

## what's at the movies

**A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S SEX COMEDY (PG).** Woody Allen returns after a long hibernation with this light period comedy, full of good fun and optimism. Stars Woody Allen, Mia Farrow, Jose Ferrer, Julie Hagerty, Tony Roberts and Mary Steenburgen, written and directed by Woody Allen

**ANNIE (PG).** The successful Broadway musical is expanded and brought to the screen by director John Huston, with talented Alteen Quinn (as Annie) and Albert Finney and Carol Burnett.

**AUTHOR, AUTHOR (PG).** Wife walks out on Broadway playwright leaving him with five children (from different marriages) to raise and vice versa.

**BLADE RUNNER (R).** Harrison Ford is a detective hunting four defective human replicants who have become killers. Set in Los Angeles in the year 2020.

**DINER (R).** Comedy drama set in 1959 about five friends and their difficult transition into manhood.

**DYNAMITE CHICKEN (R).** Richard Pryor heads an all-star cast from the 60s in a comic barrage of mixed media. Also features the Ace Trucking Co., Fred Willard, John Lennon and Yoko Ono, Andy Warhol, Al Goldstein and more

**E.T. THE EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL (PG).** Steven Spielberg's best film yet, and probably the best film of the year, develops story of an alien being stranded on earth and befriended by a young boy.

**FIREFOX (PG).** Clint Eastwood is an American pilot of an espionage mission to steal the Soviets' most sophisticated warplane.

**GREGORY'S GIRL (PG).** Romantic comedy about an unlikely 16-year-old romo whose recent infatuation with the opposite sex has caused him to relegate any other considerations unimportant or positively nonexistent.

**POLTERGEIST (PG).** Steven Spielberg film is a succession of special effects as suburban family is terrorized by spirits in their home.

**ROCKY III (PG).** Sylvester Stallone as Rocky faces the challenge of staying on top. Cast includes regulars from the "Rocky" saga: Talia Shire, Burgess Meredith and Carl Weathers.

**THE SECRET OF NIMH (G).** Animated film of fantasy and mystery follows adventures of a brave, widowed mouse.

**STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN (PG).** Admiral Kirk and the whole Enterprise crew — Spock, McCoy, Scotty and Sulu — are back and on a perilous mission against an old enemy (Ricardo Montalban).

**THE THING (R).** John Carpenter movie is sci-fi horror story about creature from outer space that attacks an Antarctic research team and threatens all mankind.

**THE WORLD ACCORDING TO GARP (R).** Based on the best-selling novel by John Irving, this film is a comedy of the life of a young writer, T.S. Garp. Stars Robin Williams, Glen Close and Mary Beth Hurt.

### MOVIE RATING GUIDE

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



Taylor Negron plays a young doctor hooked on drugs and Pamela Reed a hard-as-nails nurse with a weakness for rhumbas who happens to have the keys to the drug supply room.

the movies  
**Louise Snider**

## 'Young Doctors' is classic example of movie malpractice

"Young Doctors in Love" (R) is cut from the same cloth as "Airplane," but the resemblance stops there. Both films were conceived as spoofs of particular genres. For "Airplane," the initial inspiration was the "Airport" series of movies, as well as the countless others in which passenger planes figured prominently.

For "Young Doctors," the inspiration probably came from the box office success of "Airplane." After that it was just a matter of picking a theme. The decision went to the doctor-nurse-hospital stories, popular in movies and a mainstay of television soap operas from "Ben Casey" to "General Hospital."

Gary Marshall, responsible for such TV shows as "The Odd Couple," "Happy Days" and "Laverne and Shirley," is the director and executive producer of "Young Doctors in Love." It's not surprising, therefore, that "Young Doctors" appears as a sitcom humor, made coarser and more risqué. Perhaps Marshall's background also explains the fractured nature of the movie. It doesn't have the strong focal point or line of continuity you expect in a movie. Instead, it's disjointed as if to provide plenty of breaks for commercials.

The movie covers a one-year span in the lives of a group of doctors who are interning at City Hospital. The brightest and stuffiest of them is Dr. Simon August (Michael McKean), who aspires to be a surgeon with an office in Beverly Hills. He falls in love with Dr. Stephanie Brody (Sean Young), who wants to go back to her small hometown in Vermont where she is "needed."

These two provide the principal romantic interest, but there are other couples. Among them are Nurse Sprockett (Pamela Reed), a straight-laced nurse with the keys to the drug supply cabinet, and Dr. Burns (Taylor Negron) an intern who requires a steady flow of uppers and downers. The strangest romance, however, is the one between Dr. Rist (Patrick Collins) and Angela Bonafetti (Hector Elizondo).

Angela is really Angelo in drag. He is in disguise to avoid being spotted by a rival mob while visiting his father in the hospital. His father is suffering from fear-induced paralysis.

Others in the cast are Dabney Coleman who plays the chief surgeon, Dr. Prang, and Harry Dean Stanton (usually seen as a criminal), who steals all the laughs with his gloomy portrayal of Dr. Oliver Ludwig, head of pathology.

"Young Doctors in Love" is a chaotic mishmash of puns and visual jokes. It even contains humorous references to other movies, as when the paging system announces "E.T., call home."

It is derivative, yet makes the mistake of not copying one of the key elements in its predecessor, "Airplane."

"Airplane's" cast included actors like Leslie Nielsen, Lloyd Bridges, and others who intensified the humor by parodying themselves.

"Young Doctors" includes some cameo appearances by television stars, but they don't make the movie fly. It is still a bedpan comedy.



Harry Dean Stanton, as the alcoholic head of the pathology lab (Dr. Ludwig), holds his audience of young doctors spellbound by revealing his unique procedures for specimen analysis.

DINING AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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