

Sheen, Hughes shine in film version of 'Da!'

RECENT RELEASES:

"Da!" (A) (G) 102 minutes.

The best of the warm melancholia characteristic of Irish theater, Charlie (Martin Sheen) returns to Ireland for his father's funeral and "encounters" his parents via the mind. Bernard Hughes' bravura performance as Charlie's father is well worth the ticket price.

"Phantasm II" (R)

Here come the lethal spheres again. (Not yet reviewed.)

"Powaqqatsi" (G)

Further look at the contrasts of our world from Godfrey Reggio ("Koyaanisqatsi"). (Not yet reviewed.)

STILL PLAYING:

"Arthur on the Rocks 2" (PG) (a) Dudley Moore, Liza Minnelli and Sir John Gielgud do it again under Bud Yorkin's direction.

"Beetlejuice" (PG)

Michael Keaton and Geena Davis in ghost story with a twist: the ghosts are nice quiet folks and the people are noisy and pretentious.

"Big" (A) (PG) 98 minutes.

A shy 12-year-old boy's wish is granted when he wakes up one morning in a man's body. In this appealing comedy, Tom Hanks skillfully captures the innocent, childlike qualities and gestures of a 12-year-old trying to live in an adult world.

Reviewed by Cathy Guyer.

"Big Business" (A-) (PG) 95 minutes.

Mistaken identity is comedy's strong suit and that's what Bette Midler, Betty Midler, Lily Tomlin and Lily Tomlin do so well in this story of two sets of twins mixed at birth. Technically superb production although pace falters occasionally.

"Ball Durham" (A-) (R) 105 minutes.

Wonderfully wacky but slightly overdone summer in the minor leagues. Veteran catcher Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) is brought in to



Grading the movies

A+	Top marks - sure to please
A	Close behind - excellent
A-	Still in running for top honors
B+	Pretty good stuff, not perfect
B	Good
B-	Good but notable deficiencies
C+	Just a cut above average
C	Mediocre
C-	Not so hot and slipping fast
D+	The very best of the poor stuff
D	Poor
D-	It doesn't get much worse
F	Truly awful
Z	Reserved for the colossally bad
*	No ad-anced screening

steady hotshot young pitcher Nuke LaLoosh (Tim Robbins), Annie Savoy (Susan Sarandon) and Millie (Jenny Robertson), avid devotees of baseball and sex, complicate matters. Excellent music track. Film is as explicit as possible while remaining an "R".

"Colors" (F) (R) 120 minutes. Trite, racially offensive film about veteran cop (Robert Duvall) and young cop (Sean Penn) in Los Angeles battling with gangs.

"Coming to America" (B-) (R) 120 minutes.

Hollywood and sexist view of Africa but Prince Akeem (Eddie Murphy) rebels against an arranged



Powerful images, like this child waiting in front of a graffiti-filled wall in Iquitos, Peru, are seen throughout "Powaqqatsi."

marriage and visits New York City to find his own bride. The good news is Murphy plays a character instead of playing Eddie Murphy and has some touching scenes with his American girl, Lisa (Shari Headley). The bad news is, despite some funny stuff, there's too much adolescent humor.

"Crocodile Dundee II" (C) (PG) 110 minutes.

Dundee (Paul Hogan) is "experiencing" New York while living with journalist Sue (Linda Kozlowski). They get involved with Colombian drug dealers, but Dundee saves the day and whisks Sue off to Australia. It's cute, but not like the original.

Reviewed by Jennifer Morse

"The Fox and the Hound" (A) (G).

Animated Disney film about unusual friendship between young fox and hunting hound. An array of talking forest creatures make this a typical, enjoyable Disney film.

Reviewed by Kathy Guyer.

"Funny Farm" (B-) (PG) 105 minutes.

A cute comedy about New Yorker Chevy Chase who moves to the country to write a book. Anything that can go wrong does. A little too long but will keep you smiling.

Reviewed by Kathy Guyer

"The Great Outdoors" (B-) (PG) 92 minutes.

While not the most raucous comedy that a billing with John Candy and Dan Aykroyd could muster, the film escapes the doldrums with a few good one-liners and slight gags. The raccoon family and the teen "love-story" were uselessly overplayed to avoid Candy-Aykroyd as the only substance.

Reviewed by Brian Nichols

"The Last Emperor" (A) (PG-13)

125 minutes. Bernardo Bertolucci's stunning presentation of the epic tale of China's last emperor, Pu Yi. A fascinating story of survival through two world wars and Mao's Communist takeover of mainland China.

"The Manchurian Candidate" (B+) (PG-13).

They may not make movies like they used to, but they do re-release the old ones. This 1962 all-star espionage thriller features Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Angela Lansbury and Janet Leigh. Worth the trip to your local film house.

