

Tale of two comedies

'Bruce Almighty' and 'The In-Laws' look fun and fanciful



Albert Brooks and Michael Douglas play two prospective fathers-in-law with completely different personalities in 'The In-Laws.' They are thrown together in a wild adventure on the eve of their children's nuptials.

Two whimsical comedies with incredible plot set-ups - one more grounded in reality and the other, pure fantasy - make their way to theaters this weekend.

On the more realistic side is *The In-Laws*, the story of two fathers with dramatically different lifestyles and personalities who are thrown together in a wild adventure on the eve of their children's nuptials.

The prospective father-in-laws are Jerome Peyser, a mild-mannered politician with a well-organized, daily routine played by Albert Brooks, and Steve Tobias, a daredevil CIA operative played by Michael Douglas.

Tobias is trying to wrap up a very important case that could affect the safety of countless lives worldwide - not to mention, the wedding plans. Peyser wants to stop the nuptials. But before the good doctor can, he is thrust into Tobias' undercover world, a top-secret international arms-smuggling deal.

With the summer wedding season upon us, the theatrical release of *The In-Laws* comes at an appropriate time - comic relief for those in the throes of planning a wedding. Hey, seating chart revisions pale in comparison to nuclear weapons.

The In-Laws, a Warner Bros. release, is rated PG-13. A fantasy with sure-fire appeal sets up *Bruce Almighty*, starring the larger-than-life Jim Carrey.

Carrey character, Bruce Nolan, is a discontented man who has an especially bad day and gets mad at God. He quickly finds himself face-to-face with God, played by Morgan Freeman, who bestows upon him all his divine powers, challenging him to do a better job.

One can only imagine where Carrey takes his almighty character. The actor's energy level and wild antics almost always make for great entertainment. His girlfriend Grace is played by Friends television star Jennifer Aniston. Pictures release, is rated PG-13.

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OBSEVER & ECCENTRIC GUIDE TO THE MOVIES

National Assessments Showcase Classics

- Movie: Dearborn 18**
Michigan's Dearborn 18
115-561-3429
Sargent Motors Daily
All Shows 12-6 pm
Last Show in to Sat.
- Monday Day Care PG**
1 Mon 11-11
The Little Mermaid PG
Monday
Madison's Most Wanted 11
- SHOWERS**
Westland 18
734-726-1900
Sargent Motors Daily
All Shows 12-6 pm
Last Show Fr. to Sat.
no movies on Wed.
- Monday Day Care PG**
1 Mon 11-11
The Little Mermaid PG
Monday
Madison's Most Wanted 11
- Anger Management 13**
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Star Theatres
The Woods & Waters
Sargent Motors Daily 11-6 AM
Now adding 7:30 & 9:00 PM
Now adding 7:30 & 9:00 PM
*70+ Shows No Post Engagement

Star Great Lakes Crossing
Great Lakes Shopping Center
248-434-9366

- MP DADDY DAY CARE (PG)
- MP MIGHTY WIND (PG-13)
- MP THE LUZZE INCUBATE MOVIE (PG)
- IT RAINS IN THE FAMILY (PG-13)
- MP DADDY DAY CARE (PG)
- MP MIGHTY WIND (PG-13)
- MP THE LUZZE INCUBATE MOVIE (PG)
- IT RAINS IN THE FAMILY (PG-13)
- HOUSE OF HORRORS (PG-13)
- ANGEL MANAGEMENT (PG-13)
- WHAT A GUY! (PG)
- HEAD OF STATE (PG-13)
- RECKONING DOWN THE HOUSE (PG-13)
- CHICKEN (PG-13)
- CALL FOR COMPLETE LISTINGS AND TIMES

Star Johns B
411 N. Main
1279 John B. Road
248-383-2070
No movie on Sat. PG-13
Fr. to Sat. 11-9 pm

- MP DADDY DAY CARE (PG)
- MP THE LUZZE INCUBATE MOVIE (PG)
- DO IT YOURSELF (PG)
- IT RAINS IN THE FAMILY (PG-13)
- CONFERENCE (PG)
- MADNESS MOST WANTED (PG-13)
- ANGEL MANAGEMENT (PG-13)
- RECKONING DOWN THE HOUSE (PG-13)
- BULLETIN BOARD (PG-13)
- CHICKEN (PG-13)
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Star Rochester Hills
200 Sargent Circle
833-2260
No movie on Sat. 12:00-2:00 PM
PG-13 & 12:00-2:00 PM

