SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, OCT. 4

SNIPES
Erik is an ambitious teenager who spends more time posting flyers for his favorite rapper, Prolifik, than sitting in the classroom. When he and his best friend stumble across a dead body one night, they trigger a series of tragic events. It turns out Prolifik, as well as the master tapes for his new record, have been kidnapped by a gang of thugs who want Bobby Starr, the ruthless president of Prolifik's label, to dish out a meaty ransom. If he doesn't, they promise to make sure Bobby's uncle and chief investor, the dangerous Johnny Marandino, knows just how carelessly Bobby has been spending his money. Through a misunderstanding, Erik becomes the target of Bobby Starr, as well as the kidnappers. Fearful for his own life, as well as his father's, Erik must find a way to get his hands on the master tapes, before Bobby Starr gets his hands on him. Stars Nelly, Sam Jones III, Dean Winters, Zoe Saldana, Mpho Koaho, Rashaan Hall, JD Williams, Victor Togunde, Carlo Alban, Joel Garland, Farrik Vincent. Directed by Rich Murray. (Bazan Ent.) Rated R.

8 WOMEN
At the end of the 1950, in a large bourgeois residence in the middle of the countryside, the master of the house is assassinated. Eight women close to the victim are present and one of them is clearly guilty of the crime. Representing the eight women in the ensemble are Catherine Deneuve as the Gaby, who loves her daughters more or less and her husband very little; Isabelle Huppert as Augusting, Gaby's sister and an old maid; Emmauelle Beart as the pretty chambermaid; Fanny Ardant as Pierrette, Gaby's sister-in-law and ex-nude dancer; Virginie Ledoyen a Suon, Gaby's eldest daughter, pretty and full of charm' Danielle Darrieux as Mamie the grandmother; Firmine Richard as the nanny; Ludivine Sagnier as Gaby's youngest daughter who adores detective novels. Francois Ozon directed the comedy. (Focus Features) Rated R

JUST A KISS
The story centers on Dag, a successful commercial director, who has finally committed to his live-in-love Halley. Or so he thought. Just when he thinks his philandering days are over he is tempted to stray by his best friend's girlfriend during an innocent out-of-town rendezvous. The decision to cheat or not cheat, kiss or not kiss, can send the proverbial snowball rolling downhill on course for collisions that cannot even by imagined, but all comically captured in a combination of innovative animation and live action. As Dag will find out, every decision (even the small ones) has consequences. Fisher Stevens directed the comedy, marking his feature directorial debut. (Paramount Classics) Rated R

SPIRITED AWAY
Chihiro, a 10-year-old girl in the midst of a move to the suburbs with her parents, wanders into a mysterious town. It's the "other world" of gods and monsters, ruled over by a witch. There, humans are changed into animals and disappear. Chihiro, who has a listless disposition, must start working at a huge bath house to survive. Can she return to her own world? Hayao (*Princess Mononoke*) Miyazaki helms the animated adventure. (Walt Disney Studios) Rated PG

JONAH: A VEGGIE TALES MOVIE
This is the first theatrical feature film of the popular direct-to-video animated kids' series about talking Christian vegetables. This is the story of Jonah and the Whale, as told with talking vegetables. Voice Cast: Phil Vischer, Kristin Blegen, Mike Nawrocki, Lisa Vischer. Directed by Mike Nawrocki. (Artisan Entertainment and FHE Pictures) Rated G. Running time: 90 minutes.

RED DRAGON
This is the story of former FBI agent Will Graham, nearly killed by Hannibal Lecter, who finds himself asking the imprisoned killer for help in solving a new serial killer. Stars Anthony Hopkins, Edward Norton, Ralph Fiennes, Anthony Heald, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Harvey Keitel, Mary Louise Parker, Emily Watson. Directed by Brett Ratner. (Universal Pictures) Rating R.

SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, OCT. 11

BROWN SUGAR
Sidney and Dre can attribute their friendship and the launch of their careers to one single childhood instant: Witnessing the birth of hip-hop on a New York street corner. Now some 15 years later, she is a revered music critic and he is a successful, though unfulfilled, music executive. Both come to realize that their true life passions can only be fulfilled by remembering what they learned that day on the corner. Featured players include Taye (*The Best Man*) Diggs as Dre, Sanaa (*Love & Basketball*) Lathan as Sidney, Queen Latifah as Sidney's best friend and Mos Def as Dre's latest musical discovery. Rick (*The Hood*) Famuyiwa directed the romantic comedy. (Fox Searchlight) Rated PG-13