"Millagro Beanfield War" (F) (R)

Robert Redford returns to the director's chair in this story of a courageous New Mexican farmer. With Ruben Blades, Richard Bradford, Sonia Braga and Daniel Stern.

"Poltergeist III" (D±) (PG-13) 105 minutes.

Yes, they're back with plenty of shock value but no story substance. Poor Carol Ann can't shake these ghosts and neither can we. A tragic tribute to Heather O'Rourke who deserves much better.

Reviewed by Brian Nichols

"The President" (B) (G) 95 minutes.

Lots of froth but no substance to this weakly plotted murder-smuggling mystery centered on the Army's San Francisco base. Trite romantic triangle doesn't help much. Sean Connery is tough MP lieutenant colonel, Meg Ryan is his daughter and Mark Harmon is a former MP and now San Francisco police inspector.

"Rambo III" (C±) (R) 100 minutes.

Who sex they don't make "B" movies anymore? They do but with "A" budgets. Stallone's macho heroics, destroying Russians in Afghanistan, are mistimed for release now as Soviets pull out. But not bad for what it is.

"Short Circuit 2" (B) (PG)

The maturation of No. 5 to Johnny Five continues in a clever sequel but a lot of the cleverness gets lost in No. 5's machine talk and Ben's Indian accent. The bad guys aren't too

convincing and Ben's siddick this time doesn't have Steve Guttenberg's charm or energy.

"Someone to Love" (B±) (R) 105 minutes.

A near masterpiece discussion of love, life, family, loneliness and feminism with Orion Welles, in his last film appearance, sitting in the back row playing the supreme being. Superb performances by Director Henry Jaglom, Andrea Marcovicci and Sally Kellerman. Philosophical discussions, however interesting, may bore some viewers.

"Who Framed Roger Rabbit" (A-) (PG) 110 minutes.

Pure entertainment in this technically amazing combination of live action and animation. Private eye, Eddie Valiant (Bob Hoskins), saves the day by helping Roger Rabbit beat a bum rap. Hoskins' acting is super in a tough situation where he had to work with blank walls and imagine cartoon characters which were inserted later.

Reviewed by Jennifer Morse

"Willow" (A) (PG) 126 minutes.

Marvelous medieval adventure and romance with dragons, trolls, brownies, elves, witches and wizards as well as a bunch of grown-ups. Excellent entertainment in the best tradition of Disney, George Lucas and Hollywood. You can even take the kids.

Troubled children still head to Boys Town

Continued from Page 1

sial home for boys was only 21 years old. Rooney played one of the hundreds of boys, most of them homeless or orphans, who appeared on Father Flanagan's doorstep.

Flanagan was a great promoter, and one of his goals was to show the world that "there are no bad boys. There is only bad environment, bad training, bad example, bad thinking."

When the present inhabitants of Boys Town see Rooney and his pal Pee Wee on the screen, they see old clothes and dated problems.

Orphaned and homeless children have been replaced by abused and neglected children, many of them with drug, alcohol and severe mental health problems.

The Boys Town solution is to put them in Boys Town families: married couples, some with their own children, live in a house and parent eight to 10 Boys Town children as if they were their own.

"The family is one of the most powerful teaching units, for better or worse," a Boys Town spokeswoman said. "We give (the kids) a safe passage through childhood."

Some of the younger residents put it a little differently.

"The kids here don't have any families so they don't have problems

Teaching couples get plenty of training, support.

any more," said Russ, 14, who came to Boys Town from Sioux City, Iowa.

AT BOYS TOWN, Russ said he learned how to say no to friends who were leading him astray, and how to be a guide.

Another guide, Matt, was a "third-level" student from Omaha. Everything at Boys Town is very carefully supervised, including passing the boys and girls through four levels of development and responsibility. By level three they can go home for weekends.

"I was in shock when I came here," Matt said. "I cried. I wanted to go home. I was really messed up, doing drugs."

"I thought I was a big tough guy. I wanted to play sports but I didn't know how, so I was tough instead."

"Now I play football."

Some of the other things they teach at Boys Town are little things like how to shake hands and when.

There are 1,000 employees for 500 boys and girls here.

The requirements for a Family Teaching Couple are: patience, a love of kids, a rock solid marriage, a desire to work with a spouse and a religious faith, not necessarily Catholic.

The list includes Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist; you name it and they have worked at Boys Town.

Both members of the teaching couple must have a high school diploma, (some college hours are helpful), a valid driver's license, and no more than two dependent children.

COUPLES GET three weeks of full-time training, weekly training for the first year, an assigned couple and lots of administrative support.

Each couple has a small apartment in the "family" home. Salary is \$21,000 a year per couple plus their apartment, food and transportation (each family is provided with a van). Those couples that last through the first year usually stay four or five years, but the first year is tough.

Boys Town is open to visitors at no charge from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

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