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LANTERN

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JOYCE CAROL OATES

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BY MATHIEU CHANTELOIS

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BY INGRID RANDOJA



COVER PHOTO: TM & © DC COMICS





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WHEN BLACK WAS GREEN

Alternate universes are big in the comic book world. In the 1960s, DC Comics created an entire planet (cube-shaped) populated by alternate versions of their superheroes, including Superman, Batman, The Flash and even a version of Green Lantern, called Yellow Lantern. On Bizarro World, also known as Htrae (Earth spelled backwards), everything is the opposite of how it is here — or the “here” represented in DC comics.

Other alternate universes rely more on alternate timelines, where events unfold differently than they do in our timeline. Think of *Watchmen*, in which America wins the Vietnam War and Nixon’s still president into the 1980s.

In an alternate timeline, *Green Lantern* would have been a very different film. In July of 2009 there were three candidates vying for the title role — **Ryan Reynolds**, who won the part, Justin Timberlake and Bradley Cooper. Had either Cooper or Timberlake been chosen the film would have had a much different feel, especially with Timberlake — given his offbeat, almost nebbish good looks and pedigree as a pop star.

But go back a few years further and an even more bizarre version of *Green Lantern* was being developed. Robert Smigel, the *Saturday Night Live* writer best known for his “TV Funhouse” cartoons, wrote a script that portrayed Green Lantern as a bumbling buffoon who, after being conscripted into The Green Lantern Corps, struggles with his newfound powers and responsibilities. It was a comedy, and a broad one at that.

As the idea leaked into cyberspace, fans revolted. On one forum a member wrote, “I’d kill every bastard behind it if that happened,” while another likened Black being cast as Green Lantern to William Shatner being cast as Spider-Man. Then he corrected himself, saying Shatner as Spider-Man was something he’d actually watch. The project was scrapped.

Last December, as hype continued to build for Ryan Reynolds’ *Green Lantern*, MTV asked Black if seeing the trailer made him wistful for his lost project. It did, he said, adding, “It wasn’t meant to be.”

In this universe, anyway.

The way Ryan Reynolds tells the story, he was destined to play Green Lantern from the start. Turn to “He’s Super,” page 36, to find out why.

The casting of **January Jones** in another of this year’s big comic book movies has gone over better on fan forums, where most of the conversation has centred on the sexy outfit she wears as the malevolent mutant Emma Frost. Jones describes how the costume came to be in “January’s Frost,” page 26.

It’s been four years since the day the internet was abuzz with a very different type of celebrity story. **Owen Wilson** had tried to kill himself. Since then the actor has slowly and steadily gotten back to work, culminating with two very different projects this month — a starring role in Woody Allen’s cerebral *Midnight in Paris* and providing the voice of Lightning McQueen in Pixar’s *Cars 2*. In “Owen Wilson’s Second Act,” page 32, the actor talks about both movies, and becoming a dad.

■ **MARNI WEISZ**, EDITOR



PUBLISHER SALAH BACHIR

EDITOR MARNI WEISZ
DEPUTY EDITOR INGRID RANDOJA
ART DIRECTOR TREVOR STEWART
ASSISTANT ART DIRECTOR ALIZA KLEIN
DIRECTOR, PRODUCTION
 SHEILA GREGORY

CONTRIBUTORS MATHIEU CHANTELOIS,
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SNAPS



KATE AT COACHELLA

Kate Bosworth enjoys a day at the Woodstock, er, Coachella music festival in Indio, California.

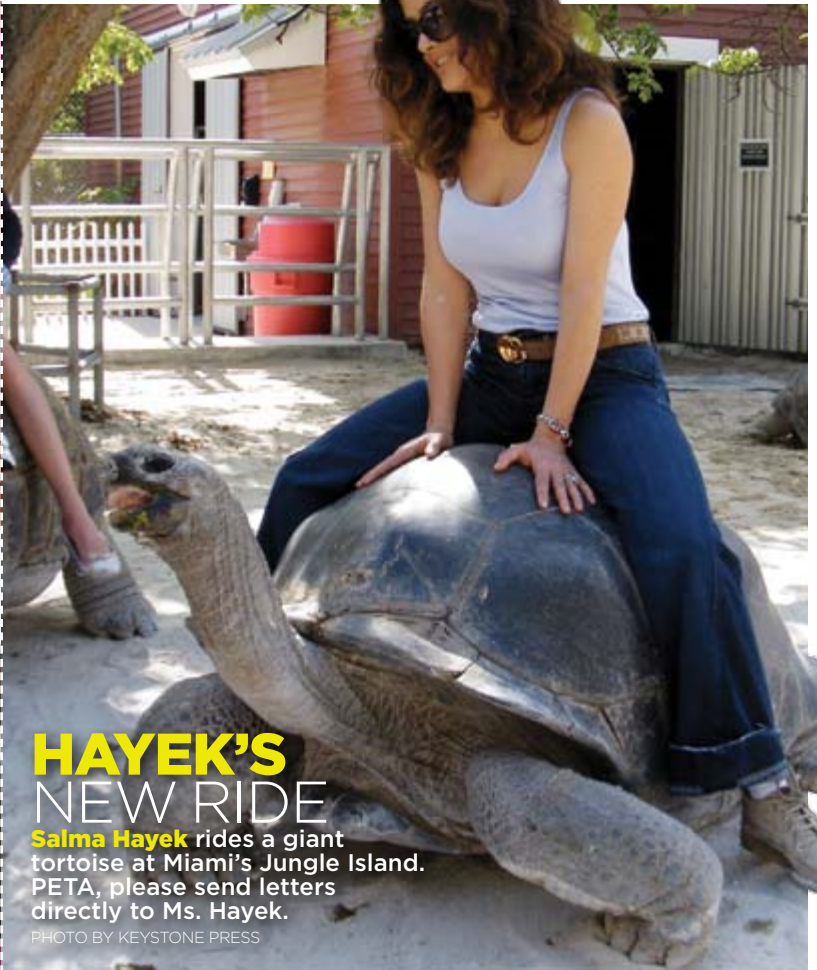
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LEO + GERRY

Leonardo DiCaprio (left) and **Gerard Butler** meet up outside the Eugene O'Neill Theatre on Broadway.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS



HAYEK'S NEW RIDE

Salma Hayek rides a giant tortoise at Miami's Jungle Island. PETA, please send letters directly to Ms. Hayek.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



LOOKS LIKE A MILIAN

Christina Milian jokes around with her baby girl, **Violet**, at a Miami beach.

PHOTO BY SPLASH NEWS

IN BRIEF



MOVIE MASH-UP

Director J.J. Abrams has described this month's *Super 8* as a sci-fi, a love story, a comedy and a special-effects spectacle. That may seem like a crass attempt to appeal to all demographics at once, but it's not that simple.

The film, which follows a group of youngsters who accidentally capture an eerie train crash (that may involve aliens) on their Super 8 camera, is really two movies in one, or two scripts anyway.

Abrams told the *Los Angeles Times* he was working on two separate projects, but neither was coming together. The first was about a group of kids seeing the world and each other through the lens of a Super 8 camera. "There was not much there and it was frustrating because it would not go away in my head," said Abrams. "I couldn't tell you what the story was. I knew the characters, I knew the situations." The other was a spooky sci-fi about aliens and

Area 51. "A pretty cool premise but no characters to speak of."

And then lightning struck. "I was in possession of two halves and it occurred to me after six months or so to put them together."

When Abrams shared the idea with his producer, Steven Spielberg, Spielberg could relate. He told Abrams he long wanted to make a movie about divorce, but it didn't get off the ground until he married it with a sci-fi story. The result was *E.T.* —*MW*

On Home Turf

TOTAL RECALL

Colin Farrell is currently in Toronto shooting the remake of *Total Recall*. The Irish actor plays Doug Quaid, the protagonist made famous by Arnold Schwarzenegger in the 1990 sci-fi about memory implants.

Also in town for the shoot is director Len Wiseman (*Underworld*), and perhaps his wife Kate Beckinsale, who — at press time — was considering the role of Quaid's double-crossing wife Lori. ▶



PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

The Art Of Film

Justin Reed is a Vermont artist whose work is inspired by movies, like these two paintings based on *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (top) and *Trainspotting*. "I've always enjoyed watching movies," says Reed. "Whether it's the stories they can tell in various genres, or interesting visuals or characters, there's usually something that grabs my interest. There's such a range of genres to work with I never feel like I'm repeating myself." You can see more of Reed's work, and commission your own movie masterpiece, at www.justinreedart.com.



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THE IIFA GOES TO...

They've been called the Oscars of Bollywood and this year the **International Indian Film Academy (IIFA) Awards** are being held in Toronto on June 25th.

Unlike the Academy Awards, each year the IIFA Awards take place in a different country. The inaugural show was held in 2000, in London, England, and subsequent locales have included South Africa, Singapore, Thailand and Sri Lanka. This is the first time they've been held anywhere in the Americas, no doubt lured by Toronto's large Indian community, estimated at 550,000.

While the awards will be given out on June 25th, IIFA Weekend starts on June 23rd and includes screenings, workshops and industry events. Go to www.iifa.com for more information.



Posters for IIFA's five "Best Film" nominees

DREAM TICKET

▶ British movie stars **Dame Helen Mirren** and **Jeremy Irons** will be in Toronto on June 29th to spout Shakespearean verses as part of the **Black Creek Summer Music Festival**. The power duo joins the Castleton Festival Orchestra for a concert of "Music Inspired by Shakespeare" during which they will recite passages while the orchestra plays Mendelssohn's "Incidental Music to A Midsummer Night's Dream." Go to www.blackcreekfestival.com for more information.

