

Nutty Professor tops box office

Striptease matches Moore's salary with a \$12.3 million debut

LOS ANGELES (AP) — All of a sudden Eddie Murphy's back, with a box-office leader in a remake of *The Nutty Professor*. But how long can Demi Moore last as Hollywood's highest-paid actress with the fourth-place debut of *Striptease* on the heels of her *Scarlet Letter* flop?

The Nutty Professor, a retelling of the 1963 Jerry Lewis film, brought in \$25.4 million — far surpassing industry projections. It was Murphy's second-best opening ever, trailing only *Beverly Hills Cop 2*, which made \$33 million during its first weekend in 1987.

In its first three days of release, *The Nutty Professor* collected more than Murphy's last film, 1995's *Vampire in Brooklyn*, grossed during its entire North American run.

"He's so excited today," the film's producer, Brian Grazer, said of Murphy. "Eddie and I were tense about this thing for a year. But now he's vindicated."

Murphy was one of the biggest stars of the 1980s, with movies like *Beverly Hills Cop*, *48 HRS.* and *Trading Places*, but hasn't enjoyed a

legitimate hit since 1988's *Coming to America*. His string of disappointments includes *Harlem*, *Night*, *Boomerang* and *The Distinguished Gentleman*.

Moore's *Striptease*, a story about a mother who works as an exotic dancer, also exceeded industry projections, but those projections had been far more conservative because of the terrible reviews.

Some executives expected the film to take in no more than \$8 million. Instead, it grossed \$12.3 million — nearly matching the record paycheck Moore received for starring in the film.

More ominously, *Striptease* slipped badly from Friday to Sunday, suggesting the film had poor word-of-mouth.

The performance of *Striptease* is not expected to remove Moore from the top of the payroll charts, though, as other top actresses also struggle at the box office.

Horn was looking on the bright side. "It's not as if this is another *Showgirls*," he said, referring to last year's debacle.

Tribute a disgrace to Marley's memory, work

By Amy Uptmor
THE BATTALION

sacrificing the soul of his music, the easy feeling

This is not your typical tribute album. Rather than breathing new life into a past generation's music, the artists on *One Love* have positively deflated Marley's masterpieces.

The result is one big, sappy, reggae-like disaster. Clearly Marley is not a musician to be messed with.

Bob Marley fans beware: you're better off listening to the real thing. *One Love* is a shameful, shallow attempt at a tribute.

ALBUM REVIEW
Various Artists
One Love
Antilles Records
★★ (out of five)



Imagine you are testing your luck at the blackjack table in Vegas.

The drinks are flowing, the winning's going well, and best of all, Tom Jones, Mr. Lounge Singer himself, is about to sing. You just can't wait to hear "It's Not Unusual" and will another free martini.

But much to your chagrin, Jones starts singing Bob Marley songs.

That's pretty much what *One Love: Tribute to Bob Marley* sounds like.

Almost every song on *One Love* is a watered-down, muzak-esque mess. From "Redemption Song" to "I Shot the Sheriff" (sung by Cleveland Watkiss and Tony Remy), these weak covers are more reminiscent of strolling through a department store than along the beaches of Jamaica.

A bunch of singers (whose names really don't ring a bell at all) gathered to pay tribute to this legendary rasta man. Granted, the singing is consistently powerful, and the singer's lack of notoriety, at least in the mainstream musical field, does not hurt the album. But what those seemingly talented singers have done to Marley's music, does though.

It's almost as if the intention of the album was to make Marley's hip music more savory to the 30- and 40-something crowd who enjoyed Marley's music firsthand. The grave error is



BOB MARLEY

album worth buying. Lead singer/songwriter Cornell might have lost his metal edge, but he still writes good lyrics. "Diamond rope silver chain / Pretty noose is pretty pain / And I don't

Soundgarden

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the song would put it in the middle of the pack, but not on this effort. Songs such as "Burden In My Hand," "Blow Up The Outside World" and "Ty Cobb" stand out because of their lyrics. But all the other songs just run together musically, so you have trouble making out the lyrics.

By the end of the album you start to wonder why Soundgarden would put a 20-minute song on the album. Then you realize it's five different songs with nothing in common except the music. And the music is just not worth 20 minutes of listening-even if there are some good lyrics.

This is a shame? Because the lyrics of *Down On The Upside* are the only thing that make the



ALBUM REVIEW
Soundgarden
Down on the Upside
A&M Records
★★ 1/2 (out of five)

like / What you got me hanging from." If you like Soundgarden for the lyrics, then *Down On The Upside* is worth picking up. But if you like Soundgarden for the music, then you will probably want to pass on this one.

THE BATTALION

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Reiser to host Emmy telecast

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paul Reiser has to wait a few more weeks to find out whether he's an Emmy nominee for his hit TV show "Mad About You." Either way, he'll be part of the September awards ceremony: He's the host.

Reiser, a previous best comedy series actor nominee, was named host Monday by ABC and the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

It will be Reiser's first appearance as an Emmy host. He does have experience, though. He was the host of the "People's Choice Awards" and "The Grammy Awards" in 1994. Nominations for the 48th Annual Primetime Emmy Awards are to be announced July 18. The awards ceremony is to be broadcast live by ABC on Sept. 8.

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Vince Gill hawked barbecued ribs and touted an Elvis memorabilia room as he and Reba McEntire helped kick off the gala opening of the newest attraction on the Las Vegas strip — the Country Star American Music Grill.

The restaurant is filled with memorabilia ranging from gold records and compact discs to saddles and souvenirs from the National Finals Rodeo, which is held here each December. It also features more than 100 video monitors, CD listening stations and a performance stage.

The red carpet was rolled out Monday night for a guest list that included Tracy Lawrence, Trisha Yearwood, Charley Pride, Little Richard and The Beach Boys.

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