

Cruise's 'Cocktail' is like a martini without the olive

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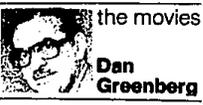
"Cocktail" (C) (R) 110 minutes. Adolescent fantasy, populated with overdone soapy melodrama about a high concept bartender, Brian Flanagan (Tom Cruise), co-bartender Doug Coughlin (Bryan Brown) and assorted "chickies", led by Jordan Mooney (Elisabeth Shue). Some clever lines by Brown, but only "Cruise addicts" will sail on this one.

"Monkey Shines" (C) (R) 100 minutes. George Romero escapes the zombies and lightens up on the gore. The film seems to be a horrific appeal to anti-vivisection, but comes across more like an elongated "Creep Show" story. Reviewed by Brian Nichols.

"Eat the Rich" (Z) (R) 86 minutes. An absolutely ridiculous British satire that is exaggerated beyond any sense. British accents are so thick that about half of the movie was incomprehensible. The other half was disgustingly dumb.

STILL PLAYING:

"Arthur on the Rocks 2" (PG) (a)



the movies
Dan Greenberg

Dudley Moore, Liza Minelli and Sir John Gielgud do it again under Bud Yorkin's direction.

"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. 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 Top Pee-wee" (B) (PG) 80 minutes. Kids and Pee-wee Herman fans will love this — talking farm animals, dumb jokes, a circus and Pee-wee in love. Reviewed by Kathy Guyer.

"Bull Durham" (A-) (R) 105 minutes. Wonderfully wacky, but slightly overdone summer in the minor

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 advanced screening

leagues. Veteran catcher Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) is brought in to steady hotshot young pitcher Nuke LaLoosh (Tim Robbins). Susan Sarandon and Jenny Robertson complicate matters. Film is as explicit as possible while remaining an "R".

"Coming to America" (B-) (R) 120 minutes. Hollywood and sexist view of Africa, but Prince Akeem (Eddie Murphy) rebels against an arranged 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 Dead Pool" (B-) (R) 95 minutes. Clint Eastwood is back in Dirty Harry's fifth adventure. This time his multiple celebrity deaths. Action-packed with quite a few bloody



Tom Cruise stars as Brian Flanagan, an ambitious would-be entrepreneur who, with the Touchstone Pictures' latest release, "Cocktail," helps of a seasoned pro, becomes the best bar-

scenes. Dirty Harry fans will appreciate their hero's usual endurance.

"Die Hard" (*) (R). Bruce Willis and Bonnie Bedelia in story of hostages trapped in L.A. building seized by terrorists on Christmas Eve.

"High Season" (B) (R) 100 minutes. Greek settling for photographer Katherine (Jacqueline Bisset), trying to preserve "the past." Each character in this Greek tragedy has their own reasons for what they do. Inter-

esting. Reviewed by Jennifer Morse.

"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.

"Midnight Run" (F) (R) 115 minutes.

An absolute disappointment, wasting two acting talents in weak script. Bounty hunter Jack Walsh (Robert DeNiro) suffers through overly familiar chase scenes, the FBI and the Mob to bring accountant-embezzler Jonathan Mardules (Charles Grodin) back to L.A.

"The President" (R) (C) 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.

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