

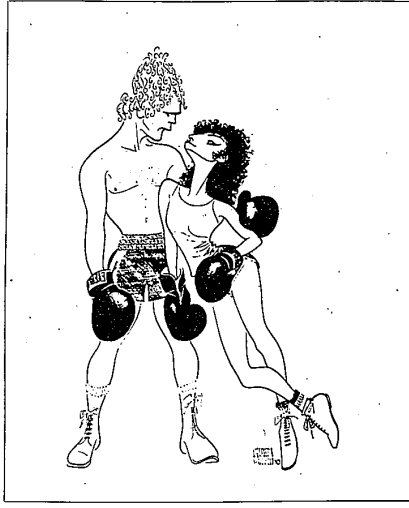
The Movies

LOUISE BRIDGER

Glimpses

NEW RELEASES

- THE AMITYVILLE HORROR (R). James Brolin and Margot Kidder look for a "dream house" and find a nightmare.
- THE APPLE DUMPLING GANG RIDES AGAIN (PG). Tim Conway and Don Knotts return as the bumbling outlaws in this light feature from Disney.
- AMERICATHON (PG). Wild, but maybe not too wild, tale of giant telethon to erase the national debt as U. S. goes broke in 1958.
- BEYOND THE POSEIDON ADVENTURE (PG). Sequel about the upended ship with adventurers after the "spoils," while more passengers are found wandering about. Can you believe it?
- BLOODLINE (R). Relatives trying to bump off pharmaceutical heiress constitute a bitter pill in placebo version of Sydney Sheldon's best seller.
- BREAKING AWAY (PG). Bicycle racing occupies four high school pals from Indiana who discover the graduate world in funny, touching story.
- BUTCH AND SUNDANCE: THE EARLY DAYS (PG). "Prequel" to the successful hit. Tom Berger and William Katt are paired off as the rascally robbers in their salad days.
- THE CONCORDE - AIRPORT '79 (PG). Latest entry in "Airport" series is the silliest yet. All-star cast can't save this.
- THE DEER HUNTER (R). An emotionally-grIPPING and violent film about the lives of three friends from a small steeltown as they are affected by the Vietnam war.
- DRACULA (R). A scary and very sensual remake of "Dracula" with Frank Langella in the title role he played on Broadway.
- ESCAPE FROM ALCATRAZ (PG). Clint Eastwood and director Don Siegel team up again to create a tense, taut drama from the conventions of the prison escape film.
- THE FRISCO KID (PG). Comic adventures of a rabbi (Gene Wilder) and a robber (Harrison Ford) as they cross the West to San Francisco in 1850.
- GO DENGIRL (PG). Susan Anton is a track star after Olympic gold in film that tries too hard with too many themes and finishes last.
- HOT STUFF (PG). Dom DeLuise directed and stars in slick comedy about undercover police fencing operation.
- THE IN-LAWS (PG). Hilarious comedy with Peter Falk and Alan Arkin as near-relatives who not only plan a wedding but ripoff the U. S. Mint.
- JUST YOU AND ME, KID (PG). A comedy nimbly tailored for George Burns, with Brooke Shields standing by as half of this young-old duo of delinquents.
- LOST AND FOUND (PG). George Segal and Glenda Jackson are paired again in romantic comedy about a "fractured" couple who meet in the Swiss Alps and decide to yodel on through life together.
- LOVE AT FIRST BITE (PG). Dracula goes disco dancing in funny, contemporary version with George Hamilton. THE MAIN EVENT (PG). Barbra Streisand is a perfume manufacturer who manages a retired boxer. Ryan O'Neal, in comedy about the fight game.
- MANHATTAN (R). The inhabitants are somewhat frazzed, but the Big Apple looks glorious in Woody Allen's witty peek at the pairings and partings among New York literati.
- MEATBALLS (PG). Lively comedy with Bill Murray (of "Saturday Night Live") as head counselor at a summer camp in an "Animal House" for the junior teen set.
- MOONRAKER (PG). James Bond (Roger Moore) in space adventure with Lois Chiles for company and Richard Kiel (the metalmouthed "Jaws") for challenge in most spectacular of the 007 films.
- MORE AMERICAN GRAFFITI (PG). George Lucas's very successful continuation of "American Graffiti" examines the lives of seven of the original characters and their problems in the troubled '60s.
- THE MUPPET MOVIE (G). Anyone who doesn't like this movie is probably in need of immediate CPR. A host of stars make cameo appearances but none outshines Jim Henson's laughable, lovable muppets as they head for Hollywood.
- NIGHTWING (PG). Some scary moments in the shocker about vampire bats on a Hopi Indian reservation.
- NORTH DALLAS FORTY (R). Fine performances from Nick Nolte and Mac Davis as pro-football players in film that takes hard look at the commercialism of the game.
- ROCKY II (PG). Sylvester Stallone as Rocky Balboa, the over-the-hill boxer, returns for a rematch with the heavyweight champ.
- THE SEDUCTION OF JOE TYNNAN (R). Familiar story about the pressures on a "decent" politician Alan Alda. Hackneyed situations are redeemed by the acting of Barbara Harris, Meryl Streep and Rip Torn.
- SUNBURN (PG). Poorly written, edited and directed detective-comedy that should leave the participants red-faced.
- THE VILLAIN (PG). As slapstick as a Road-Runner cartoon extended to 90 long minutes with Ann-Margaret, Kirk Douglas and Arnold Schwarzenegger, who is a cartoon.
- UNIDENTIFIED FLYING ODDBALL (G). Lagging Disney comedy about Cape Kennedy engineer who gets launched into Round Table days.



