

## The Fall Guys:

Autumn films set out to replace a summer even superheroes couldn't save  
by Deanna Symoski

At first, I thought it was just me, that I was out of some Hollywood loop this summer, where bad movies were the hot thing and I wasn't cool enough to understand the artistry behind films like *Big Momma's House* or the cinematic genius of *Hollow Man*. But it turns out I only saw two movies this summer because the blockbuster season seriously lacked either one of these elements. Okay, so a lot of movies lack genius, but common sense would be nice.

So as the mark of the end of summer comes and goes (and takes those hideous attempts at filmmaking with it), a whole new season of films swoops in to make amends (hopefully).

### Urban Legends: Final Cut

In the fine tradition of *Urban Legends* and *I Know What You Did Last Summer* comes *Final Cut*. Three student filmmakers at Alpine University compete for the coveted Hitchcock Award in hopes of launching their professional careers. When Amy focuses her thesis film on those sinister stories, fatal "accidents" star befalling crew members and it is up to Amy to catch the killer. Due Date: September 22

### Girlfight

No, it's not the director's cut of *Coyote Ugly*. Actually, this is a film about Diana, played by newcomer Michelle Rodriguez, who takes up boxing as a way to cope with her past and live life by her own rules. As co-winner of the Grand Jury Prize for Best Dramatic Film at the 2000 Sundance Festival, *Girlfight* may just have the capacity to offer a new strength for women in film. Due Date: September 29

### The 6th Day

In Roger Spottiswoode's near future, cloning is not only possible, it is a normal way of producing cattle, fish and even the family pet. However, cloning humans is still illegal, so when family man Adam Gibson, played by Arnold Schwarzenegger, comes home to find another version of himself, it's obvious something is not quite right. Plucked from his life and his family, Gibson is in terrible danger of assassins who are desperate to protect their secret. Due Date: December 8



**All the Pretty Horses** is a coming of age story about Texas teenager John Grady, played by Oscar winner Matt Damon. Upon the sale of the ranch where he grew up, Grady and pal Lacey Rawlins (Henry Thomas, better known as "the little kid in *E.T.*") ride into the sunset, and into Mexico where they are hired to break horses at a wealthy hacienda. There, Grady falls for the ranch owner's daughter Alejandra, played by Penelope Cruz, and the two surrender to an ill-fated love affair that results in murder. Due Date: Late Fall



**Cast Away**, starring two-time Academy Award winner Tom Hanks and Helen Hunt, is an endeavor for the human spirit while focusing on what happens when no one is there to vote you off the island. Chuck Noland (Hanks), a FedEx systems engineer, is a fast-paced professional who lives by the clock and leaves little time for his longtime girlfriend, played by Hunt. But when his life is dramatically altered after a plane crash, the descent into a new kind of humanity begins as he attempts to survive on a remote island. Due Date: December 22

**Men of Honor** is based on the true life story of Carl Brashear (portrayed



by Oscar Winner Cuba Gooding, Jr.), the son of a Kentucky sharecropper with no more than a seventh-grade education and the dream of a career as a Navy Diver. As a young, black third-class sailor, Brashear spends most of his time writing letters to get into the Navy Dive School Program. Finally, he is admitted and encounters Billy Sunday (played by Robert De Niro), a Navy legend, both for skill and troublemaking. Sunday is convinced of Brashear's spirit and tempts the system by helping the first African-American Navy Diver overcome a crippling injury and a racist bureaucracy. Due Date: November 10

### Charlie's Angels

It sounds like *MI:2* but with chicks...we'll see. For now, all we know is that there are three private investigators, lots of gadgets (what the press packet called "high-tech tools") and a man named Charlie. Based on the '70s sitcom, the update stars Cameron Diaz, Lucy Liu, Drew Barrymore and Bill Murray. Oh yeah, and there's some sort of plot about a kidnapped billionaire and his secrets. Due Date: November 3

### Tigerland

As tensions rise in Vietnam, the men of A-Company, Second Platoon, await the inevitable orders of active duty. Each faces the prospect in his own way: for the writer, battle will be inspiration; for the fighter, this is fate. But when one rogue soldier defies his position in Tigerland, the last training exercise before Vietnam, the true innocence of boys thrown into battle becomes abundantly clear. Due Date: October 6

### Vertical Limit

A tale full of emotion and adventure, *Vertical Limit* stars Chris O'Donnell as a young climber who must endure the torture of natural elements as he embarks on a rescue mission up K-2, the world's second highest peak. When his sister and her summit team become trapped on the mountain, it is up to O'Donnell to get to them before time and the will to survive run out. Due Date: December 8

### Bedazzled

When a gorgeous woman tells you she'll grant you seven wishes, look for the catch. In the new comedy starring Brendan Fraser as Elliot Richards and Elizabeth Hurley as the Devil, temptation is everywhere, and wishes need to be specific. Elliot is a clumsy, but good-natured technical-support advisor who sells his soul for a chance with Alison, a female co-worker. In the process, however, he is transformed into everything from a Colombian drug lord to "the most sensitive man in the world." Elliot soon learns the truth of the old adage: be careful what you wish for. Due Date: October 20.