Quote Unquote

I THOUGHT, HERE'S A FASCINATING CHARACTER — AND WHAT AN ABSOLUTELY ENCHANTING TAKE ON HIS COMING CLEAN AT THAT OLD AGE OF HIS, IN HIS 70S; NOT OLD TO ME, BUT OLD TO MOST PEOPLE.

—CHRISTOPHER PLUMMER ON PLAYING A FRESHLY OUT-OF-THE-CLOSET SENIOR IN *BEGINNERS*





HERE COMES THE BRIDESMAID

We can't really blame bride Kerry Nixon for the slightly sour smile on her face prior to her Glasgow wedding. How would you feel if Keira Knightley (right) was one of your bridesmaids? Talk about stealing the bride's thunder. Nixon was marrying Knightley's brother, Caleb Knightley.



WE LOVE

...North Carolina graphic artist Barbara Stone's *Princess Bride* T-shirt, which cleverly incorporates Mandy Patinkin's famous mantra. Stone sells the shirts for \$17 (U.S.) under the name "Hot Monkey Graphics" on www.etsy.com.



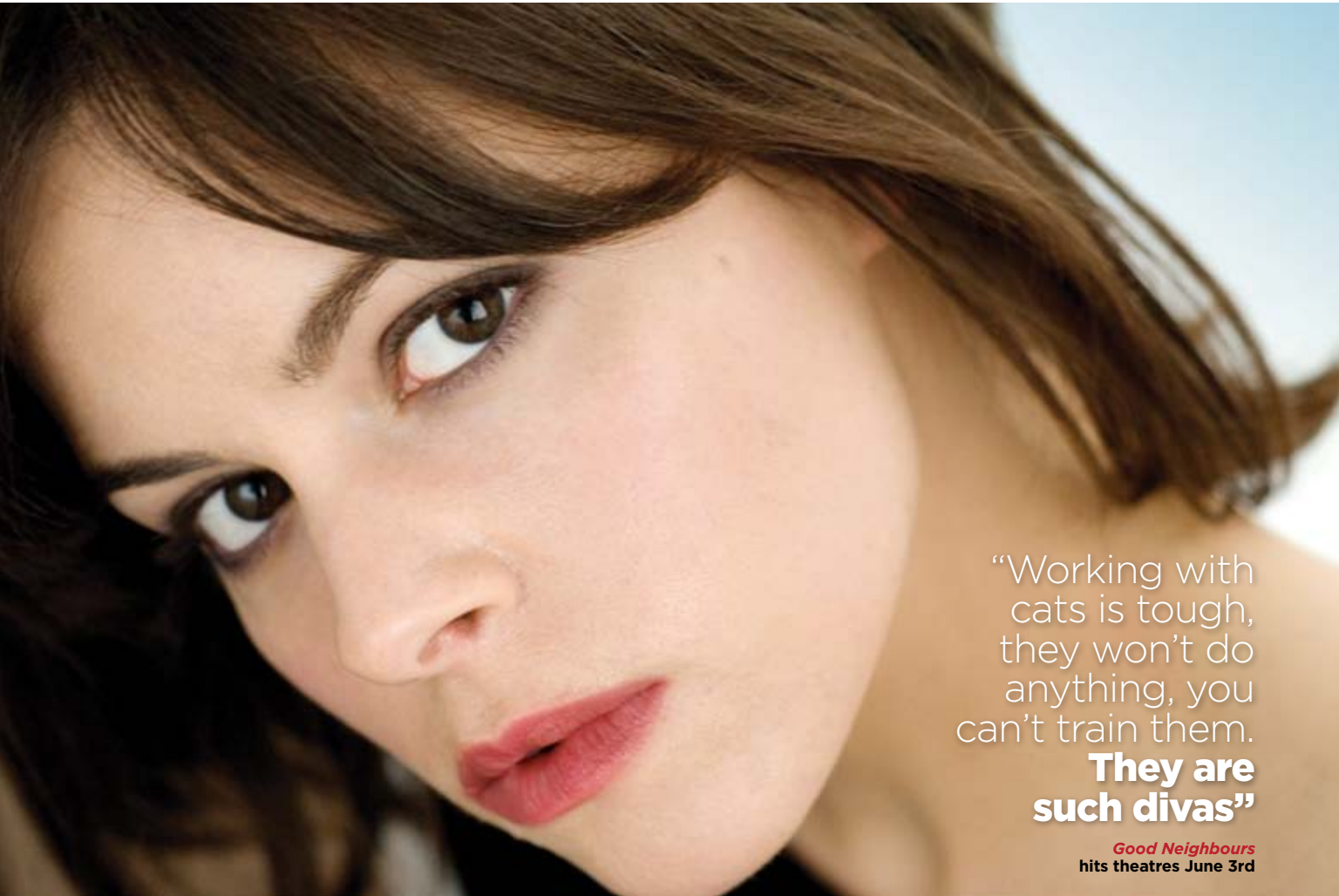
SWING VOTE

It's true that people tend to get more conservative as they age, but Julianne Moore has gone from one extreme to the other in just two years.

In 2009, Moore screen-tested for the role of Democrat Hillary Clinton in the HBO movie *The Special Relationship* (left). Ultimately, she gave up the part to make *The Kids Are All Right*. Now she's working on *Game Change*, also for HBO, in which she plays Republican Sarah Palin (right).

Not a bad likeness but, honestly, stick those glasses and that hair on Jeff Bridges and he'd make a good Palin, too.

SPOTLIGHT



“Working with cats is tough, they won’t do anything, you can’t train them.

They are such divas”

Good Neighbours
hits theatres June 3rd

CO-STARRING WITH CATS

In the comic noir thriller *Good Neighbours*, leading lady Emily Hampshire commits heinous acts of violence and appears nude. However, her most challenging acting moments have nothing to do with sex and violence, but rather cats.

“Wow, working with cats is tough, they won’t do anything, you can’t train them, they are such divas,” says the bubbly Montreal native on the line from her L.A. home.

Good Neighbours (directed by Jacob Tierney), casts Hampshire as Louise, a waitress who lives with two cats in an apartment in Montreal’s Notre Dame de Grâce community. Louise and her neighbours, the wheelchair-bound Spencer (Scott Speedman) and nerdy teacher Victor (Jay Baruchel), are linked together by a serial killer who’s terrorizing the ‘hood.

For Hampshire, accepting her cat co-stars meant swallowing some pride. “At the first meeting with [the cats] the trainers were there telling me their resumés — like one of the cats was in *300* — and he was probably getting paid way more than me [laughs].”

Money isn’t what attracted Hampshire to the film, but rather the chance to reunite with fellow Montrealers Tierney and Baruchel — the trio worked together on 2009’s *The Trotsky*.

And Hampshire, who moved to L.A. some five years ago to put an already revving career into high gear, will star alongside Baruchel yet again, as both landed parts in David Cronenberg’s *Cosmopolis*, which stars Robert Pattinson as a disillusioned billionaire and is currently shooting in Toronto.

“Oh my god, I got this awesome, awesome part, and then I saw on *Deadline Hollywood* or somewhere that ‘Jay Baruchel has been signed to *Cosmopolis*.’ I texted him and said, ‘You’re doing this? I’m doing this and I wasn’t allowed to tell anybody.’ We couldn’t believe it. David Cronenberg is Jay’s idol and I am in love with him.”

And what exactly is this awesome role?

“I play Jane Melman, all my scenes are with Robert Pattinson. I’m his chief of finance and I’m going to be in a car with him while he gets a prostate exam. Really.” —INGRID RANDOJA

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HALLE BERRY

In rose at the Silver Rose Gala and Auction in Beverly Hills.
PHOTO BY RUSS EINHORN/SPLASH NEWS

DIANE KRUGER

In Berlin for the premiere of *Lily Sometimes*.
PHOTO BY ANDREAS RENTZ/GETTY

ROSE BYRNE

Putting the hot in hot pink at the L.A. premiere of *Bridesmaids*.
PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS



REESE WITHERSPOON

Classic elegance at the New York premiere of *Water for Elephants*.

PHOTO BY JASON KEMPIN/GETTY IMAGES



CHRIS HEMSWORTH

Promoting *Thor* in Rome.

PHOTO BY ELISABETTA VILIA
GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET



ROBERT PATTINSON

Chic in brown at the Berlin premiere of *Water for Elephants*.

PHOTO BY KEYSTONE PRESS

JUNE 3

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS

Woody Allen's filmmaking tour of European cities continues with this ode to Paris starring **Owen Wilson** as a vacationing screenwriter who upsets his fiancée (**Rachel McAdams**) and her parents with his late-night strolls through the city. He comes into contact with walking French stereotypes straight out of a Hemingway short story, including a bistro full of artistic types and a dark, mysterious woman (**Marion Cotillard**). See **Owen Wilson** interview, [page 32](#).



X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

What forces shaped Charles Xavier (**James McAvoy**) and Erik Lehnsherr (**Michael Fassbender**) before they became rivals Professor X and Magneto? How did they become involved with the U.S. government during the Cold War? Who are mutants Sebastian Shaw (**Kevin Bacon**) and Emma Frost (**January Jones**) and why do they want to take over the world? All will be revealed in this X-Men prequel directed by **Matthew Vaughn** (*Kick-Ass*). See **January Jones** interview, [page 26](#).



