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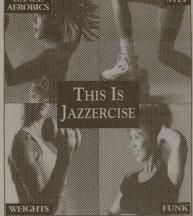
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**SUMMER MOVIE WRAP-UP** 

## Ryan saves the summer movie seas

he summer of audiences' discontent," might be a good title for the passing summer movie season.

Many films failed to provide box-office bite to back up their nine-figure budgets. It seems movie malaise hit the majority of big-name, big-money flicks this summer.

In fact some of the summers biggest hits were downright poverty-stricken in comparison to today's Hollywood budgets.

It looks like only one film will actually make \$200 million during the summer season. This sort of summer drought is unheard of in Hollywood.

The smaller, thoughtful films seemed to strike a chord with the audience, where as the the uber-budgeted, hype-o-ramas turned

THE GOOD

Saving Private Ryan To say something good about this movie is

To say something bad would incite the fury of the greatest nation on earth. It is better to be clichéd rather than have the scorn of the nation. This is a great film, excellent on many levels, from story to cinematography.

The best part about this film is it will probably be the second-highest grossing film

It had a modest \$65 million budget, but it will probably gross three times that much. One could say Ryan earned this. This is about as bold a prediction as suggesting the sun might rise, but look for Ryan to do well

Something About Mary This little film is one of the funniest to come around in a while. It manages to be offensive, hilarious and heartwarming at the same time.

It also has a special message—being nice to the mentally challenged, could result in a woman of Cameron Diaz-esque proportions.

The Truman Show Jim Carrey without the fart jokes. No, it is not a sign of the apocalypse—it is The Truman Show, a fresh idea and a solid film.

Carrey plays quite the shrinking violet in this movie when compared to his other roles, as a man whose whole life has been a carefully crafted television program.

Summer Movie Money		
-1111		
	- 7	
1998's top Grossing Summer Movies	Estimatesh Burkeet	Projected Gross
Armageddon	\$150	\$200
Saving Private Ryan	65	180
Deep Impact	80	145
Dr. Dolittle	70	140
Godzilla	120	135
Lethal Weapon 4	130	135
The Truman Show	60	125
Mulan	95	120
There's Something About Mary	25	120
The Mask of Zorro	70	95
Floures in Millions of U.S. Dollars Source: Newsweek		

In this day and age, any moviety ate action without the use of supero huge explosions and enough ammor

country, deserves a chance. Zorro delivers swashbuckling fun:

audiences wish for more. Anthony Hopkins and Antonio Ba have great chemistry as the elder Zor pupil respectively. Plus, any film givi caliente Catherine Zeta-Jones screen should do great business.

Lethal Weapon 4 Buddy-cop films are about as commotel bibles. The Lethal Weapon series

been around since the Reagan Era. Add those two ingredients together is potential for a stale piece of cheese Gibson and Danny Glover turn a pay into exciting testosterone candy.

THE MARGINAL

According to most sources, this the highest grossing film of the sur should since it reportedly cost \$18 dollars to produce.

It has enough explosions, Liv Tyler smith tunes to make the film look lie

video for the group.

It was fluffy, like the popcom the consumed while watching it. Among the consumed while watching it. was tasty and good at the time, but spect maybe the Junior Mints woul

SEE SUMMER MOVIES

## Fools fall in love while vampires die at the mov



Why Do Fools Fall in Love Starring: Halle Berry, Vivica A. Fox, Lela Rochon Directed by: Gregory Nava Rated R

Playing at Hollywood 16 Why Do Fools Fall in Love is based on the true story of the rise and fall of '50s teen singing sensa-

tion Frankie Lyman (Larenz Tate). The story is told by his three supposed wives — Zola Taylor (Halle Berry), a singer with The Platters, Elizabeth Waters (Vivica A. Fox), a shoplifter and Emira Eagle (Lela Rochon), a school teacher from Georgia — as they testify in court to determine who will right-

In two hours, the women tell Frankie's story — how he married

fully receive his estate.

three wives, got in trouble with drugs and the Army and self-de-

structed at the age of 25. This is an all-too-familiar plot; the actors are the only things that are different.

The bright spot in the movie is the acting. Berry, Fox and Rochon add spice to the screen and portray their characters with originality. (B-) -Beth Focht

Starring: Mike Meyers and Neve Campbell Directed by: Mark Christopher

Rated R Playing at Post Oak Cinema and College Park Six

Studio 54, for those keeping up

with VH1 "Behind the Music" documentaries, was the hippest place to be on the planet during the late 1970s and could have remained the hottest party locale today if the owner had not been a drugchomping tax evader. 54 tells the story of three kids caught up in the hype of Studio 54 — glitz and glamour, innocence lost and the evils of excess. But, like the club it

is based on, the movie offers style without substance. Do not buy the advertising blitz - catch it on

Smoke Signals Starring: Adam Beach and Evan

Directed by: Chris Eyre Rated PG-13 Playing at Hollywood 16

tive Americans, Victor (Adam Beach) and Thomas (Evan Adams), who were raised on a reservation in the Pacific Northwest. Victor receives word that his estranged father has died, and he is sent to collect the ashes While Signals does suffer from a

Smoke Signals follows two Na-

somewhat contrived plot, what it has to say about modern society is enrapturing. Jokes about Dances With Wolves and Tonto and the Lone Ranger keep the movie moving along comfortably, but the subtext of discovery and keeping traditions in a modern society resonates with audiences.

While Signals is about Native

Americans, its universa what keeps it entertaini

Blade

Starring: Wesley Snipes Stephen Dorff Directed by: Stephen No Rated R Showing at College Parki Oak Mall

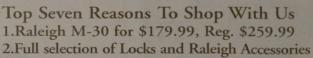
Once again, the villatione the hero. In Blade, Dorff gives a sufficient formance as Deacon From the upstart ruler of the va kingdom supposedly exist der, around and alongside tal world. Dorff has progre since getting showing ing car by Alicia Silvesto

Aerosmith's "Cryin" vid Snipes uses actuali to put on a great martial formance with some ve gunplay. Kris Kristoffers to provide background and look grizzled.
Blade is an entertal

some may find more hum than others. (B)

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