KNOCKAROUND GUYS
The story follows four sons of well-known Brooklyn mobsters who attempts to take on greater responsibility within the family business by retrieving a bag of cash from a small Montana town. Featured among the ensemble are John (*Rounders*) Malkovich, Dennis (*Meet the Deedles*) Hopper, Barry (*Saving Private Ryan*) Pepper, Seth (*Idle Hands*) Green, Vin (*Saving Private Ryan*) Diesel and Andrew (*Bringing Out the Dead*) Davoli. Of the drama directed by first time helmers Brian Koppelman and David Levien: "As they unite to find the money, they come face-to-face with the bloodshed and betrayal that is their birthright." (New Line) Rated R

TUCK EVERLASTING
Alexis Bledel (TV's *Gilmore Girls*) plays a free-spirited 15-year-old in a stuffy Victorian household who stumbles on the Tucks, a strange family hiding out on the grounds. They, the teen learns, have discovered a spring that makes them immortal. When the teen disappears, a man (Ben Kingsley) assigned to find her tries to use the spring for his personal gain. The teen must decide whether to become immortal and stay with a Tuck she's fallen in love with. Featured players include Sissy Spacek and Amy Irving. Jay Russell directed the drama. (Buena Vista) Rated PG

WHO'S YOUR DADDY?
Chris Hughes gets to live every teenager's dream when he learns that his biological parents have left him one of the biggest adult magazine empires in the world. Money, a mansion, playmates. Chris has it all. But not everything is, as it seems. Waiting in the wings to usurp the empire is Chris' Uncle Duncan Mack. Between dealing with his new-found super stardom and avaricious uncle, Chris has his hands full. Featured players include newcomer Brandon Davis, Charlie Talbert, Ali Landry, and Patsy Kensit. Andy Fickman directed the comedy. (Premiere Group) Rated R

THE TRANSPORTER
The story centers on a delivery man who is supposed to transport packages without asking any questions, but gets in trouble when he asks what he's been transporting. Dangerous complications ensue when the former U.S. Special forces soldier-turned expatriate mercenary is hired to kidnap the feisty daughter of a lethal Chinese cook who's smuggling his fellow countrymen into France. Jason (*Snatch*) Statham stars as the delivery man with too many questions. Also stars, Matt Schulze, Shu Qi, and Francois Berland. Corey (*Legend of the Red Dragon*) Yuen helms the action. (Twentieth Century Fox) Rated PG-13

BELOW
Overflowing with terrifying deep-water intrigue, this WWII submarine thriller sets a crew at risk of combat, just as they discover that some other evil-a giant monster-lurks in the deep sea below. Stars Bruce Greenwood, Olivia Williams, Scott Foley, Zach Galifianakis, Holt McCallany. Directed by David Twohy. (Miramax) Rating TBD

SWEPT AWAY
Madonna stars as Amber, a spoiled socialite who goes on an Italian cruise with friends and begins a passionate affair with a crude sailor when they become stranded on a remote desert island. Featured players include Bruce Greenwood (*Thirteen Days*) as Amber's industrialist husband, Jeanne Tripplehorn (*Mickey Blue Eyes*), as her best friend, Adrianno Giannini, as the sailor. Guy Ritchie directed the remake of Lina Wertmuller's 1974 film. (Screen Gems) Rated R

POKEMON 4 EVER
Meet the rare and legendary Celebi, the newest Pokemon on the block. Known as the "Voice of the Forest," it's cute and radically powerful. With the squint of an eye and a flutter of its wings, Celebi can summon its extraordinary powers and leap through time. While on an expedition in the woods, young traveler Sam has a fateful run-in with the ailing Celebi. In order to escape an evil Pokemon hunter, Celebi uses its powers to travel to the future, unintentionally bringing Sam along for the ride. It is there that Sam and Celebi meet Pokemon master-in-training Ash, Pikachu and the mighty and majestic Pokemon Suicune. Created by Satoshi Tajiri. Adaptation directed by Jim Malone. Adaptation Screenplay by Michael Haigney. (Miramax) Rating TBD

THE RULES OF ATTRACTION
Set in an affluent New England liberal arts college in the 1960's, an emerging sexual triangle emerges between Sean Bateman, who deals drugs on the side, Paul Owen, who's bisexual, and Paul's ex-girlfriend, Lauren. Stars Kip Pardue, Eric Stoltz, Kate Bosworth, Clifton Collins Jr., Ian Somerhalder. Directed by Roger Avary. (Lions Gate) Rating R. Running time: 104 minutes

WHITE OLEANDER
Ingrid Magnussen, a feminist poet, poisons her ex-boyfriend in a fit of jealousy, and is sentenced to life in prison, forcing her essentially orphaned daughter, Astrid, to deal with living in Los Angeles foster homes, which put her through a wringer of hard circumstances dealing with five very different women. Stars Michelle Pfeiffer, Alison Lohman, Patrick Fugit, Robin Wright Penn, Noah Wyle, Renee Zellweger, Amy Aquino, Debra Cristofferson, Charles Constant, Marc Donato (Davey), Svetlana Efremova, Cole Hauser, Leila Kenzle, Cathy Ladman, Matt Malloy, Taryn Manning, Melissa Marsala, Rudolf Martin, Allison Munn, Stephen Root, Samantha Shelton, Liz Stauber, Kimo Wills. Directed by Peter Kosminsky. (Warner Bros.) Rated PG-13.

SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, OCT. 18

HEAVEN
In Turin, four innocent people are victims of a bomb attack. An English teacher named Philippa is taken into custody - she does not resist her arrest. Philippa is, nevertheless, utterly destroyed by what has occurred, because the bomb was intended for someone else altogether, namely a drug dealer responsible for the death of her husband as well as the deaths of many of her students. However, for reasons not immediately apparent, the police insist that Philippa's motives for the attack were entirely political. Filippo, a young police officer who translates Philippa's statement into Italian while she is being questioned, is the only one who believes this Englishwoman's story. Filippo is, moreover, convinced that he and Philippa were made for each other. Stars Cate Blanchett, Giovanni Ribisi. Directed by Tom Tykwer. (Miramax) Rated R

NAQOYQATSI
A feature-length art piece melding the music of Philip Glass with images of humanity and nature from around the world. The theme this time around is technology's destructive invasion on nature, and the history and origins of man's tendencies towards war. Directed by Godfrey Reggio. (Miramax) Rated PG

ABANDON
Catherine Burke is under pressure. She faces exams, completion of her thesis, and a competitive interview process, all of which is compounded when a police detective, Wade Handler, begins investigating the two year-old disappearance of her boyfriend, Embry Langan, a young man whose memory haunts and obsesses her. As the investigation continues, Catherine is forced to choose between past passions and new possibilities, even as Handler is discovering surprising new facts about Embry and his possible connection to another disappearance from campus. Stars Katie Holmes, Benjamin Bratt, Charlie Hunnem, Zooey Deschanel, Gabrielle Union, Gabriel Mann, Mark Feuerstein, Melanie Lynskey, Will McCormack and Fred Ward. Directed by Stephen Gaghan. (Paramount Pictures) Rating PG-13.

FORMULA 51
Nothing could prepare the tough Liverpool underworld for the golf-club-wielding, kilt-clad Elmo McElroy (Samuel L. Jackson). He's here on business, and he's burnt more than bridges back in Los Angeles. Babysitting his is the last thing on local hood Felix's mind. He's just there to go in, get the money and get out. Until suddenly everyone else who's in on the deal is dead, and the only way to get his hands on the 20 million is to pair up with a crazy yank with a price on his head, and a talent for destruction. Featured among the cast are Robert Carlyle, Meat Loaf, Rhys Ifans and Emily Mortimer. (Sony Pictures) Rated R

THE RING
In this remake of the popular 1998 Japanese horror film that was based on a series of novels by Suzuki Koji, Naomi Watts plays a journalist who investigates an urban legend about a cursed videotape said to kill anyone who watches it. Martin Henderson costars as her ex-husband, a photojournalist. The two have a child together and are forced to put their differences aside to fight the evil force together. Gore Verbinski directed the thriller. (Dreamworks SKG) Rated PG-13

BLOODY SUNDAY
On January 30, 1972 in Londonderry, Northern Ireland, local Irish civilians assembled for a peaceful civil rights march; twenty-seven were shot by members of the British Army. This pivotal event, politics at its most personal, fueled a renewed cycle of violence that tore a country apart. Of the story: "An estimated 50,000 people attended the Derry march, as many Catholic workers and young people, increasingly alienated from official politics, began demanding an end to anti-Catholic discrimination in the North." Featured players James Nesbitt, Tim Pigott-Smith and Nicholas Farrell. (Paramount Classics) Rated R