Mutant pals Charles Xavier (**James McAvoy**, left) and Erik Lehnsherr (**Michael Fassbender**)



Good Neighbours'
Jay Baruchel

GOOD NEIGHBOURS

Extreme violence and very dark humour course through this thriller set in Montreal's Notre Dame de Grâce neighbourhood. A serial killer is loose in the 'hood, and apartment building neighbours Louise (**Emily Hampshire**), Spencer (**Scott Speedman**) and Victor (**Jay Baruchel**) become entangled in the killer's web. **See Emily Hampshire interview, page 14.**

ORANGES AND SUNSHINE

Based on true events, **Emily Watson** is British social worker Margaret Humphreys, who, in 1987, discovers that for decades the British government told thousands of poor children under their care that their families were either dead or didn't want them, and then shipped them to institutions in Australia and Canada. Humphreys works to reunite the grown children with their real families.



Emily Watson in
Oranges and Sunshine

JUNE 10



Sean Penn in *The Tree of Life*

THE TREE OF LIFE

Not many art house pics could land both **Brad Pitt** and **Sean Penn**, but that's the drawing power of notoriously reclusive writer/director **Terrence Malick**. Only his fifth film in an almost 40-year career, Malick's reportedly semi-autobiographical drama finds an emotionally fractured man (Penn) looking back on his 1950s childhood in which a gentle mother (**Jessica Chastain**) and rigid father (Pitt) battle for his soul. **See feature on the film's small-town shooting location, page 24.**

CONTINUED ►



Heather Graham (left) looks after Jordana Beatty in *Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer*



Super 8

▶ JUDY MOODY AND THE NOT BUMMER SUMMER

Eight-year-old Judy Moody (**Jordana Beatty**) and her brother Stink (**Parris Mosteller**) spend the summer under the care of their Aunt Opal (**Heather Graham**), who encourages them to create a bucket list of thrill-seeking adventures.

SUPER 8

The notion that director **J.J. Abrams** is **Steven Spielberg**'s heir apparent gains traction with *Super 8*, Abrams' sci-fi with heart that Spielberg produced. Set in 1979 Ohio, the flick focuses on a bunch of kids whose Super 8 movie camera inadvertently films a train wreck and the escape of a creature from the wreckage.

JUNE 17



Jim Carrey as *Mr. Popper's Penguins*' titular hero

MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS

Think back to 1994 when rubber-faced, relative unknown **Jim Carrey** turned acting with animals into an art form with his breakout

comedy *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*. Seventeen years later Carrey's skills are made mostly redundant as this movie about a businessman (Carrey) who bonds with a group of penguins living in his

apartment relies heavily on CGI-generated birds.

THE ART OF GETTING BY

Artistic high school senior George (**Freddie Highmore**)

is a slacker who doesn't bother much with school. But he finds a reason to care about his future when he meets the beautiful Sally (**Emma Roberts**), who sees his potential. **CONTINUED ▶**

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Christopher Plummer (left) and Ewan McGregor in *Beginners*

▶ BEGINNERS

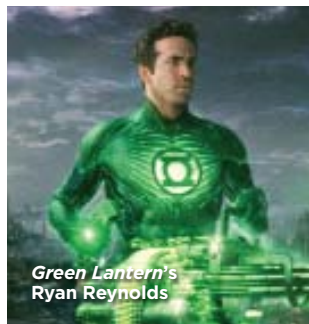
Oliver's (**Ewan McGregor**) safe, placid life is shaken to the core when his widowed father (**Christopher Plummer**) comes out of the closet, gets a younger lover and is

diagnosed with cancer.

GREEN LANTERN

Test pilot Hal Jordan (**Ryan Reynolds**) is the first human selected to serve in

The Green Lantern Corps, an intergalactic space force that uses power rings and lanterns to protect the universe from evildoers. Reynolds calls the CGI-heavy film an "epic space opera," which is music to the ears of the character's devout comic book fan base. **See Ryan Reynolds feature, page 36.**



Green Lantern's Ryan Reynolds

JUNE 24



Bad Teachers staff, from left: Cameron Diaz, Jason Segel and Justin Timberlake

BAD TEACHER

Cameron Diaz embraces her foul-mouthed, sardonic side to play a bored middle school teacher who whips her students into shape so she can earn a much-needed bonus. Does she need the money to pay for her mother's operation? No, she needs it to pay for a boob job that'll grab the attention of a wealthy substitute teacher

(**Justin Timberlake**) who she wants to make her sugar daddy.



Cars 2

CARS 2

Pixar must have figured the sequel to the hugely successful *Cars* could be even more popular if it expanded beyond the first film's U.S.-based, NASCAR-inspired world to include cars from around the globe. So Lightning McQueen (**Owen Wilson**) heads to Europe to race in the World Grand Prix, where Mater (**Larry the Cable Guy**) is mistaken for a spy. Notable cars with accents are voiced by **Michael Caine, Emily Mortimer** and **Vanessa Redgrave**.

See **Owen Wilson** interview, **page 32**.

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From left: Laramie Eppler, Jessica Chastain and Hunter McCracken shoot in Smithville

Finding Smithville

How a small Texas town let Terrence Malick and crew move in and travel back in time

If there's one movie true film buffs are looking forward to this year it's Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life*. The decades-spanning drama is just the fifth film from the notoriously finicky director, after *Badlands* (1973), *Days of Heaven* (1978), *The Thin Red Line* (1998) and *The New World* (2005).

And if there's one quality, besides finicky, that defines Malick, it's private. So the director was lucky to discover Smithville, a tiny Texas town still brimming with 1950s charm that allowed Malick, his crew and stars — including Brad Pitt, Sean Penn and newcomer Jessica Chastain — to move in and take over, virtually uninterrupted by the outside world.



■ While in pre-production, Malick drove through Texas at random, looking for a little community with the right feel for his 1950s Texas-set film.

■ Smithville was settled in the mid-1800s, and is about an hour's drive east of Austin, near the Colorado River.

■ The town's architecture draws from Queen Anne, Neo-classical and Victorian styles.

■ Instead of filling Smithville's streets with trailers and trucks, homes were rented to house the various departments — wardrobe, makeup, etc. Even the Smithville Historical Society vacated to make room for the film's production office.

■ Many crew members were billeted in private homes.

■ Key sections of the set were closed to traffic so that only cars from the 1950s would be seen on roads and in driveways.

■ In the late 1990s, Sandra Bullock shot *Hope Floats* in Smithville.



The Tree of Life's Brad Pitt and Jessica Chastain





January's FROST

She's gone from *Mad Men* to *X-Men*, but January Jones just can't seem to escape those stylish 1960s. There's not much wardrobe overlap, though, as she swaps swing skirts for catsuits to play mutant Emma Frost in *X-Men: First Class* ■ BY KEVIN WILLIAMSON

For January Jones, there's no groovier fashion accessory than a cape. "I finally got one," she says enthusiastically during an interview in a Beverly Hills hotel room. "I finally got a scene with a cape. With the special effects, it was hard, but I have one scene with a cape." She's not, you may have guessed, discussing her role as petulant, pampered 1960s housewife Betty Draper (turned Betty Francis) on TV's Emmy-winning *Mad Men*. Rather the subject is her much-buzzed-about costume in the JFK-era prequel *X-Men: First Class*, in which she plays telepathic, diamond-skinned femme fatale Emma Frost.

Buzzed-about because, at least going by what her character sports in the source material, in some scenes she's clad in what could charitably be described as a few Band-Aids and thigh-high boots. (Which begs the question: With an outfit like that, does she really need to be telepathic to know what men are thinking?)

"She has very little outfits," Jones says, smiling. "We did a lot of different versions; we took bits and pieces from the comic then added a '60s flair to it.... It's hard for them when I turn into diamond form for me to have a cape, I guess. It's only when I'm human can I have it."

For Jones, *X-Men: First Class* marks her highest-profile project since becoming a star and style icon on *Mad Men*.

Set in 1962 during the Cuban Missile Crisis (the same era brushed by *Mad Men's* chronology) the new movie stars James McAvoy as a youthful Professor Charles Xavier and Michael Fassbender as his frenemy Magneto, roles originated by Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellen, respectively. True to X-Men mythos, they begin the prequel as allies

until events force them to take opposing positions: Xavier becomes the Martin Luther King of mutant rights to Magneto's Malcolm X.

Jones's Emma Frost, a.k.a. the White Queen, is a member of a secret society known as the Hellfire Club, led by Kevin Bacon's Sebastian Shaw, a villain with a scheme for world domination. Rounding out the cast are Rose Byrne as Xavier's love interest, Dr. Moira MacTaggart; Nicholas Hoult as a younger version of the Beast played by Kelsey Grammer in *X-Men: The Last Stand*; Jennifer Lawrence as a teenage Mystique (the character originated by Rebecca Romijn); Caleb Landry Jones as Banshee; Lucas Till as Havok; and Jason Flemyng as Azazel, Nightcrawler's red-skinned father.

Behind the camera is Matthew Vaughn, who directed *Kick-Ass* as well as the crime thriller *Layer Cake*. Bryan Singer, who helmed the first two *X-Men* films (but wasn't involved in either *X-Men: The Last Stand* or *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*), is producing.

