

Jay Stone

Keys to secret worlds



CATCH AND RELEASE: JENNIFER GARNER (WEARING SUNGLASSES) GETS TO KNOW DEAD HUSBAND.

Alpha Dog

Young kids get into trouble with the law over using drugs, but this isn't your average trouble and these aren't your typical young kids. It's based on the life of Jesse James Hollywood (here known as Johnny Truelove), the drug dealer who was the youngest man ever to make it to the FBI's most-wanted list, and it's a chance to see the acting chops of Justin Timberlake, which is almost as good a name as Johnny Truelove, come to think of it. (mid-month)

The Amateurs

Jeff Bridges stars in this comedy, as a guy going through a mid-life crisis who rallies his pals in a small town to make an adult film. You know: one of those movies about s-e-x. (mid-month)

Arthur and the Invisibles

In this animated movie from Luc Besson, a 10-year-old boy trying to save his grandfather's house goes looking for a hidden treasure in the land of the tiny Minimoy, who are only a millimetre tall. Stay away from Johnny Truelove, guys, or he might snort you. (mid-month)

Balls of Fury

In the spirit of Dodge Ball – which we didn't realize even had a spirit until now – comes this comedy about a Ping-Pong champion recruited by the government to infiltrate an underworld table-tennis tournament. (late month)

Breaking and Entering

In Anthony Minghella's love drama, Jude Law is a landscape architect who falls under the spell of a Serbian immigrant, played by the unexpected Juliette Binoche. (mid-month)

Catch and Release

Jennifer Garner stars in this romantic comedy about a widow who begins to learn the secrets her dead husband kept from her. We're not sure what these are, because he has kept them from us as well, but Kevin Smith, the Silent Bob of his own films, co-stars in a role that permits him to speak. (late month)

The Cleaner

Two hitmen take the contract to murder a mob boss. We're not sure exactly what happens next, except that this is frequently a bad idea. (early month)



ARTHUR AND THE INVISIBLES: FREDDIE HIGHMORE OPENS THE DOOR.

june

09

After a fierce bidding war by media outlets for baby **Shiloh Nouvel's** first photos, **Brangelina** announce they will donate the proceeds from the sale to charity.

10

Homemade musical **The Drowsy Chaperone** takes home five Tony Awards.

15

Dan Rather leaves CBS after 44 years, at the request of network executives.

21 & 22

Pop icon **Madonna** makes Montreal the only Canadian stop on her Confessions on a Dancefloor world tour.

25

Nicole Kidman and country crooner **Keith Urban** tie the knot in Fiji.

26

Aaron Spelling, innovative producer of classics like *Charlie's Angels*, *Love Boat*, and *Beverly Hills 90210*, dies at 83.

27

Star Jones ruffles big bird **Barbara Walters'** feathers with her on-air announcement that she is leaving *The View*.

30

Cirque du Soleil's Beatles show *Love* opens in Las Vegas.

Most Expensive City in the World: Moscow (mercerr.com); **Worst Song Ever:** We Built This City by Starship (blender.com); **Top Grossing Music Festival in the World:** Bonnaroo Music & Arts Festival (Billboard); **Most Inspiring American Film:** It's a Wonderful Life (AFI); **Most Played Song in Pop Radio History:** Shakira's Hips Don't Lie (Nielsen Broadcast Data Systems)



Saeed Adyani (B)

PRIDE: TERENCE HOWARD TOSSES A LIFE PRESERVER OR TWO.

Epic Movie

From the people who brought you Date Movie, a send-up of, ahem, epic movies. Have they seen Balls of Fury? (late month)

Freedom Writers

The dedicated teacher, the cynical students, the violent and dangerous neighbourhood. No, you haven't seen it before, because this is based on a true story set among interracial gang warfare after the L.A. riots. Hilary Swank plays the teacher. (mid-month)

Happily N'Ever After

In this animated film, the bad people are about to take over Fairy Tale Land when their leader decides to become a good person. Are you listening, Johnny Truelove? Voices include Sigourney Weaver and Sarah Michelle Geller. (early month)



Lionsgate

HAPPILY N'EVER AFTER: (NOT) A FAIRY TALE ENDING.



Jurgen Olczyk
PERFUME: BEN WHISHAW TAKES THE MEASURE OF RACHEL HURD-WOOD.

The Last Legion

Colin Firth and Ben Kingsley star in this epic set at the time of the collapse of the Roman Empire, when the 12-year-old emperor Romulus Augustus – captured and held prisoner on the island of Capri – finds the enchanted sword of Caesar and rallies the legions to retake his city. Not sure what happens after that. Anyone heard from the Roman Empire lately? (mid-month)

Pan's Labyrinth

Guillermo del Toro's extraordinary magic realism fantasy is the story of a young girl who lives with her mother and adoptive father, a fascist soldier during the Spanish Civil War, and has a secret life with a magical creature that lives in a nearby labyrinth. Oh yeah. That movie. (late month)

Walt Disney

Word for word

Now that I'm getting a little bit older, the bones are creaking and the Achilles tendons don't work the way they should. I don't approach everything with the same intensity that I used to.

Russell Crowe, 42, confesses he's too worn to perform dangerous stunts.

Meanwhile: Bruce Willis, 51, is making a fourth Die Hard movie; Harrison Ford, 64, is starring in a fourth Indiana Jones and Sylvester Stallone, 60, will be working on the sixth Rocky movie.

Pathfinder

The Vikings battle a North American tribe, then flee before they can take a young boy with him, a young boy who will grow up to become the ultimate warrior in a battle that will change history, if not write it. (mid-month)

Perfume

A story of murder, obsession and smelling good, set in 18th-century France, which specialized in two of them. Young British actor Ben Whishaw stars as the fictional character whose nose for what constitutes a pleasant aroma, leads him on an obsessive hunt for the scent of young womanhood. (early month)

Pride

Stories about the redemptive powers of football having been exhausted, this Tom Arnold drama tells the story about a man who starts a swim team for troubled youths. No, that's not what the breaststroke means, Jenkins! (mid-month)

Stomp the Yard

Set in the high-pressure world of step-show competitions – another of the high-pressure worlds to which the movies introduce us – this is the story of a street dancer from Los Angeles whose hot moves are highly coveted by competing university fraternities. (mid-month)

Zodiac

David Fincher (Seven, Fight Club) directs this thriller based on the true story of the serial killer who terrorized San Francisco. The cast includes Jake Gyllenhaal, Mark Ruffalo and Robert Downey Jr. (TBA)

(Dates subject to change by studio)

Jay Stone is the Ottawa-based national movie writer for CanWest News Service.

This hero's no Size Zero

Hayley Juhl

Women of a certain size – of all sizes – love America Ferrera as awkward, chunky, bespectacled Ugly Betty on ABC, and there's even talk of an uprising.

"I never knew I was fat until I started acting," Ferrerafan.com quotes the 22-year-old Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants co-star as saying. The site is mostly pleas for artwork and music videos. Meanwhile, the gallery is extensive – 2,997 screen grabs just of the Betty premiere – and there are biography and factoid links.

Her official site (www.americaferrera.biz/) reads like a series of press releases, but it's got an active forum – and most of the entries are not in "omg i luv all ur performances ur such a good actress" netspeak.

The Ugly Betty Blog (<http://uglybettyblog.com>) has recaps and reviews, but the meatiest bit of any blog is in the comments, like this choice slice: "You know in this life sometimes it is hard for the little people like Betty to really see her or his potential. ... I feel it is obvious that the little ugly poor people may one day rise."



Mark Mainz/Getty Images

GOD BLESS AMERICA FERRERA.