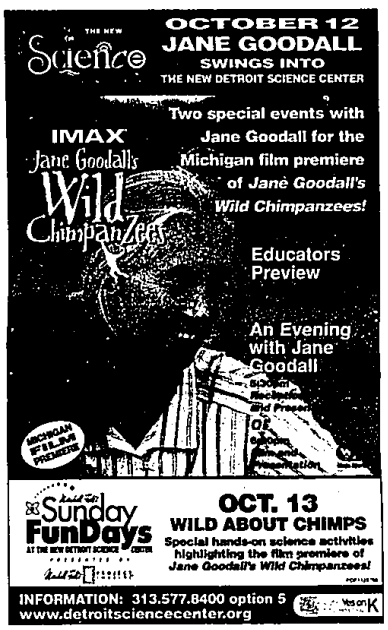
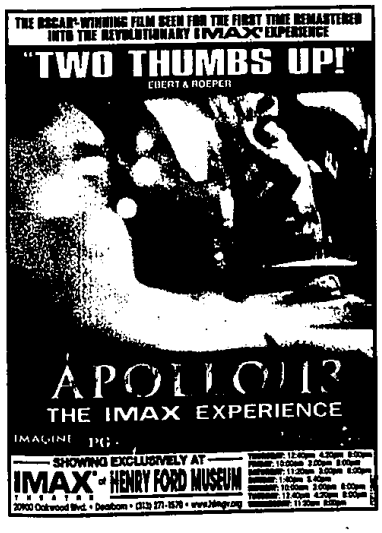
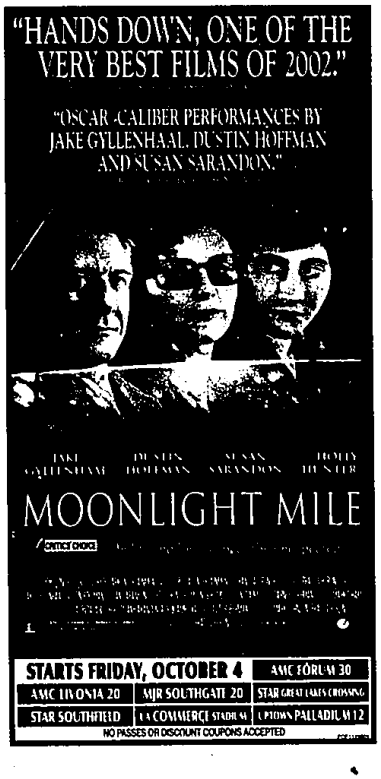
SCHEDULED TO OPEN FRIDAY, OCT. 25

GHOST SHIP
A salvage crew that discovers a long-lost 1953 passenger ship floating lifeless in a remote region of the Bering Sea soon notices, as they try to tow it back to land, that "strange things" happen. Stars Gabriel Byrne, Alex Dimitriades, Ron Eldard, Desmond Harrington, Julianna Margulies, Karl Urban, Isaiah Washington. Directed by Steve Beck. (Warner Bros.) Rated R.

THE GREY ZONE
Based on actual events, a staggeringly powerful story of the Auschwitz's twelfth Sonderkommando, one of the thirteen consecutive 'Special Squads' of Jewish prisoners placed by the Nazis in the excruciating moral dilemma of helping to exterminate fellow Jews in exchange for a few months of life. Stars David Arquette, Steve Buscemi, Harvey Keitel, Mira Sorvino, Natasha Lyonne, Daniel Benzali, Allan Corduner. Directed by Tim Blake Nelson. (Lions Gate) Rating R. Running Time: 108 minutes.

THE GUEST
When his mean boss asks him to housesit, a young man tries to use it as an opportunity to win the heart of his boss's daughter, on whom he has long had a crush. What he doesn't plan on is the long line of other housequests that come along in the meantime. Stars Ashton Kutcher, Tara Reid, Carmen Elektra, Andy Richter, Molly Shannon, Terrance Stamp, Ever Carradine, Jon Abrahams, David Koechner. Directed by David Zucher. (Miramax) Rating TBD

JACKASS: THE MOVIE
Based upon the popular and controversial "reality TV" and/or "daredevil stunt show" series that ran for two seasons (2000-2001) on MTV. Stars Johnny Knoxville, Ryan Dunn, Bam Margera, Steve O. Directed by Jeff Tremaine. (Paramount Pictures) Rated R.

THE TRUTH ABOUT CHARLIE
A young woman in Paris is about to divorce her husband when she discovers... he's dead; and all their money is gone. She meets a mysterious man, who tells her that the money was really his, and he wants it back, seemingly convinced that she's hiding the cash. Meanwhile, more people end up dead. Stars Mark Wahlberg, Thandie Newton, Tim Robbins, Christine Boisson, Jim Brooks, Stephen Dillane, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Ted Levine, Joong-Hoon Park. Directed by Jonathan Demme. (Universal Pictures) Rating PG-13.

PUNCH DRUNK LOVE
Adam Sandler stars as Barry, the owner of a failing phone-sex business. With three thugs out to get him because of his business problems, his sister tries to st him up on a blind date with a friend (Emily Watson). Disinterested at first, he ends up meeting her by chance, thereby setting the stage for a trip to Hawaii where he hopes to find her. Other featured players include Philip Seymour Hoffman, *Luis Guzman, and Mary Lynn Rajskub*. Paul Thomas Anderson directed the comedy, marking his first since completing *Magnolia* in 1999. (SONY PICTURES) Rated R.