Describe favorite game for 'Jumanji' contest

Kida, ages 12 and under, briefly describe, and explain what makes your favorite game magical, to enter our "Jumanji" conteat. There will be aix winners. The grand prite winner will receive a "Jumanji" awast abirt, four Chris Van Alsburg books, including "Jamanji," awast abirt, four Chris Wan Alsburg books, including "Jamanji," awast abirt, four christians of the contest in Bloomfield Hills. Five runners-up will each receive a "Jumanji" awast abirt. Deadlins to enter the contest is Thursday, Dec. 7.

Send entries to: Keely Wygoniti, Taste/Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspa-

call (313) 691-7279.
"Jumanji" a TriStar Pictures release opening at metro Detroit movis theaters Dec. 15, is a fantasy adventure about a megical board game. Two children release a man who became trapped in the game 25 years earlier, and must play the game, unleashing untold havec and mayhem or risk being exited back into the game forever.

"Jumanji" is based on the book by Chris Van Alsburg and stars Robin Williams, Kirston Dunst, and Bonnie Hunt. It is reted PG.

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don't help move the action along but don't alow it down either. Songs like "You've Got a Friend in Ms" and "Strange Things" are too quirky to have much hope as the popular hits that usually come from Disney cartoons.
While computer animators can masterfully manipulate objects like toys, they still have some trouble creating believable thuman characters, a criticism once leveled against conventional Disney animation. They sometimes have the mechanical move-

ments of robots, though the animators try especially hard in a scene where a party-full of kids (shown only by their shoes) storn into Andy's bedroom.

Though I wouldn't want to see all animated films become computer animated, "Toy Story" boildly goes where no cartoon has gone before. And unlike traditional cel animation, which probably hit its artistic peak 60 years ago, this new form is fresh and exciting and can only look better with films to come.

A sampling of what's playing at alternative movie theaters across metro Detroit as reviewed by John Monaghan

IN DETROIT FRANTHYATRE

Detroit Institute of Arts, 5200
Woodward, Detroit, Call 313-8332323 for information. (\$5; \$4 atu-

Woodward, Detroit. Cell 313-33-2323 for information. (\$6; \$4 atu-denta)

"Memma Roma" (Italy —
1962), 7, 9:30 p.m. Dec. 1 - 2: 4, 7
p.m. Dec. 3. Anna Magneni plays a retired prostitute who reclaims her 18: year-old son in order to raise him respectably. This early, relatively genile film by Pler Paolio Pasolin has been restored through the efforts of Martin Scoreses.

"Manhattan by Numbers" (USA - 1933), 7 p.m. Dec. 4. When his unemployment checks run out, a laid-off newspaperman is so desperate to come up with enough cash that he'll do virtually anything to come up with his back rent by the end of the day.

MAGIC BAG THEATRY
2918 Woodward, Ferndale. Call 810-544-3030 for information. (Admission varies)

"Boys Life: First Love" (USA - 1995), 7:30, 9:30 p.m. Nov. 30. A trio of films with a gay theme as part of a monthly series aponsored by Southeast Michigan Pride. (80)

"Blue Velvet" (USA - 1988).
7:30 p.m. Dec. 5. In David Lynch's bizarro masterplece, a college student home for the summer discovers the seamy underside of his quaint hometown. Dennis Hopper has perhaps his quintessential role as psycho Frank Booth. (\$4)

BIMAIN AST THEATRE
118 N. Main Street at 11 Mile,
Royal Oak, Pilins play through at
least Thursday, unless noted oth-erwise. Call 8:0-542-0:80 for in-formation and showtimes. (\$6.50;
\$4 students and matinee; \$3

formation and showtimes. (46.60; \$4 students and matimes; \$3 \$4 students and matimes; \$3 \$4 students and matimes; \$3 \$4 students and statines; \$4 \$1953. Woody Allen writes, directs and stars in this story of a father obsessed with discovering the identity of his adopted son's mother. The typically celectic cast includes Helena Bonbam ("Carrispt Rupines Bonbam ("Britain - 1995). A true story set in the 1920e England about an unconventional relationship between a painter (Emma Thompson) and an older homosexual man (Jonathun Pryce) with whom she's fallen in love. Playwright Christopher Hampton takes his fliets stab as director. "Leaving Las Vegas" (USA — 1995), Just in time for the holidays, Nicholas Cage plays a suicidal alcoholic who linds his soulmate in an abused call girl (Elizabeth Shue).

***MAPLE THEATRE**
4158 W. Meple, Bloomfield. All titles play through at least next

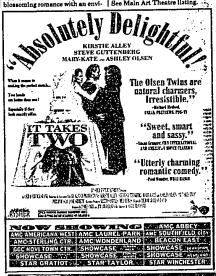
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B MAPLE THEATRE
4125 W. Maple, Bloomfield. All
titles play through at least next
'Thursday, unless noted otherwise. Call 810-885-9909 for information. (86; 32-95 twillight)
"The Crossing Guard" (USA—
1995). In this intense drams written and directed by Sean Penn,
an alcoholic jeweler (Jack Nicholson) and his estranged wife (Anjelica Huston) still suffer from the
loss of their daughtor in a car accident.

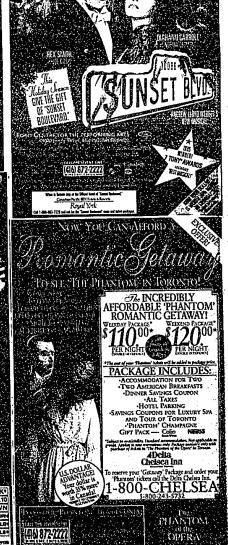
SCREEN SCHE

"American President" (USA — 1996). Michael Douglas plays the widowed Commander in Chief who tries to balance his job and a blossoming romance with an envi-

ronmental lobbyist (Annetts Ben-ing). Another crowd-pleaser from director Rob Reiner. "Carrington" (Britain — 1995). See Main Art Theatre listing.







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