

FILM REVIEWS

Robin as a nanny? Brilliant!



(Above photo) Mrs. Doubtfire (Robin Williams) reads "Charlotte's Web" to Natalie (Mara Wilson). (Left photo) Daniel Hillard (Williams) decides to become his children's (l-r, Wilson, Matthew Lawrence and Lisa Jakub) nanny, Mrs. Doubtfire.

By Anas Ben-Musa

The Battalion

"Mrs. Doubtfire" Starring Robin Williams, Sally Field, Pierce Brosnan and Harvey Fierstein Directed by Chris Columbus Rated PG-13 Playing at Schulman VI

"My first day as a woman and I'm already having hot flashes." That's Daniel Hillard's (Robin Williams) introduction to life as a woman after he burns his bosom in the kitchen — one the many hip, snappy and downright hilarious moments in Williams' new film, "Mrs. Doubtfire."

The film deals with a discouraged actor, Daniel, and his painful separation from his wife Miranda (Sally Field). Daniel only wants to see his children, but he is allowed only one a



Williams has played many roles, so it's not a hard stretch to consider what he can do playing a 60-year-old British nanny with orthopedic shoes.

day a week of visitation by the court. Of course, this convinces Daniel to get hired by Miranda as the housekeeper — with makeup, a latex face and a British accent.

Williams has played many roles, so it's not a hard stretch to consider what he can do playing a 60-year-old British nanny with orthopedic shoes.

Everyone knows Williams' fast-paced, crazy spontaneity as a comedian and actor.

With "Mrs. Doubtfire," Williams refines his comic genius to a fine point. His one-liners are sharp. Not since "Good Morning, Vietnam" has Williams been so funny.

And like "Vietnam," Williams carries "Mrs. Doubtfire" with his energy and wit while the rest of the cast looks on mostly in awe. Yet, Williams is a little older and wiser in his new venture.

With a strong supporting cast,

Williams is able to relax and let his crazy characters, Daniel Hillard/Mrs. Doubtfire, flow back and forth without forcing a scene with some trite joke or antic.

Sally Field and Harvey Fierstein play solid roles, but its little Mara Wilson's charismatic and intelligent portrayal as the youngest daughter, Natalie, that steals the show.

Wilson is adorable as any typical child actor is supposed to be, but her character has depth that will pleasantly surprise many audiences. She is not the typical film child with a Barbie doll in one hand and a bag of candy in the other. Natalie loves to hear her father read "Charlotte's Web." It's nothing big or complicated and that's why it's all the more real and to the heart.

Just like "Mrs. Doubtfire." Go see it. You'll love it.

Not 'A Perfect World' for Eastwood and Costner

By Jacqueline Ayotte

The Battalion

"A Perfect World" Starring Kevin Costner and Clint Eastwood Directed by Clint Eastwood Rated PG-13 Playing at Schulman VI

"A Perfect World" can't hold a candle to Clint Eastwood's "Unforgiven."

It tries really hard, but it just doesn't make it.

Although the acting is strong, with sexy Kevin Costner playing the lead criminal role, there's something lacking in this film.

That something is more of Eastwood's impeccable acting.

The film itself starts slowly and eventually builds toward an intense and emotional climax, but the viewer is still left with a tiny feeling of dissatisfaction.

Set in Huntsville, Texas, in 1963, the plot follows hardened criminal Butch Haynes (Costner) as he de-



Kevin Costner stars as an escaped convict who kidnaps Phillip.

icides to escape from prison and take a hostage along for the ride. That hostage happens to be an innocent seven-year-old named Phillip Perry (T. J. Lowther).

Due to the fact that neither Haynes nor the boy grew up with a father, these two form a special bond. Unfortunately, this friendship isn't in Haynes' plan. Nor is it in the plan for Texas Ranger Red Garnett

(Eastwood) who's teaming up with the wise cracking criminologist Sally Gerber (Laura Dern) to ride in a special 1963 silver trailer in an attempt to catch Haynes before it's too late.

Haynes and the boy live in a fantasy world while on the run, which transforms the film from bland to grand in some scenes.

The production of "A Perfect World" is fantastic,

catching the desolate plains of Texas perfectly.

The scenes are stolen by the little seven-year-old Phillip. He simply is a natural. The boy both fears and admires Haynes throughout the adventure, and Lowther makes these feelings so real to life, the viewer tends to forget he's only acting.

But when it comes down to it, the film is just there at times. Some scenes drag on to such an extent, the film begins to bore rather than intrigue the viewer. And with minimum acting coming from Eastwood, there's no real hero available to break the monotony.

Costner is wonderful, but even he can't beat the dragging scenes.

Sad but true, even Eastwood's "A Perfect World" can't break away from the world of typical chase movies, even if the criminal ends up becoming a little boy's hero.

Nobody's perfect.

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The Student Activities office will offer a one hour credited seminar for students who would like to speak about Texas A&M to various groups which are members of the TAMU Family. This includes Mothers' Clubs, Former Students and other interested organizations.

Students may complete an application at the Student Activities Dept. Room 125 in the John J. Koldus Building between Dec. 1 and Dec. 15. Applicants should be of junior or senior classification with at least one more year at Texas A&M after Spring '94. Students should be at a mid-level of involvement in activities and should have a fair knowledge of Texas A&M programs. Students must also be willing to become a member of the Speakers' Bureau which speaks on behalf of the university to various audiences.

The Seminar will meet on Monday from 3:00 to 4:30 P.M.

**Application Deadline is 5:00 P.M., December 15, 1993.**

**coffeehouse**

*coffee • house (kōfe-hous')* n.  
1. an entertainment extravaganza including but not limited to poets, bands, comedians, bards, singers, dancers, sword swallows, and troubadours. 2. state of providing free refreshments with cheese omnipresent. 3. A place to woo women. 4. A waxy greyish substance formed in the intestines of sperm whales and used in perfumes as a fixative. 5. A domicile where an hour and a half of free entertainment and food is provided.

**FREE CHEESE**

Friday, Dec. 3, 8:00 Rumours

*effervesced by MSC Town Hall*