

## Streep stars in The River Wild Full of suspense, action

Anne-Marie Miller  
Assistant Editor

If you like an adventure-filled movie and have a craving for suspense, this is just the movie for you.

Taking place on white water rapids, *The River Wild* is an exciting mixture of heart-stopping suspense and fast-action adventure starring two-time Academy Award winner Meryl Streep, Kevin Bacon, and David Strathairn.

Gail, (Streep - *Sophie's Choice*, *Out of Africa*) is a former river guide taking her family, including the family dog, Maggie, on a white-water rafting trip.

Her husband, Tom (Strathairn - *A Dangerous Woman*, *A League of Their Own*) is an architect who seems to not have enough time to spend with her and his ten-year-old son, Roarke (Joseph Mazzello - *Jurassic Park*, *Shadowlands*).

For Tom and Gail, this trip is a last ditch attempt to save their troubled marriage, and a chance for Tom to salvage his relationship with his son.

Their trip takes a curious turn when they befriend two mysterious strangers, also rafting. Wade (Kevin Bacon - *Footloose*, *A Few Good Men*) and Terry (John C. Reilly - *What's Eating Gilbert Grape*, *Hoffa*) had just

robbed a cattle auction and need to reach the end of the river in order to make a getaway, unbeknownst to Tom and Gail.

In the beginning, Wade uses his boyish charm to impress Gail and pals around with Roarke, who, unfortunately, soon looks up to him.

When Wade and Terry's tour guide "disappears," Gail and Tom agree to help them out. Not long after, Gail and Tom start feeling uneasy about them and the way Roarke idolizes Wade, so they decide to leave them behind.

Catching onto their plan, Wade and Terry take the family hostage because they realize that they need Gail, the only person on the trip with white-water rafting experience, to get to their destination.

In order to save her family, Gail is forced to help them reach the end of the river. She has to use all her wits, skills and strength in order to protect her loved ones and bring them together as a family to survive.

Not only does *The River Wild* satisfy a hunger for suspense and adventure, it also satisfies nature lovers. Primarily filmed in Oregon and Montana, the movie provides vast, beautiful scenery that is magnificent.

The stunts performed throughout the whole movie looked not only were dangerous, but also fun to do. Although stunt doubles were used, Streep performed the majority of



Press Photo

John C. Reilly, Kevin Bacon, Meryl Streep and Joseph Mazello star in suspense-filled movie, *The River Wild*. (Universal City Studios Inc.)

her stunts herself.

Computer enhancements were also utilized for the more dangerous stunts.

All the actors gave spectacular performances (yes, even Maggie the dog.) Al-

though the movie may not win any Emmy awards, viewers will remember the scenery and the thrill it gave them (the way *Fatal Attraction* is remembered for its suspense.)

I would warn anyone with a weak

heart not to see *The River Wild*. If you are afraid of enjoying yourself, stay home also.

Everyone else should shell out a couple of dollars and go see it. It's definitely worth it.

## Tom Hanks stars in Forrest Gump - a movie that all generations will enjoy

Jeff Wittmaier  
Staff Writer

People of all ages come out of the movie theater, each person with a different look on their face, depending on their age. Young children come out looking thoughtful, college-aged people appear moved, and older people look touched or reminiscent.

These people have all come from the same movie, *Forrest Gump*. *Forrest Gump* stars Tom Hanks as a slow-witted, but kind man from Alabama who runs into just about every famous person and event from the past 40 years.

The film, directed by Robert Zemeckis, has become a cultural touchstone. Zemeckis, who used great special effects in *Back to the Future* and *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* also employs them here in *Forrest Gump*.

He uses advanced technology to have Gump meet George Wallace, Richard Nixon, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Elvis Presley, and John Lennon.

While some believe the movie is a bit

unrealistic because Gump sees every one of his fantasies come true, others are touched as they see him fulfilling fantasies of theirs and admire the courage of a young man who was so often teased.

Older people who see the movie reminisce about where they were when the events that occur in the movie happen to Gump. Younger generations get a better understanding of events such as the assassination of J.F.K.

No matter how viewers see the movie, every person will come away with a different perspective of it. Some will tell their friends what a touching story it was or about the great special effects



Press Photo

Gump (Tom Hanks) is reunited with Lieutenant Dan Taylor (Gary Sinise). (Paramount Pictures)

and tell them that it is a "must see", which has helped it to become one of the biggest hits of

the year.

Hanks does a great job of portraying Gump and has added another serious movie to his resume, following his role in the movie *Philadelphia*. Even though *Forrest Gump* has its humorous parts, it is a serious movie and proves that Hanks is more than just a comic actor.

Sally Field also puts in an impressive performance as Gump's loving mother who will not let her son be different. She encourages him in everything that he does and never allows Gump to believe that he is below average.

*Forrest Gump* addresses the Viet-

nam Conflict, which is one nightmare in Gump's odyssey. It shows a different angle of Vietnam than other war movies and gives praise to Vietnam veterans.

Through it all there are two things that remain constant for Gump. He can run like the wind and he always loves his neighbor Jenny, played by Robin Wright.

Jenny and Gump go their separate ways many times throughout the movie, but he continues to write to her and talk about her. They always seem to run into each other at the oddest places, such as a peace rally in Washington, D.C.

Almost everyone that Gump knows, dies. He survives through his goodness and through the miracle of his idiot grace.

All in all, the movie is a "must see" because of the performances by Hanks and Fields, even if it is unrealistic at times.

The movie does have slow parts, but the conclusion is very touching and is well worth waiting for through the slower parts.

*Forrest Gump* helps us establish a common ground with the past few generations and to gain a better understanding of why equality should be given to people who have limited mental ability.

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How to talk to your doctor continued  
from page 5

- How many times a day and when should I take this drug?
- Are there other drugs I shouldn't take with this?
- Are there any foods I should avoid?
- For how long do I take this?
- Will I need to refill the prescription?
- Will I need to make another appointment to see you?
- Am I allergic to this?
- Is there a less expensive or generic version of this drug?

—Ask your most intimate questions (questions about your period, sexually transmitted diseases, and birth control).

### BE HONEST AND SPECIFIC

—Admit everything.

For example, a woman who will not admit that she has had sex without using a condom probably won't get the tests she needs for STD's.

—Bring a list of your concerns to the office so you don't forget what questions to ask.

—Record any physical changes, symptoms, mood swings or side effects, and take this list with you when you visit your doctor.

—Be specific over the phone.

Don't complain about not feeling well or say you just have a question. Give the office staffer as much information as possible. If you are ill, describe the location, duration, and nature of the symptoms and mention any medications you have taken for the problem. This way the doctor will have a sense of how much time is needed for the call.

—Be specific about colors, smells, frequencies and size—the more information, the better.

### USE DOCTOR'S LANGUAGE

—Say "urination" instead of "pee" and "had sexual intercourse" instead of "had sex". Doctors will pay more attention if you speak their language.

**DON'T LET YOUR DOCTOR RUSH YOU**  
—If you feel rushed, comment on it. You deserve as much time as you need.

### TAKE FRIENDS ALONG

—If severely ill, take a friend or relative along to stand up for you. When we're sick, we're often disoriented, confused, and unable to make clear decisions.

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