MOVIES

Britain's 'Secrets and Lies' one of year's best

ike Leigh's movies have a TCKETS way of sneaking UPLEASE up on you. Characters you tating to down-right repulsive will keep you watching for their next unpredictable, but wholly

believable. JOHN MONAGHAN

"High Hopes," "Life is Sweet," and "Naked" rank among the past decade's most perceptive examinations of the human con-

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wholly

dition. Now comes "Secrets and Lies," the Falme d'Or winner at Cannes this spring and probably Leigh's best movie yet. This study of a British family suffer ing from the title maladies bene. Conster rido that mines hope out of seemingly overwhelming adopted mother, decides to research the real on. Despite the daty for a thertion agen-cy, which questions her timing, from ile woman who spends a wretched life trying to relate to

years, spends several months, working with his actra dva dvalage dv

appropriately bland. Leigh, who has worked exten-sively in tolevision, favors close-ups to capture the expressive faces of his performers. He gives the actresses free reign during that intense first meeting, refus-ing to cut away from their restaurant booth conversation for what could easily be 10 min-tures. Whether "Secrets or Lies" will find the audience it deserves is anyone's guess. After premier-eng at the Detroit Film Theatre earlier this month, it now screens at the Birmingham. These used to the witty repar-te and idylic country cathes of dase of reality in the claustre-phobic rooms of Leigh's working-class Brits.



Lovitz has fun with friends in new 'High School High'

BY CHRISTINA FUOCO STAFF WRITER

Stary Warran When actor Jon Lovitz was told that Tia Carrere was going to costar with him in his latest movie "High School High" he wand too sure of her talent. "I didn't really know how tal-ented she was. When I saw 'Wayne's World I really thought they got some girl who could barely apeak English. I remem-ber thinking, Who is this girl She can't even speak." I thought she really spoke that way," said Lovitz during a recent interview at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Dearborn.

at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Denrborn. "She's super talented and real-ly nice, just the warmest person." "High School High, which opens Friday, Oct. 25, is reminis-cent of a comedic version of "Dangerous Minds." It tells the story of Richard Clark (Lovizt), who leaves the private story of Richard Clark (Lovitz), who leaves the private Wellington School, where his father, Thaddeus (John Neville), is the headmaster, to accept a job at a ghetto school that is so tough that it has its own ceme-

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His innocent nature immediately butts heads with the tough principal Mrs. Doyle (Louise Fletcher). Naive about gangs, Clark breaks up a fight between ex-gang banger Griff McReynolde (Mekhi Phifer) and a tough gang leader and begins to see potential in McReynolds. "High School High' also stars Natasha Gregoon Wagner, Malinda Williams, and Guillermo Diaz. The urban street comedy is produced by David Zucker, Robert LoCash and Gil Netter, and written by Zucker and LoGash and Pat Proft. Lovitz explained that it was the chance to work with Zucker, best Known for his "Airplane" and "Note that off the set of the set

"A HEART-POUNDING,

WHITE-KNUCKLE

ADVENTURE!" Bonnie Charchill, NATIONAL NEWS SYNDICATE

THE

GHOST

AND THE

ROLLING STONE

"Momentous. A passionate epic. Collins is played with thunder and grace by Liam Necson."

CB3. TV David Sherbay "Compelling. Liam Neeson is sure to vin an Oscar* nomination

Liam Neeson in win an Oscart not

Darkness

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Michael Collins

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It was especially exciting to work with Fletcher, who earned an Academy Award for her per-formance of "Nurse Ratched" in "One Flew Over The Cuckco's Nest," and Neville, a recipient of the Order of the British Empire. "Working with a lot of the actors was great. Hart Bochner ('PCU' and 'The Buzz2') directed it, and he's a friend of mine. He belped me a lot. The actors like Louiae Fletcher and John Neville, one of the best actors, and the rest of the cast Tia Garcrer, Mckhi Phifer, and the kids were so much fun. Everyone was cal nice." "They found these people that had never heard of and here they are just great." Toyiz, whose next project is a movie storring Gary Shandling filming in the summer, began had annette Bening that begins filming in the summer, began has career as a stand-up comedi-an and made his way to "Shurday Night Live" from 1985-1990. While on SNL, his signature characters became Master Theapian, and the patho-bejcal lin "Tommy Flanagan" whose line "Yeah, that's the tick-at, made him a household name. "It atried out as an inside you and the next day people were tolling me they saw it and hought it was so funny that they put it on their answer-lavit, wing Saturday Night Live, i remembered that and row and him a fund he gaino-lowit. Wan if I do it on "Saturday Night Live" the coun-ty may be saying it. Sure enough Wight Jue' the cou-sen and hey did. It was pretty hought 'Man if I do it on "Saturday Night Live,' can become a pay of oppo ultur," He witese the curver SN

cially "Saturday Night Live," can become a part of pop culture," Lovitz said. He wishes the current SNL status and the best, but was vague about his opinion on it. This wishes the current SNL matches the sature of the sature people on the show. Movever's on the show it becomes their show. They keep changing casts all the used to working with sameone, work with. As soon as you get used to working with sameone, they're gone. It's hard. I only wish the show woll to gave me many status and the sature of their Own," and "Big." In addition, low'tz did volce-overs for the anil: Fived Goes West and "The Bare Little Tonster." On television, Lowitz, who evice of the tille charates in the animated series The Critic," and guest starred on "Solinfdd". "Friende, and "The Larry "His cole in High Sheeh High" met an important milestone in her and he a lead in the find time I had a lead in the find the schort, I was the guy whole driving the film as opposed at you be cover some. I had a find seene, a low scene, and a fight scene, which I had aver down, Boit was a to fund. "Kasing Tin was a lot of fund." "Kasing Tin was a lot of fund. "Kasing Tin was a lot of fund." "Kasing Tin was a lot of fund. "Kasing Tin was a lot of fund."