And while there are plans being drawn for an *X-Men 4* and *5* — as well as another Wolverine film to star Hugh Jackman — *First Class* could spawn its own sequels. Singer has already discussed further installments set in the 1970s and '80s. After all, the X-Men have been around for nearly 50 years; that means a wealth of material to exploit.

In fact, while Emma Frost was an adversary for decades, the current comics have made her an X-Man herself. That means plenty of potential character development for Jones.

The *X-Men* comics have historically used the mutant metaphor to address such social issues as prejudice and intolerance, and Jones says those themes are present in the prequel. "When I did the research and started into the back-story of where [Emma's] anger comes from, and her mistrust, and her issues with men, and everything — I was really interested in her.

"She's from a wealthy family, her father was very" CONTINUED ►



X-Men: First Class's bad mutants Emma Frost (January Jones) and Sebastian Shaw (Kevin Bacon)

THE EVOLUTION OF FROST

Emma Frost as Marvel has portrayed her over the years — from top to bottom in 1980's *Uncanny X-Men* #131, a 2003 issue of *Emma Frost*, and from 2010's *X-Men: Curse of the Mutants - Storm and Gambit* #1.



“I like her. And I don't think she's a bad guy. I think she's pro-mutant and she wants there to be a mutant population, but she doesn't trust humans, which she wouldn't, **and I don't know that I would either — especially not the CIA**”

► hard on her. It was a really, really interesting back-story that helped me a lot. I like her. And I don't think she's a bad guy. I think she's pro-mutant and she wants there to be a mutant population, but she doesn't trust humans, which she wouldn't, and I don't know that I would either — especially not the CIA.”

With *First Class* in theatres, Jones's next job is returning to *Mad Men*. After protracted contract negotiations between the studio, network and creator Matthew Weiner, it has been confirmed the show will return for three more seasons and then call it quits.

Jones, who'd never starred in a TV series before *Mad Men*, and is expecting a baby later this year, says she's not sure she'll return to TV after *Mad Men* wraps. “I don't know if I'll come across something like that again. So many things could've gone not necessarily wrong, but different. But I think by all of us taking that risk, we gambled well.”

And, she admits, she continues to be as surprised by the show's storylines as are its fans. “For television, there's no arc. There's no beginning or end. You don't know where it's going. There's a fear in that. You're not allowed to think ahead. I'm going to do this because that's going to happen. There isn't that.”

Before *Mad Men*, Jones was mostly known for roles in such movies as *American Wedding*, *Love Actually* and *We Are Marshall* — as well as for whom she was dating (Ashton Kutcher, for one). But she says stardom hasn't made her complacent.

Nor does she want to play it safe from hereon in. “I don't think I've lost that desire to take risks. I don't have that fear yet — ‘I have this, so I better be careful not to lose it.’ I don't want to be stuck in some place just because I feel safe. I don't really need very much monetarily.”

An attitude, she knows, that suits her well in Hollywood.

“Every move you make, every job you take in this town, in this industry, is a risk. Something could go horribly wrong. It's a very fickle business.” ☐

Kevin Williamson is a Calgary-based movie columnist for Sun Media



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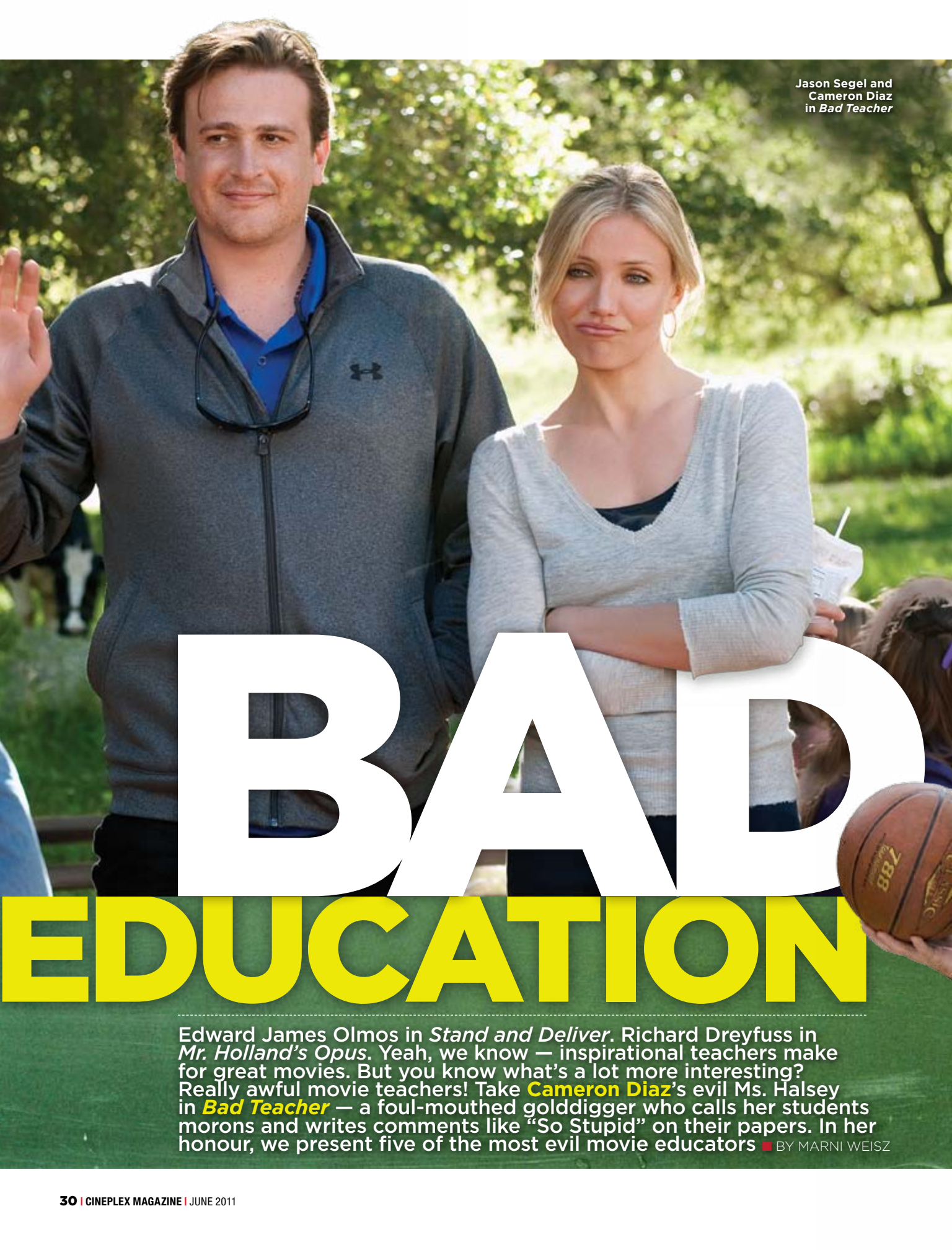
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A photograph of Jason Segel and Cameron Diaz standing outdoors in a park-like setting. Jason Segel is on the left, wearing a grey Under Armour zip-up jacket over a blue polo shirt, with sunglasses hanging from his neck. Cameron Diaz is on the right, wearing a light grey long-sleeved top. They are both looking towards the camera. In the background, there are green trees and a blurred crowd of people. A basketball is visible in the bottom right corner.

Jason Segel and
Cameron Diaz
in *Bad Teacher*

BAD

EDUCATION

Edward James Olmos in *Stand and Deliver*. Richard Dreyfuss in *Mr. Holland's Opus*. Yeah, we know — inspirational teachers make for great movies. But you know what's a lot more interesting? Really awful movie teachers! Take **Cameron Diaz's** evil Ms. Halsey in *Bad Teacher* — a foul-mouthed golddigger who calls her students morons and writes comments like "So Stupid" on their papers. In her honour, we present five of the most evil movie educators ■ BY MARNI WEISZ



Paul Gleason

Matthew Broderick

Imelda Staunton

Lisa Kudrow

Billy Bob Thornton

PAUL GLEASON AS PRINCIPAL RICHARD VERNON

The Breakfast Club (1985)

Don't you forget about him. Actor Paul Gleason died in 2006, but his performance as the arrogant principal in *The Breakfast Club* will live on as long as kids are sentenced to detention. With his wardrobe stolen from Barry Manilow's closet, his finger pointing and his barks of "What's going on in there!," principal Vernon was the catalyst that brought together a brain, an athlete, a basket case, a princess and a criminal one Saturday afternoon, and made them friends.

MATTHEW BRODERICK AS JIM MCALLISTER

Election (1999)

Yes, Tracy Flick (Reese Witherspoon) is a know-it-all with plans for world domination. But Mr. McAllister should have stayed out of it. When Tracy runs for school president, Mr. McAllister can't stand the idea of this precocious climber getting what she wants. He can't stand it so much that he manipulates a likable jock (Chris Klein) into running against her, and when that's not enough to defeat Tracy, he manipulates the election results, too.

IMELDA STAUNTON AS DOLORES UMBRIDGE

Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (2007)

As a Defence Against the Dark Arts professor, Severus Snape (Alan Rickman) kept us guessing. Good? Bad? Good at being bad? Bad at being good? Dolores Umbridge, on the other hand, is just bad. Her love of kittens doesn't fool us. She's condescending to her Dark Arts students, she encourages them to snitch on each other, and her use of the blood quill to carve messages into students' flesh — well, that's just demented.

