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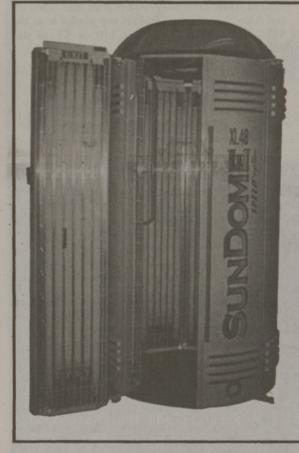
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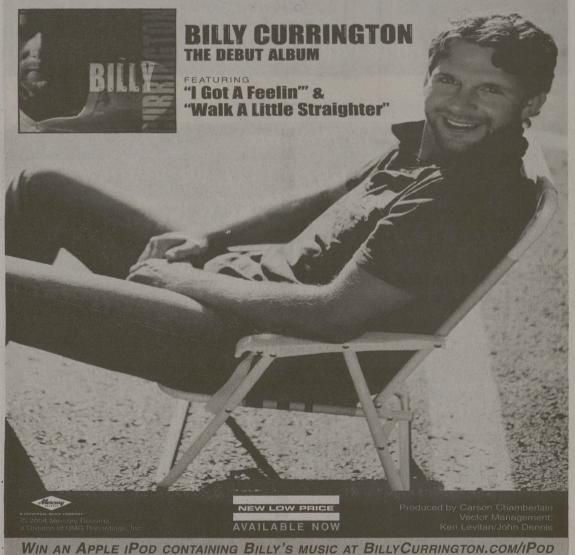
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People Magazine



Thursday, April 22, 2004

"The Whole Ten Yards" Warner Bros. Studios

Starring: Bruce Willis,

Matthew Perry, Amanda Peet

Yards." The witty characters from the prequel,

give audiences another 90 minutes full of farci-

'The Whole Nine Yards," return to the screen to

Bruce Willis as Jimmy "The Tulip" Tudeski

and Matthew Perry playing "Oz" Oseransky, give

the same amusing contrast of a tough murderer befriending the geek, though with a bit of a twist

this time. Amanda Peet and Natasha Henstridge

play Jill and Cynthia, Jimmy and Oz's wives and help add to the comedic action. Kevin Pollak also

makes a stunning return appearance but as a dif-

ferent character this time around. He now por-

ENTERTAIN

THE BATTAL

trays Lazlo Gogolak, the father of Janni G who he played in the prequel.

With the return of a head mobster recently out of jail, the now domant in Jimmy and Oz are disturbed and become and problematic for them, yet entertain audiences. Jimmy retains some of his in qualities throughout the journey, yet he see the brink of a life crisis, which is unbecon an ex-murderer but also for Bruce Willish Though the individual characters keep the rolling with their own different traits, then similar to the prequel and tends to become onous at particular points.

The musical score for this comedy able and filled with some typical "n sounding" tunes. Pollak's makeup is interbecause it is still noticeably him, yet its him look different at the same time. Theye Once again audiences are kept laughing by is very basic, but there are some dartings eccentric hit men and friends in "The Whole Ten of Mexican landscapes.

"The Whole Ten Yards" is a nonsens that will help put the audiences in a relaxed This is a highly enjoyable movie that is good rainy day and a couple of cheap laugh h most well known for his part as the joke-pro jester Chandler Bing on "Friends," is an air reason to go see "The Whole Ten Yards."





"House of Sand and Fog" Dreamworks Pictures Starring: Shohreh Aghdashloo, Ben Kingsley, Jennifer Connelly

Something seems to be lost in translation th "House of Sand and Fog." Based on the critically-acclaimed novel, the film strives to be a tragic exploration of the American dream. Unfortunately, the movie falls victim to a collision of unrealistic events and unsympathetic characterization.

Jennifer Connelly plays Kathy, a young woman who has her house repossessed and auctioned off due to a clerical error. Ben Kingsley plays Behrani, a former colonel in the Iranian air force who takes the chance to restore his fallen family to its once proud standing by buying the house at a fraction of what it is worth and then selling it later at four times the price.

What began as a desperate attempt to capture the key to what they believed to be their happiness leads two strangers down a dark path of mistakes

and, eventually, tragedy,

The audience is dropped into the movie without explanation. It is up to the viewers to piece together clues and discover where the characters are in their lives. While the director's apparent faith in the audience is reassuring, the movie could have benefited greatly with some character history. If audiences knew where the characters had come from, it may have been easier to swallow the movie's main fault, the unrealistic choices the characters make. For example, the whole fiasco of the stolen house could have been avoided if Kathy had just opened her mail. By the time we learn that she had been moping around the house after her husband had left her, audiences have already been turned off by her irresponsible attitude.

After losing her house, Kathy divides her time between stalking her former house's new occupants and romancing a married policeman. Instead of looking for a job or trying to fight her battle through the court system, she moans and flops around in the back seat of her carfalled ther into depression. While this may have to active choice by director/writer Vadim Pero and the novel's author, Andre Dubus II, its acter comes off as overly stupid and weak at Even though there is a lack of understanting

the characters and the reasons behind their the acting in the movie is highly watchable

The real standouts of the film are Behin his family. Kingsley is, as always, great in as a fallen officer. He seems to have a fm? on the understanding of his character and with a dignified posture that lends the as amount of credibility to his incessant pride

Shohreh Aghdashloo plays her Oscar-III ed role of Nadi, Behrani's wife, with a state cence that is a perfect contrast against the times selfish reasoning of her husband and Desperate for a good life for her family, it the faithful wife who will put up with its band's abuse if it means a future for herdi

Even though both sides are present equal empathy, Behrani manages to win and to his plight over Kathy.

While Kathy makes mistake after mis her quest to win back her house, Behran looking after the interests of his family. An can share Behrani's shame, while Kathy ness will leave many audience members their heads in disgust.

The DVD features five deleted scens with an optional director's commentary offers a further glance into the character's and emotions, but none offer any answers tions left unanswered. One interesting however, is a cast audition tape for the Oxid inated Aghdashloo. Her amazing perform perfectly captured without any makeup, of or sets. There is also a behind-the-scan turette that tries to offer some character and a history behind the story.



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