

# Nostalgic 'Mood' hits right note

## RECENT RELEASES:

"Hello Mary Lou: Prom Night II" (\*)(R)  
Frightening times in high school.

"I've Heard the Mermaids Singing" (I) unrated, 84 minutes

An unusual Canadian film about a free-spirited young woman, Polly Vandersmith (Sheila McCarthy), who gets caught up in the chic art world of Gabrielle St. Peres (Paula Ballantine) and her gallery.

"In the Mood" (A) (PG-13) 90 minutes

Very pleasant and amusing romantic comedy lovingly draped in nostalgia. True story of Ellsworth "Sonny" Wise-carver, a 15-year-old southern California musician, who got in a lot of trouble for attracting older women. Excellent entertainment with terrific musical score.

"Stacking" (\*)  
1954 setting for story of a Montana ranch family.

## STILL PLAYING

"Baby Boom" (C-) (PG) 105 minutes

### Professor Dan grades the movies

<b>A+</b>	<b>Top marks - sure to please</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Close behind - excellent</b>
<b>A-</b>	<b>Still in the running for top honors</b>
<b>B+</b>	<b>Pretty good stuff but not perfect</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>B-</b>	<b>Good but notable deficiencies</b>
<b>C+</b>	<b>Just a cut above average</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Mediocre</b>
<b>C-</b>	<b>Not so hot and slipping fast</b>
<b>D+</b>	<b>The very best of the poor stuff</b>
<b>D</b>	<b>Poor</b>
<b>D-</b>	<b>If it doesn't get much worse</b>
<b>F</b>	<b>Truly awful</b>
<b>Z</b>	<b>Reserved for the colossally bad</b>
<b>*</b>	<b>No advanced screening</b>



the movies  
**Dan Greenberg**

Diane Keaton stars in yuppie comedy about single business executive whose life is changed drastically by the unexpected, unwanted arrival of a baby. Overly cute and predictable story with too few laughs and too many yawns. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor.

"Best Seller" (B+) (R) 90 minutes

Fast-paced thriller with high body count. An unusual story of psychopathic hitman, Cleve (James Woods), whose murders have been blamed on David Madlock (Paul Shenhur). David and Cleve part enemies so the latter enlists an exceptional cop, Dennis Mechem (Brian Dennehy), to write an exposé of Mr. Madlock.

"Big Shots" (D) (PG-13) 95 minutes

Far-fetched adventure story of suburban adolescent who teams up with homeless city kid. They confront violence and outwit adults in their search for homeless boy's father. Reviewed by Jeff Linnatta.

"Can't Buy Me Love" (B-) (PG-13) 94 minutes

Money may not buy love but it sure buys unpopular Tucson (Arizona) High School student (Patrick Swayze) a date with Jennifer Grey. Romance, dance and dialogue are good, but plot has more than a few twists that Chubby Checker in the Peppermint Lounge.

"Fatal Attraction" (A) (R) 110 minutes

Michael Douglas as a family man whose overnight stand turns into a nightmarish tale of a psychotic woman (Glenn Close) in this suspenseful thriller. Riveting performances and a strong story build to an explosive, nerve-shattering conclusion. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor.

"Hellraiser" (\*) (R) 94 minutes

Horror-flick with Andrew Robinson and Ashley Laurence welcoming a former lover back from the grave.

"I Like Father Like Son" (B-) (PG-13) 95 minutes

Digid father (Dudley Moore) and laid-back son (Kirk Cameron) transpire for brains, courtesy of an old Indian potion. Despite plot flaws, Moore's antics are entertaining.

"Matewan" (A) (PG-13) 132 minutes

The history of West Virginia mining town's authentic struggle to organize labor is authentically portrayed in 1920s setting. Despite mining company might, the people of Matewan are moved to change when Joe Kishan (Chris Corso), union man, arrives. Strong performance by James Earl Jones as "Few Clothes" Johnson. Simple and direct dialogue, with cinematography to

match, highlight this human drama. Reviewed by Jeff Linnatta.

"Near Dark" (C) (R) 95 minutes

Dark thriller about family of modern vampires roaming the Bible Belt. Unsuspecting farm boy joins them and ultimately causes their destruction. Special effects, violence and gore make this almost scary. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor.

"No Way Out" (B) (R) 115 minutes

This tale explores a thriller is well-done, but the movie goes one way while the unsupported, unexplained ending goes another. Kevin Costner and Gene Hackman star, with an excellent performance by Sean Young.

"The Pick-Up Artist" (B) (PG-13) 80 minutes

Pick-up artist Jack Jericho (Robert Downey) meets his match in Randi Jensen (Molly Ringwald). Good performances, especially by Ms. Ringwald, don't fully overcome weak direction. But it's still cute and entertaining.

"The Princess Bride" (A-) (PG) 98 minutes

Rob Reiner's delightful fantasy, based on William Goldman's novel, involves farmboy-turned-hero, Westley (Cary Elwes), and Princess Buttercup (Robin Wright). They encounter miracles, villains, the swamp-fire-forest and "the pit of despair" in a land long ago and far away. Chivalry and swashbuckling suspense intersect with slashing wit. The movie "conquers all." Reviewed by Jeff Linnatta

"The Rosemary Murders" (C) (R)

Bobby Laurel's Detroit production about a killer of Catholic priests and nuns would have been better without some of its shocking horror and darkness. Early on you're clued in to whodunit, but not the whydunit. Donald Sutherland and Charles Durning star. Reviewed by Victoria Diaz.