LISA KUDROW AS MRS. GRIFFITH

Easy A (2010)

Oh, Mrs. Griffith, you're so bad we can't even like you a little. We want to, but we can't. Mrs. Griffith seems like a pretty average guidance counsellor, until we find out that she's [SPOILER ALERT] been sleeping with one of the students, gave him chlamydia, and wants our plucky protagonist Olive (Emma Stone) to take the blame for it so she can save her job and her marriage to Olive's favourite teacher (Thomas Haden Church). No way, Mrs. Griffith. No way.

BILLY BOB THORNTON AS JASPER WOODCOCK

Mr. Woodcock (2007)

Bad gym teachers are a special breed of evil. They zero in on the pudgy and the out-of-shape and deliver a specific brand of corporal/psychological punishment. Think of Jasper Woodcock, who's so cruel to young John Farley, calling him "fat" and a "loser" and throwing dodge balls at his head, that Farley grows up to be a self-help author (Seann William Scott) just to soothe his wounds — which are ripped open when Mr. Woodcock starts dating his mom.

DON'T MISS THE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH **BAD TEACHER** STAR CAMERON DIAZ IN THIS MONTH'S CINEPLEX PRE-SHOW

MIDNIGHT IN PARIS
HITS THEATRES JUNE 3RD



OWEN WILSON'S SECOND ACT

Four years after some very dark days, Owen Wilson's life is full again. Here he talks about his baby boy, the power of the *Cars* franchise and getting "gentle" direction from Woody Allen on the set of *Midnight in Paris* ■ BY BOB STRAUSS

Is Owen Wilson acting any different? Doesn't seem like it. As he slowly works his way back into the spotlight after a 2007 suicide attempt, the actor-writer appears to be as mellow, spontaneous and off-the-wall as he's ever been.

There's a hint of wariness, though, during a Los Angeles interview early this year. He's not going to address the incident, and has walked out of interviews when the subject has come up. That tension is more than balanced out, however, by a deeper sense of contentment than he gave off in the days when he was one of Hollywood's most enviable operators. He was the winning Wilson brother, who repeatedly scored commercially and sometimes even artistically, as well as with all the women he could possibly want.

Cliché as it is to say, fatherhood does things to a guy. But as pleased as he clearly is to be a parent, the man who once happily accepted the nickname Butterscotch Stallion hints he's not completely settled yet.

"Wonderful as it's been, it hasn't entirely changed my life," Wilson, 42, cautions. "But having your first child is a pretty amazing thing. The baby was born January 14th. It's a boy, Robert Ford Wilson."

No word yet on any wedding plans for Wilson and the boy's mother, Jade Duell. As for the comic actor's professional re-emergence, it's definitely at full throttle. This month, Wilson can be seen headlining Woody Allen's romantic comedy *Midnight in Paris*, and heard reprising what is arguably the most popular character of his career, Lightning McQueen, the talking sports car in Pixar Animation's

souped-up, internationally flavoured sequel *Cars 2*.

On this lap of the emerging franchise, rather than hang out in a desert junkyard full of clunkers, McQueen hits the international Grand Prix circuit and finds foreign intrigue in Europe and Japan. That should provide Pixar with ample new models for toys, games, clothing, you name it — the original *Cars* is one of the top merchandise generators of any movie, earning more than \$8-billion (U.S.) in retail sales.

We had to ask Wilson if his son's middle name is some expression of gratitude to the auto industry that has indirectly enriched his life.

"No," he laughs. "And there's no 'Ford' in the family, I just think it sounds cool. My brothers [actors Andrew, older, and Luke, younger] and I all have my mom's maiden name, Cunningham, for our middle names, which can be kind of boring. So I wanted him to have something different, and Ford is as American a name as I could come up with."

When we half-joked that young Robert Ford would, at the very least, never want for *Cars* stuff, Wilson didn't immediately get it.

"Having, like, lots of cars and things?" he says at first. "Oh, you mean from the movie *Cars*. Yeah, a lot of swag, I'm sure, when he's of age." This, in fact, got Wilson thinking about how big an example of all-American, mass-market capitalism his little old voiceover job has become.

"Pixar sure knows how to make money off of their movies," he says. "They're even building a big *Cars* attraction at Disneyland. I've noticed that kids have bed sheets, backpacks, all this *Cars* stuff. I guess it's like what Lucas did with *Star Wars* toys, they've really thought it out."

Is he pleased that he'll live on, sort of, in children's CONTINUED ►



THIS PICTURE: Woody Allen (left) and Owen Wilson on the *Midnight in Paris* set **BELOW:** Wilson with Rachel McAdams

“A lot of comedy writers are real specific about how they want to hear a line,” says Wilson. **“I tend to like that, but Woody is more kind of gentle with his actors”**



DID YA KNOW?

Approximately one out of every two boys in the U.S. between ages five and 13 owns at least one *Cars* T-shirt.



▶ imaginations for generations because of it? “It doesn’t make me feel extra immortal or anything, no,” he says with a shrug. “I feel more like, I should’ve gotten a better deal!”

He won’t make a fortune from *Midnight in Paris*, either; Allen’s movies are notorious for being jobs one takes for cachet, not cash. In this one, Wilson plays a writer whose pre-wedding jitters play out under the City of Lights’ influence.

“My character is in Paris with his fiancée [played by Wilson’s *Wedding Crashers* co-star Rachel McAdams] and her parents,” he explains. “I’m kind of wishing that I’ve always lived in Paris like a real writer is supposed to, a novelist as opposed to a screenwriter.”

Wilson got his start as the co-writer and sometimes star of his University of Texas pal Wes Anderson’s quirky, meticulously crafted independent films (*Bottle Rocket*, *Rushmore*, *The Royal Tenenbaums*). Other frequent collaborators include Ben Stiller and Jackie Chan — who, like Anderson, both have reputations as perfectionists.

Despite writing his own scripts and having long insisted on complete creative freedom, it turns out Allen was a different kind of filmmaker.

“A lot of comedy writers are real specific about how they want to hear a line,” Wilson notes. “I tend to like that, but Woody is more kind of gentle with his actors. He wants it in a certain way, but there isn’t a lot of direction in terms of line readings.”

Allen even rewrote some of *Midnight in Paris* to accommodate

Wilson’s looser, more laid-back comic rhythms, so different from the Woodman’s own neurotic, New York-paced approach.

But that leaves the question: Will we see a more grounded, mature Owen Wilson on screens anytime soon?


His previous two films, *Hall Pass* and *How Do You Know*, may have shown us somewhat older variations on the pleasure-seeking manboy that has long been Wilson’s specialty. But is he prepared to portray the growth and reflection events of the past several years have, one hopes, led to in real life?

Coming out this fall is *The Big Year*, directed by David Frankel. The movie sure sounds like a comedy; Wilson plays a bird-watcher — funny interest, right? — and the cast includes Steve Martin, Jack Black, Jim Parsons from TV’s *Big Bang Theory* and *Community*’s Joel McHale. The last time Frankel and Wilson worked together was the somewhat serious, but decidedly not deep, *Marley & Me*. Frankel also made the sharp and sophisticated *The Devil Wears Prada*, though, so who knows?

“It’s not a big comedy at all,” Wilson insists. “The movie becomes a metaphor for what’s happening in these guys’ lives.”

Perhaps it’ll be a turning point for an actor whose life needed a change in a big way. ☐

Bob Strauss lives in L.A. where he writes about movies and filmmakers.



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He's Super

This is it. **Ryan Reynolds'** chance to enter the movie-star stratosphere. Will he soar as DC superhero Green Lantern, or return to Earth a lowly human?

■ BY MATHIEU CHANTELOIS



The last thing you expect Ryan Reynolds to do while promoting the macho summer blockbuster *Green Lantern* is tell you a fairy tale. But when asked about the audition process, the 34-year-old Vancouver native says, “There was a Cinderella element to it.”

In Reynolds’ final audition, a screen test, the production team put a mask over his face. It couldn’t have fit any better.

“The FX house has this thing called life casts that you can build a prosthetic around,” Reynolds explains during one of several press conferences to promote the film. “The FX house that was asked to make the Green Lantern mask had no idea who was auditioning, but they arbitrarily chose my head from their vast catalogue of heads. So, when I showed up, my mask fit a little better than someone else’s would have fit.”

And that’s how Ryan Reynolds became the Green Lantern.

The film marks the first time the DC comic book character has been given the live-action, big-screen treatment — and in 3D, no less.

If you’re not familiar with the comic, here’s what you need to know: The Green Lantern Corps is a small yet powerful intergalactic force fighting for peace all over the universe, and Reynolds’ character, a cocky test pilot named Hal Jordan, is the Corps’ first human member. Each member possesses both a ring and a lantern that gives them tremendous power, but they require a strong will to use the tools correctly.

In the film, when a new villain named Parallax threatens the universe, Jordan is called into duty. With the support of his childhood sweetheart (Blake Lively), he has to fight his own fears before he can put his life on the line to fight the enemy.

“I come from a family of cops, and all of them share that understanding that they put their lives on the line. They...deal with that sense of risk every day, so I got to see that up close,” says Reynolds.

In the comic books, the action takes place mostly on Earth and on a planet called Oa. So how much of the movie will be located here versus there? “You’re after ratios? I’d say 50/50. Fifty on Earth, 50 on

“The suit, in the mythology of the film, is made of energy,” explains Reynolds. **“It’s not made of spandex or luge-wear”**

Oa, and 50 on other stuff,” says Reynolds. “My math’s terrible. I’m an actor, giving deliciously delightful performances in the likes of *Just Friends*, *The Amityville Horror*, *Definitely, Maybe*, *Blade: Trinity* and *Smokin’ Aces*.”