- MP DADDY DAY CARE (PG)
- MP MIGHTY WIND (PG-13)
- MP THE LUZZE INCUBATE MOVIE (PG)
- DO IT YOURSELF (PG)
- IT RAINS IN THE FAMILY (PG-13)
- MADNESS MOST WANTED (PG-13)
- ANGEL MANAGEMENT (PG-13)
- CHICKEN (PG-13)
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Birmingham 18
12
250 North of Old Woodward
248-444-FLM

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- MP MIGHTY WIND (PG-13)
- MP THE LUZZE INCUBATE MOVIE (PG)
- DO IT YOURSELF (PG)
- IT RAINS IN THE FAMILY (PG-13)
- MADNESS MOST WANTED (PG-13)
- ANGEL MANAGEMENT (PG-13)
- CHICKEN (PG-13)
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Westland 18
734-726-1900
Sargent Motors Daily
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Last Show Fr. to Sat.
no movies on Wed.

- MP DADDY DAY CARE (PG)
- MP MIGHTY WIND (PG-13)
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- DO IT YOURSELF (PG)
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Bret Michaels always creating

BY LANA MINI
STAFF WRITER



Bret Michaels has just released his fourth solo CD, and will be at DTE Energy Music Theatre on Friday, May 30.

WHERE TO HEAR AND SEE BRET MICHAELS

Bret Michaels, lead singer for Poison, just released his fourth solo CD, *Songs of Life*. The CD, available at local record stores, contains an enhanced video for Raine a song written for his daughter Raine.

Friday, May 30 - Poison with Michaels comes to the DTE Energy Music Theatre. Specials guests are, former Motley Crue frontman Vince Neil and Skid Row. Showtime is 7 p.m. Tickets \$38 pavilion, \$23 lawn. Poison shows are quite consistently known for sell-outs. Purchase tickets in advance at all Ticketmaster outlets or by calling (248) 645-6666.

Rent the videos. Michaels wrote, directed and starred in the movie *A Letter From Death Row* also featuring Martin Sheen. The second movie *No Code of Conduct* was co-written by Michaels and Charlie Sheen.

Read more about his unusual career at www.bretmichaels.com

During a conversation with Michaels last week from his home in Canada, the singer discussed the hardships and blessings of his unpredictable life.

Michaels just released his fourth solo CD, *Songs of Life*. It's an energetic blend of straight-up rock n' roll, reflective country Americana, fun pop rock and a few honest ballads that are heart-breaking to hear. His song *Raine*, written for his daughter Raine, is marked as a hit and rightfully so. The CD also contains a beautifully filmed video of *Raine*.

Michaels embraces fatherhood.

her through the window with my ex-friend Jim. She broke my heart, sold my guitar and I wrote this crap."

The song *Strange Sensation* rings of pure Michaels sex-appeal: "Why do I love you in my head, why do I hate you in my head?" Others are reflective "love and pain and sacrifice, flesh and blood are the songs of life" in the song *Songs of Life*. The song *One More Day* was written in honor of a man killed in the World Trade Center attack: "Sometimes I wonder if I wasted all those years. For all the things I forgot to say...would you give me more day."

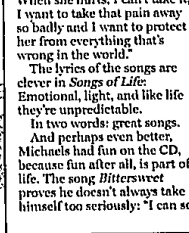
"September 11 was a horrible day for me...just like it was for everyone in America. I was angry, I was sad, I was confused...and the song *One More Day* came out of me when I heard about one particular man, a father, who died. As a father myself this is what came out of me," he said.

Michaels admits his life is rich. He has a seemingly flawless model girlfriend who is the mother of his daughter Raine, wealth, a band that has survived the sex and drugs of rock n' roll and a successful music career. Even better, Michaels said, he's actually friends with his Poison bandmates. He's also an extreme sports enthusiast - participating, not just watching.

He's made repeated guest appearances on the *Chris Isaak Show* and will return there again. At 40 years old with the toned, muscular body of someone in his 20s, Michaels seems unstoppable.

The hardships of his life, Michaels said, helped form the more serious tones of *Songs of Life*.

Michaels is an insulin-dependent diabetic. He's had to give himself more than 50,000 injections and blood checks over his lifetime and must always be aware of his body. Unlike many stereotypical rock musicians, Michaels couldn't indulge without suffering immediate consequences.



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