

GOING TO THE MOVIES



Problem tests marriage in drama



Alice and Michael Green (Meg Ryan and Andy Garcia) have the most extraordinary romance in "When a Man Loves a Woman," opening Friday at metro Detroit movie theaters.

Their marriage is filled with genuine passion, caring and sharing, and together they are raising two beautiful daughters, Casey and Jess (Mae Whitman and Tina Majorino). They have created a picture-perfect family. However, beneath the surface of their loving relationship simmers a painful personal secret Alice has been keeping, not only from her loved ones, but also from herself. Eventually this problem becomes an overwhelming crisis which tears at the fabric of their tightly knit family — and that fabric eventually rips wide open and shatters their idyllic world.

PREVIEW

A rich and engrossing story of love, strength and commitment unfolds as this determined family embarks on a courageous struggle to pick up the pieces of their lives and deal head-on with Alice's problem. Now, when the old definitions of who they are no longer fit, they must reassess their lives, rebuild their once unshakable foundation, and discover something entirely new about themselves and the power of love, in Touchstone Pictures' drama "When a Man Loves a Woman." The film is directed by Luis Mandoki from a screenplay written by Donald Eise and Al Franken. The producers are Jordan Kerner and Jon Avnet. Buena Vista Pictures distributes. "Most love stories end when the couple eventually comes together," said Mandoki. "This film

starts at the hardest point, when the tough work begins. These characters struggle with all their hearts to keep their family together, and that's what touched me so very deeply when I read the script."

Producer Jordan Kerner, who has championed several issue-oriented film and television projects, concurs. "Family in the '90s is really about the taking of responsibility for each other. And if someone in the family has a weakness of spirit, a dependency or an abuse of a substance, it shouldn't end in divorce or divisiveness — it should end in people loving each other and helping the other to get the kind of care they need."

"That's where this movie differs from so many others," producer Jon Avnet said. "It's about the hard work and the sacrifices these characters make to create a new family that evolves from the old, dysfunctional one."

For Kerner, who knows the impact a film that deals directly and honestly with tough social issues can have on the public, "When a Man Loves a Woman" provides an opportunity to tell a story that elevates the audience without lecturing.

"We're hoping people will see this film, feel for Alice and Michael and the kids, and see changes in their own lives or in the lives of loved ones. If we can do that, affect in any small way someone's heart or mind, and show that there are avenues for help, then all of us will have done something very important."

"When a Man Loves a Woman," is rated R (Restricted, under 18 requires an accompanying parent or guardian.)

Tell us what you think about this movie. Call (313) 953-2105 to leave comments. Be sure to include your name and hometown.



PETER SOBEL

Family drama: Beneath the surface of what appears to be the perfect family, Alice and Michael Green (Meg Ryan, left and Andy Garcia, right) and their daughters, Casey and Jess (Mae Whitman and Tina Majorino), face a crisis in "When a Man Loves a Woman."

See the stars at gala premiere for 'Beverly Hills Cop III'

"Beverly Hills Cop III" starring Eddie Murphy, the third in a series of Axel Foley adventures, will have a gala Michigan Premiere to benefit the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Foundation and the NAACP Scholarship Fund 8 p.m. Monday, May 23, at the Fox Theatre.

The event will be hosted by Detroit City Councilman Gill Hill, who once again reprises his role as Inspector Todd, the police su-

pervisor of Detroit detective Axel Foley, played by Eddie Murphy.

Tickets for the Premiere screening only are now available at all TicketMaster outlets for \$50. Additional ticket information is available from the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Foundation at (313) 863-3394.

Expected to attend are several principals from the movie along with a bevy of Detroit's most notable stars including Anita Baker,

Aretha Franklin, Mayor Dennis Archer and many others. Scheduled to attend the event from Hollywood are director John Landis,

co-star Hector Elizondo and producer Bob Rehme. An official release is still forthcoming from co-star Judge Reinhold.

The Fox Theatre will become Hollywood East as red carpet, spotlights, and palm trees will engulf the theatre on Woodward Avenue while outside across the

street will be the Mumford High School Marching Band playing selections from the original movie's soundtrack.