"Slaughterhouse" (\*) (R)

Something unusual in slaughterhouses for — for good reason — a cast of unknowns.

"Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs" (A+) (G)

Delighting another generation on her 50th birthday.

"Someone to Watch Over Me" (C+) (R) 100 minutes

Slick visuals wear thin in this predictable story of married detective (Tom Berenger) falling in love with a lovely witness to whom he is assigned as bodyguard. Facial close-ups, flashing lights and rising steam get tiresome but story has entertaining moments.

"Stakeout" (A-) (R)

Entertaining, well-done police adventure with Richard Dreyfuss and Emilio Estevez as unconventional cops on night-shift stakeout for ma-



Patrick Dempsey plays legendary ladies' man "Sonny" Wise-carver, and Beverly D'Angelo is an older woman who falls for him in "In the Mood."

for criminal. Story twists and turns in clever ways, with plenty of comic relief and good dialogue, but more gore than necessary. \$50 million in the till and still going strong.

"Surrender" (B+) (PG) 95 minutes

Slick, contemporary romantic comedy with Michael Caine as an appealing novelist disenchanted with greedy women. Sally Field is poor, but a good-hearted, struggling artist. Throw in Steve Guttenberg as a spiky, yuppie attorney, and result is a comic plot with unique twists and a great supporting cast. Reviewed by Kathy Guyor

"Three O'Clock High" (D-) (PG-13) 85 minutes

Tasteless and generally stupid story of Jerry Mitchell, poorly acted by Casey Siemaszko, who has to fight school bully. Unpleasant photography with exaggerated close-ups and uncomfortable angles repeated ad nauseum.

"Wish You Were Here" (C) (R) 92 minutes

I was there and wish I wasn't. In spite of fine performance by Emily Lloyd, this British comedy of young, rebellious girl in conventional 1950s town is unpleasant and largely unentertaining. The dialogue is so British it needs subtitles, and it beats me why it's still playing.

# Personal touch is the difference at Mexico Inn

Your traveling taster visits area eateries and rates them on a 100-point scale. Up to 30 points are awarded for ambiance, which includes general atmosphere and service; 55 points for food; and 15 points for price/value rating. A total of 59 points or less indicates a restaurant is not recommended; 60-74 points signify from passing to good; 75-89 points designate very good with some extraordinary features; and 90-100 points show that a very special dining experience awaits you.

MEXICO INN, 910 S. Wayne Road, Westland (732-8010), was recommended by reader Ms. F.P. of Westland. The restaurant is decorated with Mexican hats and hanging grape clusters, which create an informal relaxed atmosphere for dining. This family-owned eatery shows the extra care and attention of the owners — from the clean surroundings to the very gracious waitresses.

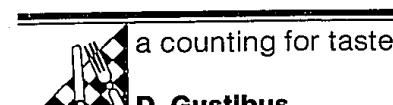
There is a wholesome crowd of families and casually attired groups, and people seem to enjoy themselves here. Reservations are available, although we checked in and were seated at once without reservations. Dinner took an hour. Lunch is served on Wednesday through Saturday, and dinner is served every night of the week. GENERAL ATMOSPHERE — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 13.

In addition to being a good-will ambassador for the restaurant, our waitress offered a number of helpful dinner suggestions. She was unusually pleasant, and her attention to our meal was good. The pace at our table was fast but not hurried. On the one occasion when we asked for more water, she brought us a pitcher of water.

The No. 2 combination plate (\$6.50) provided a sampling of other Mexican dishes: a taco that had a tasty shell and fresh ingredients; a ring which was spicy and unusual with a great guacamole topping. After eating these and getting filled, we had a hard time trying to eat the burrito and enchilada, but both tasted very good, even reheated the next day. ENTREE, VEGETABLES AND GARNISHES — 30 points maximum. Points awarded — 26.



The family-owned Mexico Inn in Westland shows the extra care and attention of the owners — from the clean surroundings to the very gracious waitresses.



We really were too stuffed for dessert, but — conscious of our obligations to you, our readers — we sampled the fried ice cream with caramel (\$1.95). It was sweet, re-

freshing and fabulous. As a final gesture we also had the sopapillas (\$2) which were surprisingly outstanding and plentiful. The dough was cut in strips with a liberal cinnamon topping — delicious. DESSERT — 10 points maximum. Points awarded — 10.

Our mammouth meal for two was \$35, which is higher than average for Mexican food. However, considering the delightful atmosphere, friendly service and delicious food, the price seemed quite appropriate. PRICE/VALUE — 15 points maximum. Points awarded — 13.

A COUNTING FOR TASTE — 100 points maximum. Total points awarded: 89. Mexico Inn demon-

strates what a difference the personal

attention of the owners can make in all aspects of the dining experience. This is a wonderful place for couples or families; it's a meal you will enjoy, and you certainly won't leave feeling hungry.

D. Gustibus welcomes your re-

views, comments and suggestions of favorite restaurants in the Observer & Eccentric communities. Write to D. Gustibus, in care of Observer & Eccentric, Street Scene, 36251 Schoencraft, Livonia 48150.