

Woody

Allen's 'Hannah' accessible

Paul Hogan, the old croc man himself, surfaces in the video stores as "Crocodile Dundee." Hogan inspired Americans to say "G'day" and "slip a little shrimp on the barbie."

If you consider the lines were uttered by Hogan in a commercial for the Australian Tourist Commission, we're down to searching for one memorable line in 90 minutes' worth of movie dialogue.

Hogan possesses a certain rough charm that makes you want to like this movie against your better judgment. Too bad the movie's saddled with a collection of gags that have been used, abused and discarded by others.

There's the triumph over the mugger gag with Australian outdoorsman Dundee pulling out a blade slightly smaller than a miniature to match the bad guy's slotted. To quote an old college prof of mine, "Fred would have had a lot to say about that."

Dundee makes his initial appearance in the movie logging a stuffed crocodile into a hole-in-the-wall bar

second runs



Louise Okrutsky

and ordering a drink for himself and the future piece of luggage.

OUR DAUNTLESS Aussie falls for Sue Charlton (Linda Kozlowski), the reporter who interviews him in the outbreak for a New York newspaper and persuades him to come to the United States — at the publication's expense. Dad owns the paper, of course.

She's engaged to an editor, Richard Mason (Mark Blum), a man so insipid he makes the stuffed crocodile look intriguing. Of course, Dundee wins her and a sequel. From the start of the movie, viewers know that it's just a matter of time on both counts.

"Hannah and Her Sisters" takes a

look at the lives of three sisters, their husband, lovers and friends. It's probably the most accessible movie Woody Allen has written. Hannah (Mia Farrow) acts as the emotional center of her extended family. She puts up with bickering between her ex-vaudeville parents (Maureen O'Sullivan and Lloyd Nolan), who put her in the position of raising her two younger sisters. Hannah has just enough self-respect to prevent her from becoming the family doormat.

Her sister, Lee (Barbara Hershey), continues in a stifling relationship with a reclusive artist, Frederick (Max Von Sydow), until she becomes involved with Hannah's husband, Elliot (Michael Caine). Elliot's an act-first-think-later sort who has plenty of fleeting second thoughts about his situation. Elliot comes too close to being Caine's Alfie in middle age.

MEANWHILE THIRD sister Holly (Diane Wiest), an actress searching in vain for a job, indulges in cocaine and self-doubt. In the meantime, she uses family get-togethers to ask Hannah for loans to help her get started in a new money-making scheme to tide her over until she starts getting acting jobs. Some of the schemes come close to succeeding before Holly drops them.

Hannah's ex-husband, Mickey (Woody Allen), obsessed with his health, discovers he really has something to worry about when his doctor tells him his hearing loss may be caused by a tumor. Allen tones down his Nervous-Norris character just enough to suggest a slight mellowing.

Sure, this pyramid of suffering and self-doubt could have collapsed into a grand soap opera with intellectual pretensions. It doesn't.

These characters are people with innate dignity searching and fumbling for ways to deal with their lives. They're imperfect people an audience could care about.

Outlying areas —

a continuing story

by Ray Kosarin



'Forum' — a funny way to go

University of Michigan School of Music Musical Theater program students will present Stephen Sondheim's Tony-award winning comedy, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." Thursday through Sunday, in the Lydia Mendelssohn Theater. This is the first time since its inception in 1982 that the musical theater program has performed in Mendelssohn Theater.

According to program director Brent Wagner, the decision to stage this show at the Mendelssohn is a "step up for the program and its students."

"This growth has been stimulated by the success of two of our recent productions, the world production of 'A Wonderful Life' and last year's 'Love Life.'"

"The musical theater program at U-M is experiencing tremendous growth, both in popularity and in the talents and capabilities of its students," Wagner said. "In 1984 there were only 14 students in the program and this year, we have almost 50."

Condon. They are the successful artistic team that presented sold-out performances of "Doomsday" in 1985.

Performance schedule is as follows: 8 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 8-10, with a 2 p.m. matinee on Sunday, Oct. 11. Tickets may be purchased at the League Ticket Office, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ticket prices are \$9 and \$6 with student seating available at \$4 with I.D. For further information, call 764-0450.



Mia Farrow stars as Hannah in Woody Allen's "Hannah and Her Sisters."

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