Reynolds knows he’s often defined by his roles in B-list movies, including those mentioned above, but the past couple of years have brought increasing success. First he had a box-office hit with the 2009 Sandra Bullock rom-com *The Proposal*, and then he scored critically with last year’s experimental drama *Buried*. Off-screen, he’s almost as famous for the women in his life. He was engaged to singer Alanis Morissette in the mid-2000s and was married to actor Scarlett Johansson for two years before they split late last year.

But *Green Lantern* is his chance to join the likes of Christian Bale, Daniel Craig and Robert Downey Jr., actors whose careers were pushed to the next level with starring roles in big franchises.

“I take it as a big responsibility, just as Hal Jordan” **CONTINUED ▶**



GREEN LANTERN
HITS THEATRES
JUNE 17TH

Carol Ferris (Blake Lively)
with friend Hal Jordan
(Ryan Reynolds)
BELOW: Jordan on Oa



▶ takes the gift of receiving his ring as a big responsibility,” says Reynolds. “I’m also a fan. I want it to be good just primarily from that level. It’s a huge weight. It buoys you in a really big way. When I meet thousands of fans of the comic — when I realize every one of them can recite the Lantern Corps oath: ‘In brightest day, in blackest night...’ — I know how important this is to people.”

As for Reynolds’ own take on the character, he says it’s about a lot more than a magic ring and lantern. “This guy has a distinct starting point. He’s a bit of a fractured human being, having seen his father die. Later in life, he’s cocky and aimless. It’s this extraordinary power bestowed on him that sets him on a humbling path,” offers Reynolds.

“For me, the most interesting aspect of him was that transformation. It was having this guy who is arrogant, cocky and reckless and could be given a higher calling and really rise to that purpose and, in that process, find it humbling. I thought that was really, really interesting.”

The act of making *Green Lantern* had its own humbling moments for Reynolds. For eight months, the actor worked on a hot New Orleans set, spending much of his time in a slinky, gray, one-piece bodysuit. Certainly not the most empowering of outfits. “People remind you pretty quickly of how stupid you look walking across the parking lot or ordering a cappuccino. That’s always an odd feeling,” admits Reynolds.

“The suit, in the mythology of the film, is made of energy. It’s not made of spandex or luge-wear,” explains the actor. In fact, none of his revealing unitard will be seen in the movie; it’s a motion-capture suit, over which the Green Lantern’s costume will be digitally layered in post-production.

Still, it was important that the body the suit captured was fit and trim, so Reynolds put in the necessary gym time. “I’m not one of those actors who romanticizes his trials working out and brags that he can bench press a panda now,” says Reynolds. “[Director] Martin Campbell was more dangerous than the training. He pushes you so hard on the set that he beats you up. I came away with a separated shoulder and a torn abdominal muscle.”

Not only did Reynolds have to imagine what his costume would look like, he also had to imagine much of the set. Most of the movie was shot in front of a blue screen, and Reynolds wasn’t about to

demand faux scenery be built just so he could conceptualize the environment.

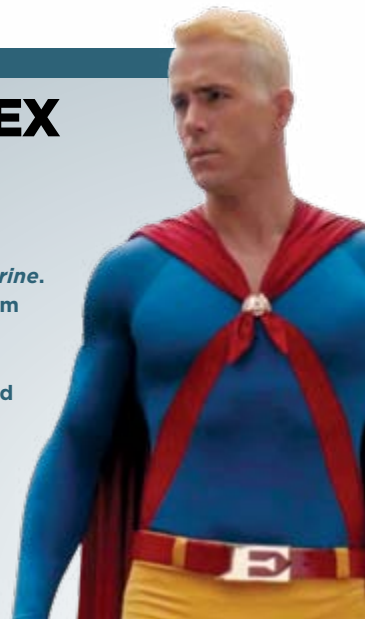
“I would have felt like an a--hole asking them to build a life-size version of Oa with an 18-storey power battery in the middle of it. And there’s the budget. So you really have to embrace the make-believe and pretend,” says the actor.

Reynolds better believe in *Green Lantern*; the sequel has already been given the green light. “I’m totally game for a second film,” he says. “And a third. I’m all about making many sequels!” ☑

Mathieu Chantelois is the deputy editor of Cineplex Magazine’s French counterpart, Le magazine Cineplex.

HERO COMPLEX

Most people think Green Lantern is Ryan Reynolds’ third big-screen superhero, after Hannibal King in *Blade: Trinity*, and Wade Wilson/Deadpool in *X-Men Origins: Wolverine*. But that’s because very few saw him in the 2009 indie pic *Paper Man*. The festival-circuit dramedy cast Jeff Daniels as a blocked writer and Reynolds as his imaginary — and very blond — superhero pal, Captain Excellent. —MW



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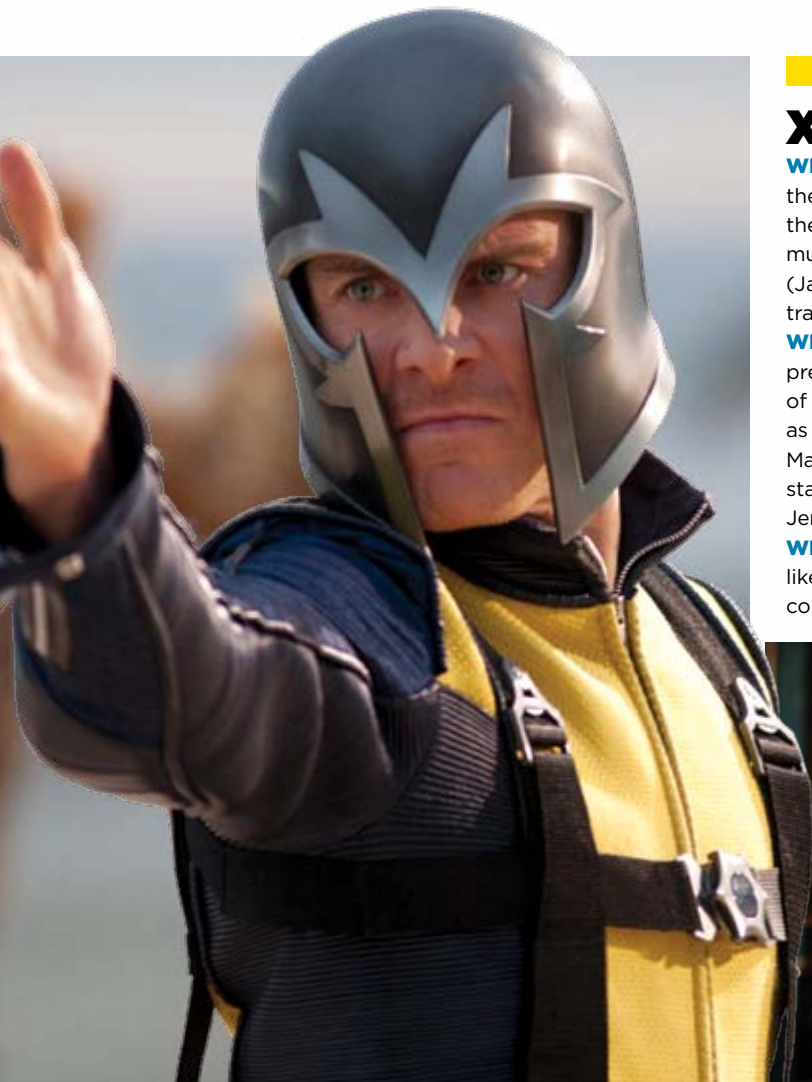
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SUMMER OF SEQUELS

Some of the biggest franchises in movie history continue, conclude or reboot this summer. We bring you up to speed on what's happened so far, and what's yet to come

■ BY INGRID RANDOJA





X-Men: First Class JUNE 3

WHERE WE LEFT OFF: Better yet, where do we begin? Set in the stylish early '60s, this prequel to the *X-Men* films serves as the ultimate origins tale, chronicling the coming-out of mutants and showing us how one-time friends Charles Xavier (James McAvoy) and Erik Lehnsherr (Michael Fassbender) transformed into enemies Professor X and Magneto.

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT: Everybody's out. No actors from the previous *X-Men* films are to be found — although there was talk of bringing Patrick Stewart and Ian McKellen back for cameos as Professor X and Magneto respectively, but director Matthew Vaughn decided against it. Instead we've got dishy stars Fassbender, McAvoy, January Jones, Rose Byrne and Jennifer Lawrence.

WHAT'S NEW: The era. With sets and wardrobe that look like they were borrowed from *Mad Men*, the *X-Men* franchise completely reinvents itself by going back to its roots.



THIS PICTURE:
James McAvoy
as Charles Xavier
TOP LEFT:
Michael Fassbender
as Magneto



Cars 2 JUNE 24

WHERE WE LEFT OFF: *Cars* ends with our hero race car Lightning McQueen (Owen Wilson) shunning victory to help disabled car The King cross the finish line of the Piston Cup race. In the sequel, McQueen and his team enter the inaugural World Grand Prix where tow truck Mater (Larry the Cable Guy) is mistaken for a spy.

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT: The film's global setting allows European actors such as Michael Caine, Vanessa Redgrave, Emily Mortimer and Eddie Izzard to get behind the mic. But we won't be hearing the voices of Paul Newman (Doc Hudson), George Carlin (Fillmore) or Pixar director Joe Ranft (Red), as all have passed away since appearing in the first film.

