MOVIES

OPENING FRIDAY, JULY 28

- "OPERATION DUMBO DROP" An action-adventure film about five tough Green Beret soldiers in Vietnam who must transport an elephant across the jungle for an important military mission. Stars Ray Liotta, Danny Glover, Denis Leary, Doug E. Doug. Rated PG.
- "WATERWORLD" A post-apocalyptic sea adventure about a solitary hero who sets out with a beautiful woman and mysterious little girl on a search for a new beginning. Stars Kevin Costner, Jeanne Tripplehorn, Tina Majorino, Dennis Hopper. Rated PG-13.
- THE NET High tech thriller about a computer system analyst who becomes caught up in a web of intrigue and conspiracy when she accidentally acquires a secret program.

JOEL DAVID WARREN

Action thriller: *Steven Seagal stars as ex-Navy SEAL Casey Ryback in Warner Bros.' action-thriller, "Under Siege 2: Dark Territory," now playing at metro Detroit movie theaters.*

OPENING FRIDAY, AUG. 4

- "VIRTUOSITY" A futuristic thriller set in Los Angeles about an ex-cop with a tortured past who hunts a murderous computer-generated personality who has brought himself to life. Stars Denzel Washington, Kelly Lynch, Russell Crowe, Stephen Spinella. Rated R.
- "BABE" A live-action comedy based on the children's book, "Babe, the Gallant Pig" blends state-of-the-art special effect with performances by animal actors. Stars Magda Szubanski, James Cromwell, Jack Thompson, Sandy Gore. Rated G.

SIDNEY BALDWIN

Adventure: *Jesse (Jason James Richter), with Nadine (Mary Kate Schellhardt) and Elvis (Francis Capra), directs Willy to jump, with his family, in Warner Bros.' "Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home."*

'Ruby in Paradise' makes a point without sentiment

PASS THE POPCORN

LeANNE ROGERS

Not to be confused with a weak new comedy of a similar name, "Ruby in Paradise" is an unsentimental look at a young woman's efforts to make her way and a better life for herself in a new home.

The first sight of Ruby is as she is flooring her car as she leaves her boyfriend and rural Tennessee hometown in the rearview mirror. Played by Ashley Judd, Ruby heads for a Florida resort town. She doesn't know anyone there but visited once as a child on the only vacation she can remember.

Her timing isn't very good as she arrives looking for a job during the off-season when the weather is turning cold and the beach is deserted. She manages to land a job working at a gift shop — she's had experience working at her uncle's store. Ruby becomes friendly with another clerk, a college student who will be returning to school. As she explains to her new friend, Ruby managed to get out of her hometown without getting pregnant or beaten up. "And that's saying something," she says.

The store owner has one hard and fast rule — employees can't date her son. And Ruby's new co-worker warns her about the owner's son, too. But the next thing you know Ruby is dating him. It's just one of those things you have to learn the hard way and a mistake that will come back to haunt her later.

Judd gives a fine performance as Ruby, a smart young woman who learns from her mistakes and gains confidence. She starts out scared and alone in her tiny apartment. It gradually becomes home as she adds homey touches to the sparsely furnished apartment.

"Ruby in Paradise" isn't a sentimental tale. Ruby makes mistakes and with only basic skills and education finds she has a hard way to go. Her co-worker encourages her to set her sights higher than working at the shop. Reading, which she had only done when it was required, starts to open new horizons for Ruby. She's observant about the relationships she gets involved in and the situations of women around her. She becomes more assertive and independent. One of the nice things about Ruby's character is that she isn't a stereotype of movie "feisty" characters. She's more like a real person, one who is awfully young to be on her own.

The performances are all good including Dorothy Lyman as the shop owner who develops a relationship with Ruby. The older woman clings to her hopes that her troublesome son will straighten up someday.

"FUNNY! VERY FUNNY!"
Joel Siegel, GOOD MORNING AMERICA

"THE FUNNIEST ALL-OUT COMEDY SINCE 'MRS. DOUBTFIRE'!
A rare and wonderful film that blends side-splitting comedy with a heart-warming and human story."
-John Corcoran, KCAL-TV

"A ZANY LAUGH-OUT-LOUD SUMMER TREAT!"
-Bill Diehl, ABC RADIO NETWORK

"★★★★ DELIGHTFUL AND IRRESISTIBLE!"
-Jeff Craig, SIXTY SECOND PREVIEW

"...RAUCOUSLY FUNNY..."
-Janet Maslin, THE NEW YORK TIMES

"SENSATIONAL! Delightful, enjoyable and appealing."
-Gary Arnold, THE WASHINGTON TIMES

"A FRANTIC CROWD PLEASER! 'Nine Months' delivers!"
-Jay Carr, THE BOSTON GLOBE

"★★★★ EXCRUCIATINGLY FUNNY!"
-George Pennacchio, KFMB-TV (CBS), SAN DIEGO

"A FRANTIC CROWD PLEASER! Hugh Grant is adorably hilarious, Tom Arnold is hysterical and Robin Williams is rioutous
-Jeanne Wolf, JEANNE WOLF'S HOLLYWOOD

HUGH GRANT

From The Director Of 'Mrs. Doubtfire' Comes The Comedy Event Of The Summer.

A CHRIS COLUMBUS FILM
NINE MONTHS

TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PRESENTS A 1492 PICTURE A CHRIS COLUMBUS FILM HUGH GRANT "NINE MONTHS"
JULIANNE MOORE TOM ARNOLD JOAN CUSACK WITH JEFF GOLDBLUM AND ROBIN WILLIAMS MUSIC BY HANS ZIMMER EDITED BY RAYA GOSNELL PRODUCTION DESIGNER ANGELO P. GRAHAM
DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY DONALD McALPINE A.S.C. CASTING JOAN BRADSHAW AND CHRISTOPHER LAMBERT MUSIC SUPERVISOR PATRICK BRADLEY COSTUME DESIGNER ELLEN CHENOWETH PRODUCED BY CHRIS COLUMBUS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHRIS COLUMBUS, MARK RADCLIFFE, MICHAEL BARNATHAN AND ANNE FRANCOIS DIRECTED BY CHRIS COLUMBUS

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SHOWCASE DEARBORN HGTS ★ SHOWCASE WESTLAND ★ STAR GRATIOT ◆ STAR JOHN R AT 14 MILE RD. ◆ STAR LINCOLN PARK ◆
STAR ROCHESTER ◆ STAR TAYLOR ◆ MARCUS AMERICA FAIRLANE ★ MARCUS AMERICA 12 OAKS ★
★ — SHOWCASE CINEMAS
◆ — STAR THEATRES