MOVIES

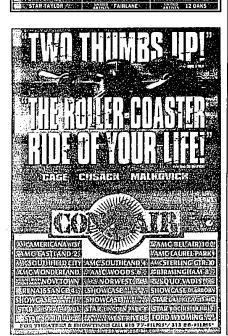


BULLINGE TENNES Star appeal: Julia Roberts, left, is back in form with "My Best Friend's Wedding" co-starring with Cameron Diaz.

DINO MITE! A SEQUEL WITH REAL TEETH CAMERICANAWEST AMC BEL AIR 10 AMC LAUREL PARK* SOUTHFIELD CITY AMC SOUTHLAND AMC STERLING CTR.10* MC WONDERLAND BEACON EAST BIRMINGHAM 8 CASE NORMS SHOWCASE WESTLAND STAR GRAND AT 18 MILES OHN R AT 14 MILES STAR LINCOLN PARK BS STAR ROCHESTER HILLS WEST RIVER FOR THEATRES & SHOWTIMES



MY BEST FRIEND'S		
PG-13	•	
STARTS FRID	AY, JUNE 20TH	AMC ABBEY
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MEHOWCASEAP 198	SHOWCASE HIGHES	SHOWCASE WESTLAND
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Roberts shines in new comedy



Julia Roberta? A couple of more career moves career moves like she's been making and the question would leave some film-goers carathing their heads. Now she's back in a romantic comedy that plays upon her best attributes: beauty, amarts, vulnerability, and surprising comic timing. Let's get something straight: I'm not exactly a Julia Roberts fan. I still wince at the enormous popularity of "Pretty Woman." Her sprite act in "Hook" irritated me. As the love interest of "Michael Collina," she brought that film to a grinding halt.

"My Best Friend's Wedding" is a different story indeed. Some

nine years ago her Julianne made a pact with best friend and former lover Michael, a scruffy sports writer (is there any other kind?) played by Dermot Mulroney. If neither is married by the time they both turn 28, they'll the knot. Just a few weeks before her birthday, she gets a desperate call.

weeks before her birthday, she gets a desperate call.
"I've met the perfect woman,"
Michael says. "We're getting married this weekend and we want you to be the maid of honor."

What's a girl to do? She packs her bags, grabs a plane for Chicago, and vows to break the marriage up in four days.

Each elaborate plan against perky, young bride-to-be (kimary (Cameron Diaz) backfires in perfect Wile E. Coyote feshion.

When she sets the tone-deaf bride une at kersoke her the bride up at a karacke bar, the locals applaud. When she tries to stir up disharmony about

Kimmy leaving college to tag along with Michael on his job, the couple reunites in seconds, clearing the air of a potentially volatile subject.

volatile subject.

As a last resort, Julianne omploys gay friend and publisher George (British actor Rupert Everett) to pretend that they're madly in love. The idea of her with another man does gat her old flame to notice, but how much you'll have to wait to see.

And that's the real magic of 'My Best Friend's Wedding."

While you can predict the conclusion of most movies after 10 minutes, writer Ronald Base' fresh approach to an old seewball comedy premise (remember 'His Girl Friday?') keeps stringing us along right up until the end. It's not Shakespeare, but Roberts' performance is complex enough performance is complex enough that you both hate and root for her at the same time.

If there's any justice at the box

office, this should replace "Pretty Woman" as her signature role.

Everyone comes off well. GenEveryone comes off well. GenX poster girl Cameron Diaz could have played your standard ditay rich girl, but she too has something up her sleeve. You feel bad that she's manipulated this way, but, as Julianne points out, sho only chose her rival as maid of honor to keep her at arm's length. Dermot Mulroney, usually relegated to friend roles, makes the most out of his rare chance at the center of attantion.

The director here is P.J. Hogan, who helmed the Australian crossoven hit Muriel's Wedding." Both have an affinity for the dipplest of popangs. While the previous film was filled with ABBA, this one employs Burt Bacharach cover tunes, including a hilariously over-the-top rendition of "Isay a Little Prayer For You" at the rehearsal dinner. It would take a second viewing to pick up all the clever little background touches that Hogan employs: the flaming restaurant grill as Julia concets another devilish plan or the placement of characters in relation to each other. Forget all those dinessures. My Best Friend's Wedding" will be the date movie of the summer.

John Monaghan welcomes your

John Monaghan welcomes your John Monaghan wetcomes your calls and comments. You can lis-ten to him on Dave Dixon's Radio Show AM 1270, 8 p.m. to mid-night Saturdays. To leave John a voice mail message, dial (313)953-2047 on a touch tone phone, mailbox 1886.

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CHEROE COMPLETE USTRACE AND TIME! Children Under 6 Not Admitted

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Scheduled to open Friday, June 20

ALL OVER ME Exclusively at the Main Art Theatro. Alison Folland and Tara Subkoff star in this drama about three teenagers com-ing of age – and coming out in New York City's Hell's Kitchen.

CHATMAN AND ROBIN
Adventures of the Dark Knight continue with two new heroes, Robin and Batgill and villelas, Mr. Freeze and Polson lys. Stara George Clooney, Chris O'Donnoli.

"TEMPTRESS MOON"
Story of seduction and betroyal s
1911 China. Stars Gong Li, Lesli
Gheung and Kevin Li Jianhua.

ULET'S GOLD
Story of a solitery and stubborn bee-keeper and his return to the world. Stars Peter Fonds, Patricia Richardson.

THE VANT
A raucous, tender story of friendship A raucous, tender story of friendship between two men and their ill-fated partnership in a fish 'n' chips fan. The third installment from Roddy Doyle's Barrytown trilegy "The Commitments," "The Snapper," Stars Colm Meaney, Donal O'Kelly.

Scheduled to open Friday, June 27

NERCURES
National feature: Danny DeVito, bob-cat Goldthwait, Rip Torn, James Woods and Matt Frewer provide the voices for Disney's 35th full-length animated musi-cal comedy.

cal comous.

RACE/OFF
Action thillier: John Travolta and Nicotas
Cage star in this thiller centering
oround a federal agent who surgiculty
sweps faces with a terrorist so he can
go undercover and expose his villainous

LOVE SERENADE

Black comedy about two sisters in rural Australia who find themselves in a stormy battle for the affection of the new man in town.

Scheduled to open Wednesday, July 2
"MEN IN BLACK"

"OUT TO ELA"
Walter Metthau and Jack Lemmon are
toamed up again on screen, this time as
uneasy brothers in law who wind up as
"dance hosts" obcard a cruise ship in
the Caribbean. The cornedy also stre
Dyan Cannon, dioria Deltavan, Hal
Linden.

Based on the true story of the dawdevil Stouffer brothers, "Wild America," follows three brothers as they travel cross country with their camera and have a country with their camera and have a manifection with the salimate that inspire them to become willfull occumentarions. Sters Jonathan Taylor Thomas.

Picase see COMING, E7