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'Pulp Fiction' tops year's films

By David Winder
THE BATTALION

The year in movies was like a box of chocolates: you never knew what you were going to get after you sat down in the theater. Entertained, disappointed, confused—sometimes all in the same movie ("Natural Born Killers"). Hollywood, however, just got richer as audiences continued to pay between \$5-\$9 for tickets, helping to pump in over \$5.2 billion into the film industry. Well, stupid is as stupid does.

Worth the Price of Admission

Oscar-worthy performances by Samuel Jackson and John Travolta made "Pulp Fiction" the best movie of 1994. Writer/director Quentin Tarantino bests his last effort (1993's excellent "Reservoir Dogs") by continuing to show Hollywood that movies that are out on the edge are some of the best they have to offer.

Tom Hanks gave another great performance as a slow Southerner with an uncanny way of being in the right place at the right time in "Forrest Gump." Far and away the most successful movie of the year, director Robert Zemeckis allows the audience to time travel with Forrest using the latest in technology. If only Forrest could have been on the grassy knoll.

Greatest Action Heroes

Keanu Reeves, whose acting once again proved he is just another pretty face, still helped to make "Speed" the most exhilarating ride since "Die Hard." Dennis Hopper, Jeff Daniels and Sandra Bullock turned in solid performances even though they were stuck with "Ted" on a bus.

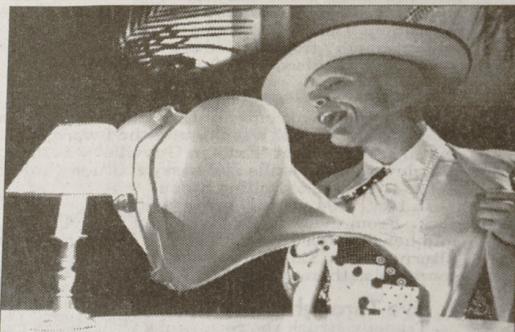
Arnold Schwarzenegger returned to the screen with a bang in "True Lies" after last year's bomb "Last Action Hero." Director John Carpenter once again proved that he is still one of the best in the business. Hey, he even got Tom Arnold to be funny.

Cheap Laughs

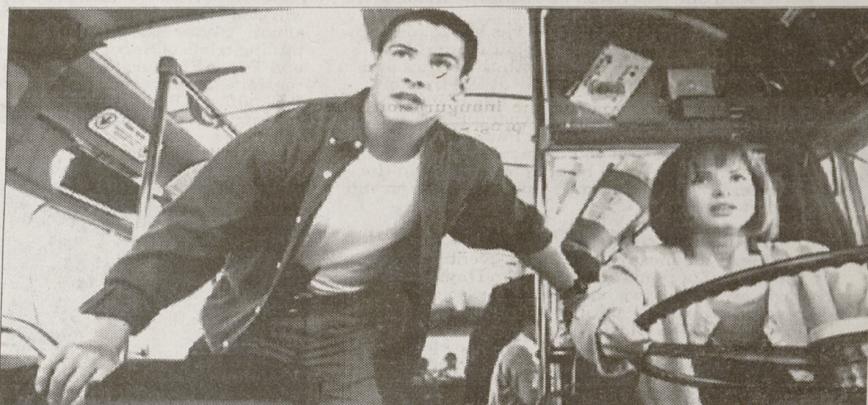
America fell in love with the dumber side of comedy this year as Jim Carrey became

the Robin Williams of the 1990s. All three of Carrey's films "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective," "The Mask," and "Dumb and Dumber," took the box office by storm and made him the most sought-after actor in Hollywood. It's not every day you get to see a grown man talk with his ass.

Audiences really can't be blamed with the choices they were given. "Airheads," "Cabin Boy," "Clean Slate" and "The Scout" were not exactly "smokin'!"



Jim Carrey hit it big in 1994 with three movies: "The Mask" (above), "Ace Ventura: Pet Detective" (below) and "Dumb and Dumber" (right).



Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock in the summer's action hit "Speed."

The Best and Worst Movies of '94

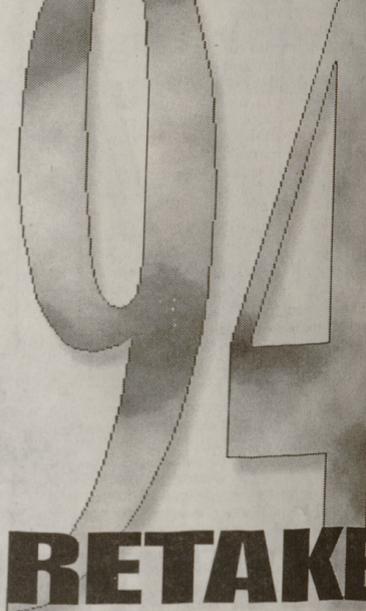
The Best 10 Movies of 1994

1. "Pulp Fiction"
2. "Forrest Gump"
3. "Speed"
4. "Quiz Show"
5. "The Lion King"
6. "Hoop Dreams"
7. "The Mask"
8. "Four Weddings and a Funeral"
9. "The Paper"
10. "The Crow"

The Worst 10 Movies of 1994

1. "The Flintstones"
2. "Natural Born Killers"
3. "Pat"
4. "Mixed Nuts"
5. "Exit to Eden"
6. "City Slickers II"
7. "Beverly Hills Cop 3"
8. "Cabin Boy"
9. "Angels in the Outfield"
10. "Wyatt Earp"

MOVIE



RETAKES



Clark: Green Day

Continued from Page 3

I began interviewing bass guitarist Mike Dirnt as he sauntered into the press tent. But to him I was just some college kid, not deemed worthy of his time. So he blew off my questions, dismissing them as if I wrote for Highlights magazine. Meanwhile, drummer Tre Cool ran around like a second grader. And the famous Billie Joe never even came to the interview. Too cool for that.

I can't say I was surprised. Money and fame breed such attitudes, and unless writers are from Rolling Stone or Spin, many rock stars won't give them a second thought.

Despite my disdain for the band members' attitudes, I do still listen to Green Day. It almost infectious how appealing such simplistic music can be.

As for the future of the band, it's hard to say if Green Day will be around for a long time. They certainly have the talent to make simple, fun songs. But I wonder, how many songs can you make about being bored or sarcastically disillusioned with life?

If Green Day can pull it off, they will rule the charts for years to come. Maybe then they won't be so bored.

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