



Frontline

Going the extra smile

Spirits of Silliness Past and Silliness to Come are upon us

It's been a tough year. Then again, they're probably all tough. But from this desk, if you can find the time and the peace of mind to sit back and read about movies and technology, books and DVDs, fashion and exotic travel, if you can kick back and spend a few hours watching TV, you're probably doing better than most of the people on the planet.

As we look down the road to 2007, that might be worth keeping in mind.

So, in this issue, the first of the year, we look back at some of the silliness and some of the less than silly happenings that made news in the world of entertainment in 2006, part of our annual pilgrimage through the past 12 months. We've edited out most of the mayhem and tragedy that infected the globe and, instead, given you something to smile about.

There will be lots of smiles in the hills around Hollywood pretty soon, Jay Stone writes, as the film industry prepares for its annual deluge of self-congratulation. Now there are almost as many awards as there are films but we can't help it; we all love a winner and we can't help but revel in the stars' reflected glory. We know it's hype, but bring it on. It's a great escape.

We're also taking you back through the year in films, a year when filmmakers took a few hits with planned blockbusters turning out to be simply busts, while a website full of video clips called YouTube sold for more than a billion dollars.

If times are changing in Hollywood, they might be standing still elsewhere. A musical on Bob Dylan from Twyla Tharp played Broadway, albeit briefly, and a coffee-table book of vintage Rolling Stones photos is selling, well, like tickets to a Stones concert.

But time is marching on, at least at the cosmetics counter, as Bill Brownstein writes. Real men are moisturizing, he says, and they're doing it with alacrity. So how bad can times be? It might be winter outside in more ways than one, but inside these pages, we're doing our best to keep you warm.

David Sherman
Editor

Readers speak

Can a good script make a bad actor better? Tell us by logging on to our website: movieentertainment.ca

Answer to last month's question

Can a good actor make a bad script better?

55% YES 45% NO

