

Sayles comes up 'scoreless' in 'Eight Men'

RECENT RELEASES:

Forget about those summer movies, friends, here comes the fall season with a lot of new products — good, bad and mediocre. From the top, maestro, let's lead off with the worst:

"Eight Men Out" (D) (PG) 115 minutes.
Say it ain't so, John Sayles ("Matewan," "The Brother from Another Planet"). Tell us you didn't make a film with poorly identified characters, confusing plot, choppy editing and half-lit staccato images. But I guess you did. Music track is nice, but it's hard to believe that the 1919 "Black Sox" threw the World Series because Mr. Coniskey didn't pay them well. There had to be more to it than that. Same goes for the movie.

"Dead Ringers" (F) (R) 115 minutes.
Can identical twin gynecologists (Jeremy Irons and Jeremy Irons) find happiness sharing girls, pills, patients and their practice? It's not worth watching this boring, slow-paced, sicko film to find out.

"Into the Fire" (F) (R).
The press agents describe this one as a "seductive thriller" which probably means sex and violence.

"Kansas" (B) (R) 110 minutes.
While passing through Kansas on his way to New York, Wade (Andrew McCarthy) meets Doyle (Mickey Rourke). He becomes Doyle's unwilling accomplice in a bank robbery and, while running from the law, saves the life of the governor's daughter, becoming an unwilling hero. Resolution of all these problems makes an interesting movie. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor.

"Patty Hearst" (F) (R).
Based on Patty Hearst's book, "Every Secret Thing," this stars Natasha Richardson as Ms. Hearst. You've read the book, now... Sweet Hearst Dance" (B-) (R) 95 minutes.

Bittersweet comedy about middle-aged man (Don Johnson) uncertain about his life and marriage. Jeff Daniels is excellent as the understanding, sensible friend who helps him. Susan Sarandon is strong as confused, hurt wife who hangs in there in this funny and sad, but real life story. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor.

"War" (F).
Tourists crash land on island and fight terrorists to survive.

STILL PLAYING:

"Bagdad Cafe" (B) PG 91 minutes.
Except for a confusing opening, this is a wonderful comedy about friendship, love and understanding. Jasmine (Marianne Sägebrecht) leaves her husband in the middle of the Mojave Desert and winds up in Bagdad where she rents a room from Brenda (C.C. Ponder), who has



the movies

Dan Greenberg

kicked her husband out. The two women, who start out with nothing in common, form strong bonds. Jack Palance also appears. Reviewed by Jennifer Morse.

"Bambi" (A) (G) 70 minutes.
Short but good animated story of young fawn growing up. Great for kids and adults on a nostalgia trip.

"Betrayed" (A) (R) 115 minutes.
In the best Costa-Gavras ("Z" and "Missing") tradition, this tense film combines political thriller and personal poignancy. FBI agent, Cathy Weaver (Debra Winger) goes undercover to track murderers of controversial radio talk-show host. However, loosely based on the murder of Denver broadcaster, Al Berg, and the subsequent expose of white supremacist groups, this film will make you nervous about fascism and about personal involvement versus commitment as Winger becomes emotionally attached to the man she's investigating. Gary Simmons, (Tom Berenger).

"Bell Durban" (A-) (R) 105 minutes.
Wonderfully wacky, but slightly overdone summer in the minor leagues. Veteran catcher Crash Davis (Kevin Costner) is brought in to steady hotshot young pitcher Nuke LaLoosh (Tim Robbins). Susan Sarandon as Jenny Robertson complicates matters. Film is as explicit as possible while remaining an "R."

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

"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 with his American girl, Lisa (Shari Headley). The bad news is, despite some funny stuff, there's too much adolescent humor.

"Crossing Delancey Street" (A) (PG) 95 minutes.
Lead role "Lazy" Grossman (Amy Irving) is a liberated young New Yorker with her eye on author Ivan Mac (Jeroen Krabbe). But never mind that modern stuff, Grandma Ida (Rizl Bozky) hires matchmaker Hannah



John Cusack (back row, from left), Michael Rooker, James Redd, Perry Lang, Don Harvey and David Strathairn celebrate with Sox manager "Kid" Gleason (John Mahoney) in (front row, from left) Charlie Sheen, D.B. Sweeney and "Eight Men Out."

Mandela (Sylvia Miles) to arrange things with Sam the pickpocket. Don't worry about true love, this romantic comedy will charm and delight everyone.

"Dear America" (A) (PG-13) 85 minutes.
Gripping, touching, horrifying, sad and finally, the inspiring story of our Vietnam tragedy told with actuality footage shot by television newsmen, armed forces cameramen and everyone else. It is the men, their courage and their high regard for comrades that make this documentary an inspiring, must-see event. Voice-over narrators reading soldiers' letters home include Robert DeNiro, Michael J. Fox, Robin Williams and Kathleen Turner.

"The Decline of Western Civilization Part II: The Metal Years"
Documentary on Heavy Metal movement with Megadeth, Seduce, Moterhead and Kiss.

