MOVIES

Quirky movies highlight holiday weekend



movies. Far from
a dumping
ground, many of
these films need
to open before
New Year's to
qualify for Oscar nominations

monadanan

The eight
movies bowing today run the
gamut from quirky comedy to
numbing tragedy. Three of them,
"Jackie Brown," "Deconstructing
Harry" and "The Sweet Hereafter" feature between them so
much maverick moviemaking
that you hope other filmmakers
use them as the basis for their
New Year's resolutions.

In his first film as director
since "Pulp Fiction," Quentin
Tarantino has assembled a few
of his favorite things and rolled
them together into something
called "Jackie Brown." The
movie is based on a novel by
Pamore Leonard, stars '70s
action heroine Pam Grier, and
features a soundtrack of vintage
soul.

At well over two hours, the

action heroine Pam Grier, and features a soundtrack of vintage soul.

'At well over two hours, the combination grows unwieldy to say the least. Grier plays an air-line stewardess collared for drug and money smuggling who promises to play ball with ATF agents to bring down the murderous gun salesman Ordell (Sam Jackson.)

'The plot thickens (and sometimes coagulates) when she makes a side deal with Ordell to smuggle more money under the Fpds noses. The most interesting thing about the payoff is the way Turantine plays with one of his trademark: non-linear time. Ultimately, this is more an Elmore Leonard movie than a Turantino one. The kinetic qualities and bizarre twists that made 'Pulp Fiction' such a blast are replaced here by characters and wists of fate that probably worked for better on the page before Tarantino got aheld of it.

Still, you have a fascinating cast, including '70s TV actor Robert Forster as an aging bail bondsmen, Robert De Niros Ordell's right hand may and Bridget Fonds as a 'surfor grid whose self-confessed ambitions consist of smoking pot and watching television.

Bizarre casting continues to be a staple of Woody Allen movies and "Deconstructing Harry" is no exception. His best film in

Hollywood has long made Dec. 25 a high-profile copening date for end-of-the-year movies. Far from (Allen, of course) whose complex dumping ground, many of

years stars Kirstie Alley, Demi Moore, Elisabeth Shue, Richard Benjamin, and Julia Louis-Dreyfuss in another intensely personal story of a self-absorbed writer (Allen, of course) whose complex (Allen, of course) whose complex (In yet, another homage to relationships fuel his fiction.

The movie poises between real-life and the writer's short fettion, adding up to a reminder of how clever Allen truly is as a short story author. In one, a young man uses the bachelor pad of a dying friend to date a prestitute. When the deorbell rings, a black-cloaked vision of death insists that, despite the man's pleas of mistaken identity, it's time to meet his maker.

How Allen juxtnposes these stories with real life is consistently clever. Who else would

dren. While some welcome his promise that justice will be served, others rightly see him as a money-hungry shyster profit-ing from misery.

Yet it's difficult to see Holm's Yet it's difficult to see Holm's character strictly in terms of villain. Throughout the proceedings, he is constantly reminded of his own heroin-addicted daughter, who constantly rings his cellular phone with sweet talk but inevitably tries to squeeze him for drug money. What Holm and the townspeople need to realize is that fate doesn't play by the rules. And despite the human need to lay blame on

ENTHUSIASTIC

"TITANCHASTHE

STATE AND SCORE OF THE CAFATEST EPICS

'A CINEMATIC Spectaculary Backaran duba

TURH KOMANTICKSK AND SWEEPING ENCHONAL FORCE

senseless tragedy, sometimes none can be found.

Egoyan, known for complex to family politics, gets it right this time. With his clever use of wide screen, he creates at least ane image that will be burned forever into your mind: a bright yellow school bus carefully negotiating turns on icy mountain roads, surrounded by an ondless expanse of heavenly white snow.

John Monaghan welcomes your calls and comments. To: leave John a voice mail message, dial (313) 953-2047 on a touch

-ITSTHE

MOVIE EVENT

OF THE YEAR.

TIN CAMERONS TRANCES GRAND

DURNET DIAL TAXES YOU FROM ENVASTO DELICAD

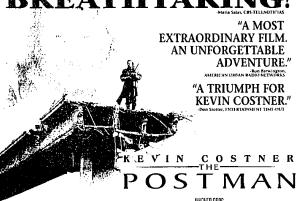
TEARIOGENATE.

Q GOLDEN GLOBE 8 ONOMINATIONS

· BEST PICTURE HIST DIMICTOR - JAMES CAMERON HIST ACTOR (DOMAN) LEONARDO DICAPRIO (BIST ACTRIBIS (DOMAN) - KATE WINSLET HIST SUPPORTING ACTRISS - GLORIA STUART BIST SEMISTRAT - JAMES CAMERON HIST ORIGINAL SCORE - JAMES HORNER

T DRIGINAL SONG - "MY HEART WILL GO ON" * ONE OF THE TOP TEN FILMS OF 1997 *





BANKS CENTROLL NESS AND THE PROTECTION OF THE PR [and description of the second state of the second second

R RIGHT

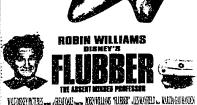
STARTS THURSDAY DECEMBER 25TH AMC AMERICIANA WEST
AMC BEL AIR AMC LAUREL PARK AMC SOUTHFIELD AMC SOUTHLAND
AMC STERLING CTR. AMC WONDERLAND BEACON EAST GCC NOVI TOWN CTR. +
SHOWCASE AURICIANTS SHOWCASE CHARGES SHOWCASE CHARGES STAR GRATIOT * STAR JOHN R * STAR LINCOLN PARK *
STAR ROCHESTER * STAR SOUTHFIELD GRANDERS * AMERICAN CONTROL OF THE STAR JOHN R * STAR LINCOLN PARK *
STAR ROCHESTER * STAR SOUTHFIELD GRANDERS * AMERICAN CONTROL OF THE STAR JOHN R * STAR LINCOLN PARK *

SHOWCASE WINNESS SHOWCASE WISHARD STAR GRATIOT AT 15 MILE STAR HOHER AT 14 MILE STAR HICKOH PARK B STAR ROCHESTER HILLS STAR SAVEN STAR SOUTHFIELD STAR TAYLOR STA

titanicmovie.com

PG-13 PAROTI FROM TARRES -





DEFICION DESIGNATION OF THE STREET OF THE ST ANCAMERICANAMIST AMC BEL AIR 10. AMC EASTLAND 5
AMC LAUREC PARK: AMC SOUTHFIELD CITY AMC SOUTHLAND 4

MCSTERLING CTR. 10 AMC WONDE	
PANUAL NOVETOWN SHOWCASE	SHOWCASE DEARBORN
SHOWCASERATIRE SHOWCASE.	SHOWCASE WISTLAND
STAR GRATIOT AL 15 AU. STAR JOHN R'A	FIAMILE STAR UNCOLVEARN &
STAR SOUTHFIELD: STAR WINCH	
or the stars is securifying the professions of the	

