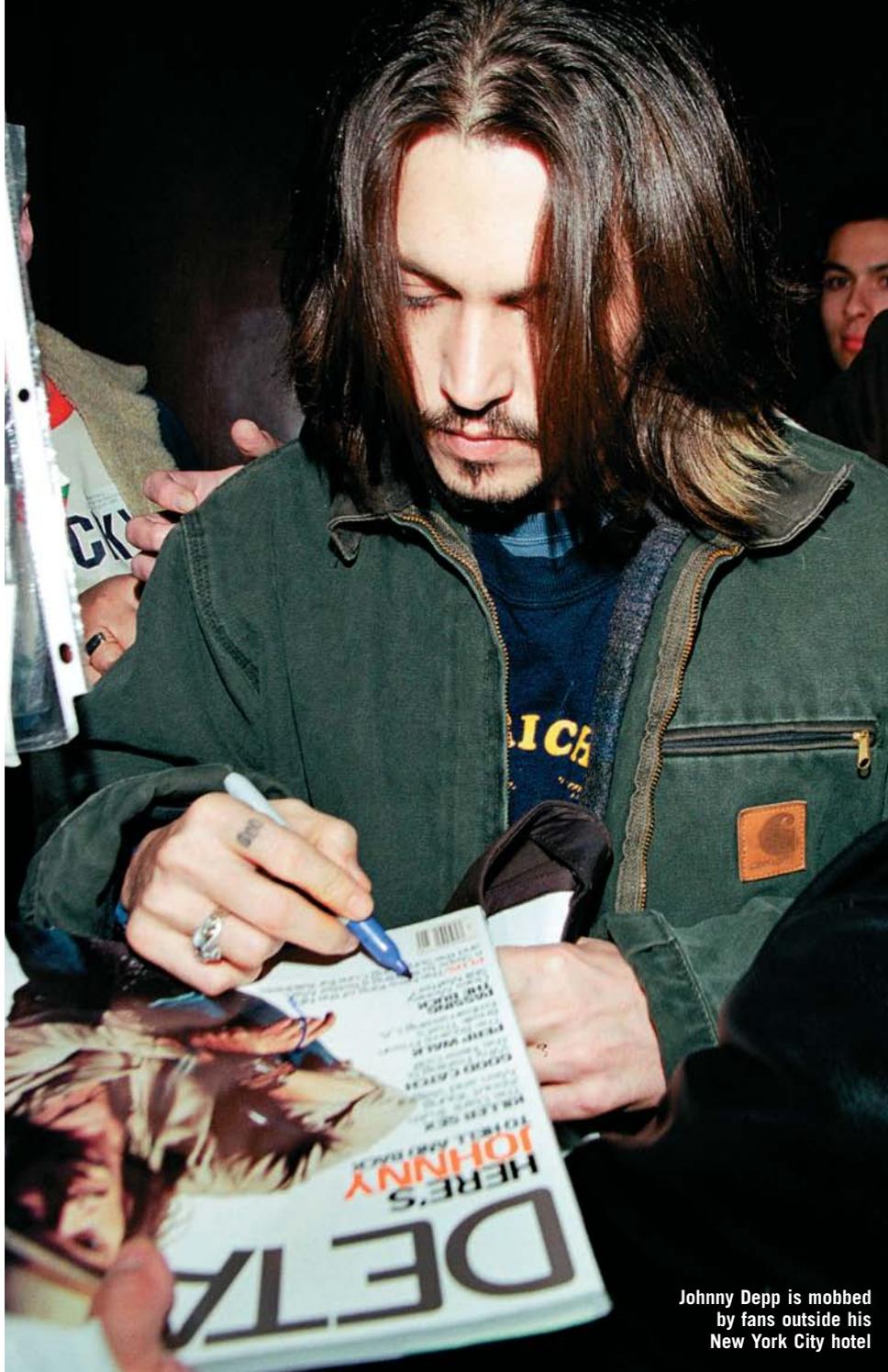
"Living in Los Angeles. There are a lot of damaged people out there. I was miserable. I will never go back again."

MERYL STREEP

"Lousy scripts. Many scripts my agents don't even pass on to me. They're so used to me saying, 'Why'd you send me this sh-t? You know I'm just going to give it to my kids to do their crayoning on.'"

MEG RYAN

"My sugary-sweet persona. I have remained consistently and nauseatingly adorable. In fact, I have been known to cause diabetes."



Johnny Depp is mobbed by fans outside his New York City hotel

PHOTO BY HENRY LAMB/PHOTO WIRE

WARREN BEATTY

"The state of our country. I fear we're getting closer to a plutocracy than we want to, and I believe deep down the people want to do something like that."

JAMES CAAN

"The state of modern filmmaking. Films today are all gadgets, gimmicks and garbage. In television, they won't hire you unless you're an ex-junkie in your 20s, hip enough to write about what kids want to see."

JOHNNY DEPP

"Being famous. You can't be normal. You can't just hang out and have a cup of coffee and pick your nose, you know."

ANDREW MCCARTHY

"Hearing about the supposed Brat Pack. It did not exist! We never hung out. Well, they may have hung out, but I don't know their phone numbers. I've never talked to a single one of them since we wrapped St. Elmo's Fire."

KATE & LEOPOLD

If they lived in the same century,

they'd be perfect for each other.

Available for rent on DVD and VHS June 11, 2002.

Make It a **BLOCKBUSTER** Night

BLOCKBUSTER



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