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

"A Fish Called Wanda" (A) (R) 110 minutes.
A very funny film with the whackiest gang in town. Principals include Jamie Lee Curtis as Wanda the Wonderful, jewel thief extraordinaire. Among her colleagues are Kevin Kline in an absolutely inspired performance as a berserk American in London. John Cleese is a proper barister, but... The whole thing is beyond words. The only solution is to see the movie.

"The Last Temptation of Christ" (B) (R) 164 minutes.
Controversial portrayal of Christ as a disturbed person who struggles with his duality and tries to reject his divinity. Well-photographed and has fine acting, but choppy editing in complex rendition makes this one questionable.

"Married to the Mob" (B) (R) 110 minutes.

Enjoyable and cute film: as Angela (Michelle Pfeiffer) is widowed when mob boss Tony "The Tiger" Russo (Dean Stockwell) loses her hitman hubby, Frankie (Alec Baldwin). She figures that's her ticket out of the mob but Tony wants her and so does FBI agent, Mike Downey (Matthew Modine), in more than one way. Reviewed by Jennifer Morse.

"Moon Over Parador" (C) (PG-13) 104 minutes.

Director Paul Mazursky ("Bob and Alice..." and "Unmarried Woman") is so busy playing Jack Noah's (Richard Dreyfuss) mother that there's nobody left to tend the store. Despite some funny stuff, this comedy falls flat as Noah is forced to impersonate the late and unlamented dictator of Parador, so police Chief Strassman (Paul Julia) can maintain control. Sonia Braga appears as the dictator's mistress, but neither she nor silled comes by Sammy Davis Jr., Charo, Jonathan Winters and Fernando Rey get this dud off the ground.

"Nightmare on Elm Street Part 4 — The Dream Master" (C) (R) 90 minutes.

Looks like Freddy's power is weakening and so's the series. Storyline is developed, but the expected suspense and gore is lacking. Even "Nightmare" fans will be disappointed. Reviewed by Jennifer Morse.

"Tucker: The Man and His Dream" (A) (PG).
Excellent production that really looks like the '40s. Soft-focus filters and lots of old shots make this story of Vpsilanti machine tool shop owner, Preston Tucker (Jeff Bridges), and his dream of the car of the future. Bridges, Joan Allen as Mrs. Tucker and Martin Landau as his financial adviser deliver fine performances. Entire supporting cast adds to production. Too bad Mr. Tucker tried to take on the Big Three.

"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.

"Young Guns" (D) (R) 90 minutes.
This film wouldn't have been so

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 colossal bad
*	No advanced screening

leading a gang of young outcasts out to avenge murder of their mentor (Terrence Stamp). The evil Mr. Murphy (Jack Palance) caused all the trouble. Despite help from Charlie Sheen, and others, this is a loser. Maybe they can redo it after the writer's strike is settled.

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Island prices take 'nose dive' at the end of summer season

Continued from Page 1

The two popular renovated historic hotels, the Chippewa and the Island House, start at \$55 and \$75. The Chippewa bar is famous for its Pink Pony cocktail.

IN LOW season, \$75 to \$85 will buy you two nights for two or three in the small, beautiful Windermere. The Metvier Inn, a lovely house two blocks away knocks about 20 percent off its regular \$84 rate. None of these includes meals, except possibly breakfast.

The best room-only hotel buy in town is usually the Murray Hotel right on the main street, \$39-\$49 midweek, \$49-\$59 weekends. The Murray is popular for its good inexpensive food.

The restored Lake View is now \$59, including breakfast, Sunday through Thursday.

There are also several wonderful bed-and-breakfast places, but most of them are remarkably priced year-round as their rates don't drop. And some, like the Chippewa Guest House, close for the winter. Try the Bigan Lane Inn at \$48 a week. Now this year is the Mackinac Cottage, a three-story home with three guest rooms. It's \$60 in the high season. I couldn't reach them for off-season rates and the chamber doesn't list them yet because they are not members.

Also new is the Pontiac Lodge, built last year above two gift shops downtown. It's \$60 a night.

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All of these are on the west end of the 36-mile shoreline of Lake Michigan, where the ferry lands and most of the action occurs. Walk five minutes east to quieter turf beyond Fort Mackinac (open through Oct. 16) and you will find places like La Chaux Cottage for \$49 to \$55 or a Murray Hotel annex, called Chateau Beaumont Hotel, for \$39 midweek, \$50 weekends.

THE NEWLY refurbished and upgraded Mission Point Resort (last year it was called Mackinac Hotel and Conference Center), a 16-minute walk east of town at Mission Point, occupies the buildings of what was the International Moral Re-education Association in the '50s and '60s, became Mackinac College and finally a hotel in 1977.

It is large, offers a swimming pool (seasonal), live music and other amenities to those who like to be out of the tourist rat race. Fall rates start at \$78 per person for two people, including breakfast. Your second night is free. That rate also includes three hours of free bike rental.

Ferry rates have gone up to \$8.50 round-trip from either St. Ignace or

Mackinac City. Park free a block or two away. Spend \$3 to bring your own bike. Allow \$2 for a horse-drawn taxi, just for fun. There are no cars on Mackinac Island and the horses are healthy, so watch your step!

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