The beneficiaries of the proceeds, the Metropolitan Detroit Youth Foundation and the NAACP Scholarship Fund are two prominent non-profit organizations, both of which Councilman Hill sits on the board.

The premiere screening is the anchor of what will be a three-

part fundraising effort that night as two additional celebrations will be held immediately following the movie — a Premiere Patron After-Glow at The Second City, and a Premiere Jam at the State Theatre, each located on opposite sides of the Fox Theatre.

Tickets to the afterglow at Second City are \$100 per person, and tickets to the Premiere Jam at State Theatre are \$15 per person.

Co-starring with Eddie Murphy in "Beverly Hills Cop III" are Judge Reinhold, Hector Elizondo and Theresa Randle. The film was directed by John Landis from a screenplay written by Steven E. de Souza, based on characters created by Danilo Bach and Daniel Petrie, Jr. Mace Neufeld and Robert Rehme are the producers, Mark Lipsky is the executive producer and Leslie Belzberg is the co-producer.

UPCOMING MOVIES

There's something for everyone at the movies. Here's a list of what's in the wings:

Opening Friday, May 13

■ "Crooklyn" — A touching and often hilarious view of life in a Brooklyn family during the 1970s and the 10-year-old daughter who must make sense of the chaos around her. Directed by Spike Lee.

■ "The Crow" — Based on Detroit James O'Barr's popular underground comic book, the story

of a hero who arises out of the urban music scene and an ordinary guitar player who becomes a ray of superhuman hope in a city of fear.

Opening Friday, May 20

■ "The Judas Project" — In a time of madness, a man of true greatness gives his life to save humanity. The man was the Son of God.

■ "Even Cowgirls Get the Blues" — Adapted from Tom Robbins' novel, this film is a psychedelic

journey of a "born freak" on a quest for a place in the world.

■ "Maverick" — A western adventure about a charming con man and soldier of fortune whose fate becomes entangled with a spirited young woman and an enigmatic lawman as each of them plans to attend a high-stakes poker championship and win. Stars Mel Gibson, James Garner and Jodie Foster.

Opening Wednesday, May 25

■ "Beverly Hills Cop III" — Detroit detective Axel Foley heads back to Beverly Hills after a series of clues in a murder investigation lead him to an unlikely setting for a crime — a popular California amusement park.

Opening Friday, June 3

■ "The Princess and the Goblin" — A magical fable of mystery, ex-

citement and innocent romance. An animated feature based on the book by George MacDonald.

Opening Friday, June 10

■ "City Slickers II" — The city dudes are getting into the saddle again in search of a lost treasure and along the way must overcome many obstacles.

■ "Speed" — A thriller about a cop who must remove a bomb planted beneath a bus and is set to explode when the speed of the bus drops below 50 miles per hour. Stars Jeff Daniels.

Opening Friday, June 17

■ "Wolf" — A romantic thriller about a book editor who is bitten by a wolf he was trying to help. From that moment on, nothing, not his job, his marriage or any part of his life will ever be the same.

Enter our contest

You have until Monday, May 16 to tell us about the "Bad Girls" you know — women who faced life challenges with a positive "I'll fight back and win" attitude.

Here's your chance to something nice for the "Bad Girls" you know. The first 15 entries will receive a "Bad Girls" T-shirt, and there will be three grand prize winners.

The women you nominate as unsung heroes can be married, divorced, widowed or single. Include the "Bad Girls" name, address, phone number,

and a brief description of why they are deserving of this award.

Send contest entries to: Keely Wygonik, Taste/Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Inc., 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150. Call (313) 953-2105 if you have any questions.

"Bad Girls" is a movie about four women of the old west who become gunfighters to right back their money, their rights, and their dignity. It's now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters.

Reader comments sought

DEEL TO REEL
If you've seen a new movie lately, either good or bad, we want to hear from you. Call Keely Wygonik, Entertainment editor, 953-2105, to comment on newly released movies. If you reach her voice mail, leave your comments, name, city and day-time phone number. To fax comments, dial 591-7879. Or write: Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150.

Share your comments about any newly released movies with your friends and neighbors on our movie page.