WHAT'S NEW: Intrigue. *Cars 2* is really an animated spy flick. Director John Lasseter is clear on the subject — "This is not a parody of a spy movie, this is a spy movie. This is a great spy movie." And he can't go wrong casting Caine as British spy car Finn McMissile.

CONTINUED ▶

► Transformers: Dark of the Moon

JULY 1

WHERE WE LEFT OFF: In the last *Transformers* film, *Revenge of the Fallen*, the Autobots defeated the Decepticons in another massive fight that cemented the alliance between humans and Autobots. In the third film, an ancient Cybertronian ship is found on the moon and both Decepticons and Autobots race to discover its secrets.

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT: British Victoria's Secret model Rosie Huntington-Whiteley replaces Megan Fox as Sam's (Shia LaBeouf) love interest. Fox says it was her decision not to return, while Hollywood insiders say she was fired. Either way, her comments comparing director Michael Bay to Hitler and Napoleon didn't serve her well.

WHAT'S NEW: 3D. *Dark of the Moon's* action scenes were shot in 3D and when Bay screened 20 minutes of the film for select media they said it looked friggin' awesome.



Shia LaBeouf and Rosie Huntington-Whiteley on the run from bad robots



Say goodbye to *Harry Potter* all-stars Daniel Radcliffe (left), Emma Watson and Rupert Grint

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part 2

JULY 15

WHERE WE LEFT OFF: *Part 1* ended with Dobby's death (sniff) and Voldemort breaking into Dumbledore's grave and seizing the all-powerful Elder Wand from his cold grasp, thus setting up the inevitable tête-à-tête between Voldy and Harry.

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT: Series stalwarts — Jim Broadbent (Horace Slughorn), Gary Oldman (Sirius Black), Maggie Smith (Professor McGonagall) and Emma Thompson (Professor Trelawney) — who weren't in *Part 1* make their curtain calls in the finale.

WHAT'S NEW: Digital Hogwarts. Since a reported three-quarters of the film covers the Battle of Hogwarts, the filmmakers spent two years mapping out a digital Hogwarts to augment the physical set. This means the scope of the school widens — with never before seen buildings, nooks and crannies — as Hogwarts becomes a large-scale war zone.



WETA proves turning Andy Serkis into Caesar the ape is no monkey business

Rise of the Planet of the Apes AUGUST 5

WHERE WE LEFT OFF: Okay, this is kinda confusing. The original *Planet of the Apes* (1968) and its sequel, *Beneath the Planet of the Apes* (1970), found human astronauts dispatched to Earth's future where apes rule. The next three films, *Escape from the Planet of the Apes* (1971), *Conquest of the Planet of the Apes* (1972) and *Battle for the Planet of the Apes* (1973) go back in time to chart how the whole ape takeover thing happens. This new reboot merges elements of *Escape* and *Conquest* to tell the story of how a genetically altered ape named Caesar (Andy Serkis) leads an ape revolution.

WHO'S IN, WHO'S OUT: James Franco, Freida Pinto and Tom Felton lead this generation's *Ape* franchise. All of the original franchise stars — Charlton Heston, Roddy McDowall, Kim Hunter, Ricardo Montalban — are no longer with us.

WHAT'S NEW: WETA Digital apes. Gone are the original franchise's ape masks that looked like furry shag rugs. Acclaimed special effects house WETA Digital employs high-tech visuals to create super-realistic apes, and once again the talented Serkis (Gollum, King Kong) dons a motion-capture contraption to bring a sentient non-human to life.

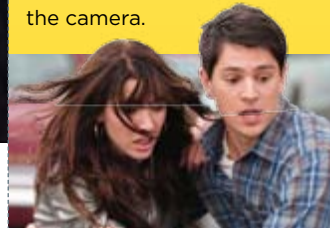
BUT WAIT,
**THERE'S
MORE!**



Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World

AUGUST 19

Jessica Alba stars as a retired spy who leads two new spy kids (Rowan Blanchard and Mason Cook) against a villain (Jeremy Piven) who can end time. Antonio Banderas and the now grown-up original spy kids — Alexa Vega and Daryl Sabara — return to lend a hand, while Robert Rodriguez is back behind the camera.



Final Destination 5

AUGUST 26

All the kids are new in this latest installment of the seemingly indestructible series about young people who survive a catastrophe only to be hunted down by Death. This time out the big catastrophe is the collapse of a suspension bridge.



Who Are Those Guys?

Some call it the best buddy movie, best Western and best teaming of big-name talent Hollywood ever produced.

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969) brought stars Robert Redford (left) and Paul Newman (right) together for the first time (they reunited for 1973's *The Sting*) for an action-packed tale of two charming outlaws who crave the thrill of the heist despite knowing it'll cost them in the end.

Redford said their onscreen relationship was defined by "irreverence, playing on the other's flaws for fun, one-upmanship — but always with an underlying affection." It's true, and it's why this bromantic Western stands the test of time. —/R

Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid screens as part of Cineplex's Classic Film Series on June 15th and 26th. Go to Cineplex.com/events for times and locations.

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CASTING CALL

BY INGRID RANDOJA



TRAVOLTA & THURMAN REUNITE

Pulp Fiction and *Be Cool* co-stars **John Travolta** and **Uma Thurman** reunite for director **Oliver Stone**'s crime pic *Savages*, which starts shooting this month. *Savages* finds two pot dealers (**Aaron Johnson** and **Taylor Kitsch**) rescuing their shared girlfriend (**Blake Lively**) who's been kidnapped by a Mexican drug cartel lead by **Salma Hayek**. Thurman plays Lively's mother, while Travolta is a DEA agent.



WHAT'S GOING ON WITH...

The Lone Ranger

The sidekick is set, now what about the masked hero? The big-screen adaptation of the 1950s TV series *The Lone Ranger* is set to go with **Jerry Bruckheimer** producing, **Gore Verbinski** (*Rango*) directing and **Johnny Depp** starring as American Native scout Tonto — Depp is one-eighth Cherokee. But the filmmakers are still looking for an actor to play the Lone Ranger. **George Clooney** and **Ryan Gosling** were rumoured for the role, but both are out. All we know is that whoever lands the part must have enough screen presence to compete with the charismatic Depp.



CRUISE IS CAUGHT

Tom Cruise really is stretching his wings. Not only is he belting out rock tunes in the hair-band musical *Rock of Ages* (now filming in Miami), but he'll play a not-so-perfect politician caught having an affair in an untitled drama by screenwriter **Dan Fogelman** (*Crazy, Stupid, Love.*). The untitled flick sees Cruise's character return to his hometown to rebuild his ruined life. No word on Cruise's co-stars or the film's director.



FIELD IN BLOOM

It's been eight years since **Sally Field** starred in a major pic (*Legally Blonde 2: Red, White & Blonde*), but the two-time Oscar winner returns to the big screen in a big way. She'll play Aunt May in 2012's *The Amazing Spider-Man*, and she's been cast as Mary Todd Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's (**Daniel Day Lewis**) wife, in **Steven Spielberg**'s upcoming Lincoln bio-pic.



FISHER GOES HOME

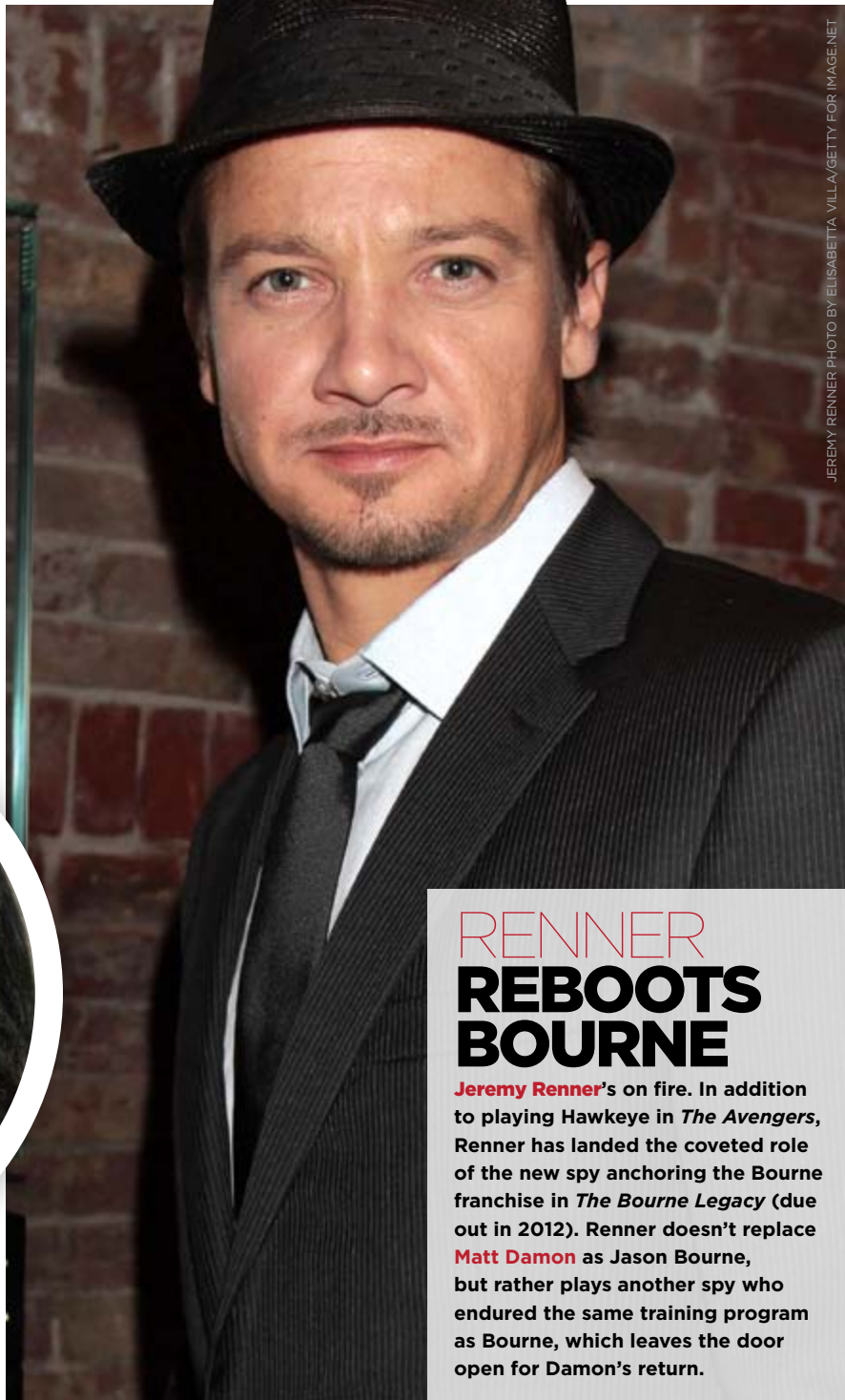
Isla Fisher returns to her native Australia in August to shoot *The Great Gatsby* alongside co-stars **Leonardo DiCaprio**, **Carey Mulligan** and **Tobey Maguire**. Fisher will play Myrtle Wilson, Tom Buchanan's unstable mistress in director **Baz Luhrmann**'s adaptation of the F. Scott Fitzgerald novel.