Famed caricaturist Hirschfeld captures classic battle-of-the-sexes contradictions in "The Main Event," romantic comedy with Ryan O'Neal and Barbra Streisand.



Count Dracula (Frank Langella) and Lucy Seward (Kate Nelligan) become lovers in a sexy version of "Dracula."

'Alien,' 'Dracula' rate high among frightening flicks

Either there were more new movies than usual this summer, or I am watching them more slowly. In skimming a list of film releases for the past three months, I find I missed as many as I saw. Nevertheless, in the interest of completeness, I present this summer film retrospective (still not complete, but getting there), faced with critical comments, hearsay and off-the-wall opinions.

Let's start with horror. "Alien" heads this genre. It's not terribly original, but it is cleverly constructed to produce a maximum of scares. "Alien" didn't make me jump out of my seat, but I don't jump much, except for an occasional job.

More demons, monsters and terror — the stuff that screams are made of — could be found in "Nightwing," "Phantasm," "Dracula," "Prophecy," "The Brood," and "The Amityville Horror." Again, I managed to keep my cool. There was a certain sensual bite to "Dracula." "Dawn of the Dead" with zombies taking over a shopping mall nurtures an intriguing thesis but should have been for Christmas releases. I thought "Prophecy," with its murky message about mutant monsters and pollution was a real howler, until I heard about the President being attacked by a killer rabbit. One never knows.

Whenever a director makes a film in black and white, you can be sure he is serious. Woody Allen is as serious and as comic as you can be at the same time in "Manhattan." But for funny, funny, Peter Sellers in "Prisoner of Zenda" and Alan Arkin and Peter Falk in "The In-Laws" get my vote; also, "The Frisco Kid," a matzo ball Western which tickled my ethnic taste buds.

"HURRICANE" BLEW over quickly, and, I hope, took "Honor Street," "The Concorde" and "Battletax Gallactica" with it. Other movies might have been helped by some shuffling around of the cast. For example, "Goldengirl" Susan Anton could have replaced Streisand in the ring in "The Main Event," leaving Barbra to put on the gloves with Stallone in "Rocky II."

Ryan O'Neal might have teamed with Dean-Paul Martin for "Players" for a game of doubles with the early Butch and Sundance, or all four could have joined the Apple Dumpling Gang. Anyone left out or over would go directly to "Bloodline," which could always find parts for a few more relatives.

For steamy cinema, "The Inheritance," "Wilemistriss" and "The Innocent" heated up the screen. It's difficult to tell these apart, although one or more of them will be foreign.

"Moonraker" was the splashiest Bond movie and kept the excitement level high. High-level tension of another kind characterized "Escape from Alcatraz," as Jean as "Moonraker" is extravagant.

"Meatballs" had just the right spice — Bill Murray. "The Muppet Movie" had just the right muppets, but the wrong music — too much, too slow.

Finally, for those who like competition, "Breaking Away" is about winning and "North Dallas Forty" is about losing. Each alternative has its supporters, although those who support the latter tend to live in Washington, and those who support the former live everywhere else.



Flight engineer O'Neil (David Warner, left) and pilots Patroni (George Kennedy, center) and Metrand (Alain Delon) survey the damage in disastrous, disaster film "The Concorde - Airport '79."

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MOVIE RATING GUIDE

- G General audiences admitted.
- PG Parental guidance suggested. All ages admitted.
- R Restricted. Adult must accompany person under 18.
- X No one under 18 admitted.

Prismatic Band plays at TOP Jazz

The Prismatic Band will continue the fall season's TOP Jazz series — an extension of summertime jazz at the Hotel Pontchartrain in Detroit.

A group that features fusion or crossover jazz, the Prismatic Band will appear Monday, Sept. 17. Prismatic plays its own original music exclusively. The six-member group is considered by many to be one of the outstanding young jazz bands in metropolitan Detroit.

Doors open at 5 p.m. at Top of the Pontch for the concert beginning at 6 p.m. Tickets are on sale the night of the concert only.

Other groups scheduled to appear at TOP Jazz include internationally renowned pianist Johnny Guarneri and his trio, with drummer J. C. Heard featured, Sept. 24; Percy Gabriel's New Orleans Jazz Band, Oct. 1. More programs will be announced later.

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