We're interested in hearing from readers of all ages — your comments are important to us.

See Reel to Reel for information on how to leave comments about movies.

■ "Bridge on the River Kwai," will be shown Wednesday, May 18 in the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile. The showing will be preceded by a short annual meeting and election of officers of the Friends of the Livonia Library at 7 p.m. Admission is by membership. Friends membership is \$5 a year, and can be paid at the door.

Star Theatres to start popping with canola oil

In response to customer concerns over the fat content of movie theater popcorn, Star Theatres will start using canola oil to pop popcorn.

"The announcement was made by Barrie and Jim Locke, chairman of Star Theatres which operates 74 screens in eight locations in Michigan.

"Our goal is to provide our patrons with a healthier choice at our concession stands," said Barrie Locke. "The change to canola

oil is in keeping with our customer service policy of making the movie-going experience enjoyable for every patron of Star Theatres."

Based on the recently released Center for Science in the Public Interest food test, the saturated fat content of popcorn popped in canola oil is only 7 percent compared to 86 percent for corn popped in coconut oil. The change to canola oil will be in effect by Friday, May 13.

"TWO THUMBS UP!"
★★★★★
"One of the Best Movies this Year"
— Roger Ebert, CHICAGO TRIBUNE
— Roger Ebert, SALT & PEPPER

"It's Great. Andy Garcia and Meg Ryan Deliver Oscar Caliber Performances."
— Pam Thomason, KABC-TV, LOS ANGELES

"Don't Miss It."
— Jay Byrnes, WOR RADIO NETWORK

When a Man Loves a Woman
— ANDY GARCIA — MEG RYAN

STARTS FRIDAY, MAY 13

AMC LAUREL PARK	AMC OLD ORCHARD	AMC EASTLAND
AMC CANTON	AMC NORTOWN	SHOWCASE WEST
SHOWCASE WILSON	SHOWCASE PONTIAC	SHOWCASE WARREN
SHOWCASE WILSON	STARBUCKS MIDLAND	STARBUCKS TAYLOR

NO PATTERNS OR COUPONS ACCEPTED

HISTORIC Chesaning
MICHIGAN'S SHOWBOAT CITY
Located Between Flint, Saginaw & Frankfort
SPECIAL EVENTS SCHEDULE
(Thru Early Summer 1994)

Chesaning's 6th Annual Classic & Antique Car Show
Saturday, May 28, 9:00 a.m. till 5:00 p.m. In Beautiful Showboat Park
Over 700 Show Cars!
Live 50's & 60's Rock & Roll D.J.
FREE Shuttle from Showboat Park to Downtown.
Admission: \$2.00 per adult, \$1.00 per child.

Chesaning's 5th Annual Town Wide Attic Sale
(Memorial Weekend)
Sat., May 28, 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.; Sun., May 29, 9 a.m. till 5 p.m.; Mon., May 30, Noon till 5 p.m.
Over 50 local resident garage and yard sales within the village limits.
Local merchant sidewalk sales featuring close-out, discontinued, & slightly damaged items. Many items marked well below wholesale cost.
After hours most available. Pick up at various Chesaning locations or call to request one to be sent to you.

Chesaning's 8th Annual Victorian Summer Folk Art Festival
Sat., June 11th, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Sun., June 12th, Noon - 6:00 p.m.
100 of the area's best Country Folk Artists set up on the shaded lawn of the Old Home Shoppe and Market Street Square along Chesaning's historic waterfront.
Free Admission. Free live entertainment.

Chesaning Riverside Pops - Sat., June 11th, 7:30 p.m.
In The Chesaning Showboat Riverside Amphitheatre
Featuring
The Saginaw Symphony Orchestra & The New Reformation Dixieland Band.

53rd Annual Chesaning Showboat
July 11th thru 16th
This year's riverfront spectacular features country/western star
Leo Greenwood.
For Ticket Info call (517) 645-3065.

To Receive Your Packet With Complete Information
On All of Chesaning's Special Events, Attractions,
Restaurants, Lodging, and Unique Shopping Opportunities
Call The Chesaning Chamber of Commerce
1-800-255-3055