FRESH FACE ZOË KRAVITZ

You just knew the daughter of rocker **Lenny Kravitz** and actor **Lisa Bonet** wouldn't grow up to be an accountant. The 22-year-old **Zoë Kravitz** landed her first film, 2007's *No Reservations*, while she was still in high school and has been acting steadily ever since. She looks to break out with this month's *X-Men: First Class*, playing mutant Angel Salvadore, who has wings and insect-like powers.

ZOË KRAVITZ PHOTO BY FLORIAN G. SEEFRIED/GETTY



JEREMY RENNER PHOTO BY ELISABETTA VILLA/GETTY FOR IMAGE.NET

RENNER REBOOTS BOURNE

Jeremy Renner's on fire. In addition to playing Hawkeye in *The Avengers*, Renner has landed the coveted role of the new spy anchoring the Bourne franchise in *The Bourne Legacy* (due out in 2012). Renner doesn't replace **Matt Damon** as Jason Bourne, but rather plays another spy who endured the same training program as Bourne, which leaves the door open for Damon's return.

ALSO IN THE WORKS ▶ **Jake Gyllenhaal** and **Michael Peña** team up for the cop drama *End of Watch*. ▶ **Kate Beckinsale** will likely portray Lori (originally played by **Sharon Stone**) in the *Total Recall* remake. ▶ *The Hunger Games* adds **Elizabeth Banks** to its growing cast list. ▶ **Ian Holm** will, indeed, be back to play the aged Bilbo Baggins in *The Hobbit*.

AT HOME



June's BEST DVD AND BLU-RAY

TRUE GRIT

JUNE 7

There's a moment halfway through *True Grit* where you suddenly remember this is a **Coen Brothers** movie. It involves fingers and a knife, and if you've seen the movie, you know. If not, make time for this adaptation of the **Charles Portis** novel about a stubborn girl (**Hailee Steinfeld**) who hires a tough old marshal (**Jeff Bridges**, Oscar nominated) to track down the man who killed her daddy. Bonus material includes features on 1880s wardrobe, guns and recreating Fort Smith.



THE COMPANY MEN

JUNE 7

When his corporation downsizes, Bobby Walker (**Ben Affleck**) loses his high-paying executive position. Unemployed for the first time in his life, he takes a construction job with his brother-in-law (**Kevin Costner**) while trying to figure out what's really important in life. (Ten points if you can figure out what it is!)



JUST GO WITH IT

JUNE 7

Rather than come clean about a lie, a plastic surgeon (**Adam Sandler**) asks his assistant (**Jennifer Aniston**) to pretend to be his estranged wife so that he can continue to court a new woman (**Brooklyn Decker**) who thinks he's going through a divorce. Loosely based on a French stage farce, believe it or not.



ANOTHER YEAR

JUNE 7

There's always one couple in every group of friends — you know, the one that's happy. In British director **Mike Leigh's** latest that happy couple is Tom (**Jim Broadbent**) and Gerri (**Ruth Sheen**). And their friends and family circle around just hoping some of that success and stability will rub off. Bonus material includes a feature on "The Mike Leigh Method."

Something Special

THE LORD OF THE RINGS: THE MOTION PICTURE TRILOGY BLU-RAY SET

JUNE 28

Yes, we realize everything on *The Lord of the Rings: The Motion Picture Trilogy* Blu-ray set came out on the DVD version. But *Lord of the Rings* completists (and there are many) must have it in Blu-ray! For \$123 you get extended Blu-ray versions of all three films, and more than 26 hours of special features, some on Blu-ray and some on DVD.





THE ADJUSTMENT BUREAU

JUNE 21

Sci-fi and political thriller intersect in this film about a politician (**Matt Damon**) who falls for a dancer (**Emily Blunt**) after a chance encounter in a men's washroom. But mysterious men in fedoras are bent on ending that romance.

THE EAGLE

JUNE 21

An epic story, told without an epic budget, *The Eagle* stars **Channing Tatum** as a Roman centurion who treks from England to Scotland in search of a legion of Roman soldiers who went missing decades before. Why? His dad was in charge of said legion.

CEDAR RAPIDS

JUNE 21

When Brown Valley, Wisconsin, is your home, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is the epitome of big-city adventure. **Ed Helms** plays an insurance agent in Cedar Rapids for a convention, who finds staying out of trouble there is as hard as staying out of trouble in Vegas.



BARNEY'S VERSION

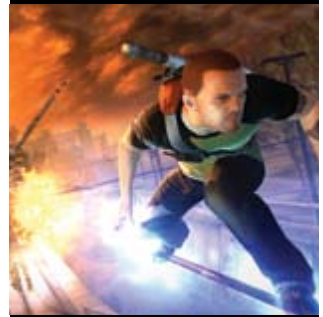
JUNE 28

We like to think of *Barney's Version* — winner of six Genies — as a great mystery movie. The mystery being why three gorgeous women (of varying sanity) all agree to marry shlubby, middling TV producer Barney Panofsky (**Paul Giamatti**). The DVD features an interview with the late **Mordecai Richler**, who wrote the novel on which the film is based.

MORE MOVIES ▶ **SANCTUM** (JUNE 7) ▶ **BIG MOMMAS: LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON** (JUNE 14)
▶ **HAPPY THANK YOU MORE PLEASE** (JUNE 21) ▶ **SEASON OF THE WITCH** (JUNE 28)
▶ **THE WARRIOR'S WAY** (JUNE 28) ▶ **BEASTLY** (JUNE 28)

Games

Why We Love...



INFAMOUS 2

JUNE 7

(PS3)

Any game that takes place in New Orleans — or, in this case, an imitation of New Orleans called New Marais — has already piqued our interest. But with user-generated content being a big part of Cole McGrath's battle against the Beast this time around, we can almost taste the gumbo.



DUKE NUKEM FOREVER

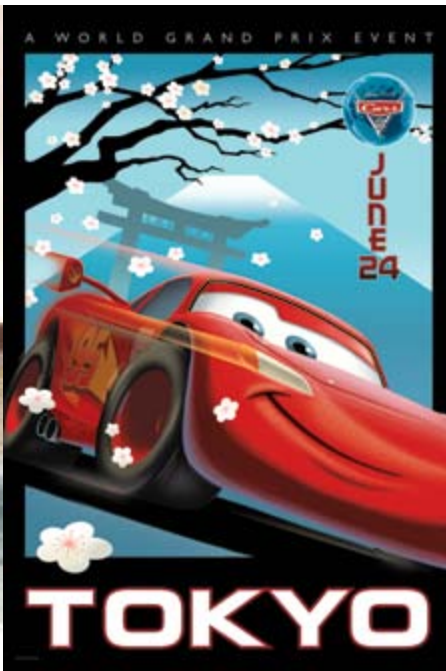
JUNE 10

(PS3, XBOX 360, PC)

In development since 1997, *Duke Nukem Forever* has become an in-joke in the gaming world because it's taken *forever* for it to come out. And yet, that in-joke (the game's won many vaporware awards) has only added to its cachet. Assuming it does come out, look for Duke to battle alien invaders bent on stealing Earth's hottest women.

BUY DVD AND BLU-RAY ONLINE AT **CINEPLEX.COM**

FINALLY...



POSTER ART

We expect no less from Pixar. When it was time to create a poster for *Cars 2* the talent at the world's best animation shop weren't about to release your typical hero smiling under a garish movie logo. They went retro. And then retro and retro again, releasing a whole series of stylish works of art that capture the sequel's international theme. —MW

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