\*\*Keep in mind that all release dates are subject to change.\*\*

## Sic' Em FIDO

by Deanna Symoski



## Parental Advisory:

Are some musicians fit for raising kids?

(and some other things I think)

Originally, this editorial was supposed to be about something completely different. I was going to write about Eminem's custody battle and how image shouldn't play a role in his ability to raise his child. I meant to defend the rapper because, hey, I don't know what he does in the privacy of his own home, and I certainly don't see how he treats his young daughter first hand. I had this whole argument set up, and then I conducted some research that forced me to listen to *The Marshall Mathers LP*, and something changed. I knew songs like "The Real Slim Shady" and I could even deal with "The Way I Am," but "Kim" was so grossly disturbing that I got to thinking about what I thought. And here's what I came up with.

At this age, it's cool to defend anything that pushes the envelope and gets under the skin of a conservative public. We are still somewhat wrapped in the teenage cloak of rebellion for rebellion's sake. If our parents hate it, that's good enough for us. But somewhere in that, the idea of decency got lost and we, perhaps inadvertently, opened the floodgates to a society so complacent with gratuitous, and exceedingly heinous violence and sex, that the mere idea of proposing a standard makes you look like that whiny kid in the neighborhood who used to run home every time he got dirty. The fight for freedom of speech has turned to making its point by showing the most inappropriate and disgusting material it can muster right in our faces. And because you agree with freedom of speech and loathe the idea of censorship just as much as I do, you consume the stench of the media's products and then spend your free time defending it.

But the truth is, I couldn't write that first editorial because I don't really know if I believed what I was writing, and I couldn't fully get behind giving a violent, misogynistic thug his child just because I would please all his fans by saying so. Actually, I think Em's total environment is an unfit place for a child. And while we're at it, I also think that part of the reason movies failed so miserably this summer is because the fart joke is getting old. Creativity, being stunted by movie, music and television execs who are looking for success by jumping on the bandwagon of bad taste. Relishing the same tired formula did nothing for the summer except to help consumers realize they would rather see heroes in *Gladiator* and *The Perfect Storm* than idiots in *Me, Myself and Irene*.

The question here is a timeless one, and you probably heard your parents say it a few times along the way: "if [insert friend's name here] jumped off a bridge, would you jump, too?" The idea is to think for yourself and avoid the pressure of just going along with something that offends even your most basic principles just because all your friends listen to it or watch it or read it. Morality, a word I was reluctant to use earlier for fear the mere sight of it would make you stop reading, shouldn't have to lose its place in pop culture. Instead, it should be okay to draw a line between acceptable and unacceptable—it doesn't make you that kid in the neighborhood, it makes you an educated adult with the maturity to make that kind of statement.

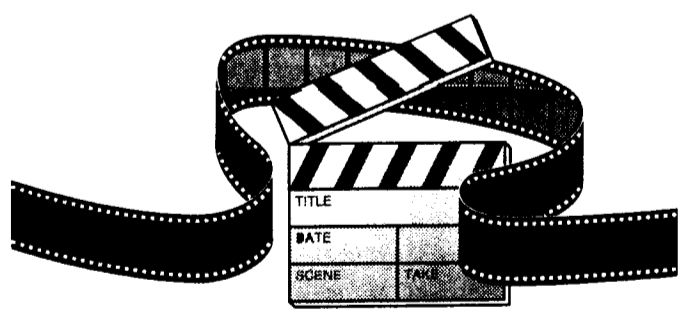
Okay, here's where you come in.

Some of you are going to love what I say, and some of you won't, so this box will give you the chance to tell me what you think.

Each week, send an e-mail to [Behrcoll5@aol.com](mailto:Behrcoll5@aol.com)

and answer the following question. Title the subject line "fido yes" or "fido no" and if you want to make comments feel free to include an actual message. The results will appear in this box the following week. This week's question:

**Do you think violence and sex has gone too far in the media?**



## New Releases

### Movies

*Highlander: Endgame*  
9/1

*Whipped*  
9/1

*The Watcher*  
9/8

### Video

*Boys Don't Cry*  
9/5  
*Drive Me Crazy*  
9/5

*Simpson's Halloween*  
9/5

*Superstar*  
9/5

### Music

No  
New  
Releases

### DVD

*Any Given Sunday*  
9/1

*Edward Scissorhands*  
9/5

*Men In Black*  
9/5  
*Omen Collection*  
9/5