

FOX in FOCUS

JEWEL Nile

The last time we saw adventurer Jack Colton (Michael Douglas) and romance novelist Joan Wilder (Kathleen Turner), they were sailing off into the sunset after their hair-raising Latin American adventure in "Romancing the Stone." But romance doesn't always survive the final fade-out, and things are looking rocky for everyone's favorite screen couple... until they encounter the mystery of the Jewel, and embark on the wildest adventure of their lives. Jack and Joan are back, with their pint-sized arch-enemy Ralph (Danny DeVito) still dogging their trail, in the sequel to 1984's blockbuster comedy-adventure: **THE JEWEL OF THE NILE**.

Director Wolfgang Petersen was nominated for an Oscar when he launched "Das Boot," his tense drama about a German U-Boat in World War II. Now he tackles a "relationship film"... with a difference: **ENEMY MINE** starring Dennis Quaid ("The Right Stuff") and Lou Gossett, Jr., who won an Oscar for his portrayal of the martinet in "An Officer and a Gentleman," as enemy space pilots fighting an interstellar war a hundred years in the future. Quaid, a human, and Gossett, a Drac from the planet Dracon, are marooned together on a deadly planet where they have to learn mutual trust and respect to survive. One of the most powerful and unusual films of this or any year.

Screenwriter David Seltzer established himself as a force to reckon with in Hollywood by writing the blockbuster supernatural thriller "The Omen," but his first film as a director is in a very different vein. **LUCAS** (played by "Firstblood"'s Corey Haim) is a diminutive rebel who stands apart from his fellow high-schoolers and criticizes their

activities as "superficial," until the girl he loves (Kerri Green of "Goonies") falls for a football star (Martin Sheen's son Charlie Sheen), prompting the desperate Lucas to a grand gesture verging on suicide: going out for the football team.

Before turning to feature directing, Russell Mulcahy established himself as one of the premier directors of rock videos, with memorably eye-catching videos for groups like Culture Club and Duran Duran. In **HIGHLANDER** he brings his gifts as a visual stylist to a unique fantasy-adventure story about warring Immortals whose battle for a mysterious talisman rages down the ages from the highlands of 16th Century Scotland to the streets and alleys of present-day New York. Starring Sean Connery and Christopher Lambert, of "Greystoke" fame.

American-born Bob Swaim took an unusual route to directorial superstardom—he went to France, and made "La Balance," a tough-as-nails police thriller that set boxoffice records and cleaned up when it was time for the French to hand out Les Oscars. Now he returns to English-language filmmaking with

THE MINE

HALF MOON STREET. In this erotic thriller, Sigourney Weaver plays a government think-tank expert who moonlights as a paid escort, and Michael Caine is a diplomat involved in international intrigue who falls in love with her. From the novel "Dr. Slaughter" by Paul Theroux.

Marshall Brickman was Woody Allen's writing collaborator for years before he

turned to writing and directing features, and now he brings his wry sensibility to **THE MANHATTAN PROJECT**: a contemporary thriller about a resourceful high-school student who sets out to join the most exclusive club in the world... one whose members now include the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, France and China. Christopher Collet stars as Paul Stephens, who builds his own atomic bomb as a science fair project, just to prove that it can be done. John Lithgow ("Buckaroo Banzai," "The World According to Garp") also stars as a sympathetic scientist who tries to help Paul and his girlfriend Jenny (Cynthia Nixon) when they find themselves the object of a very serious manhunt by foreign and domestic agencies.

A summer camp for future astronauts? It exists already, in Alabama, and kids who want to attend have to have letters of recommendation from their math and science teachers. Then they can spend a summer doing everything from studying astrophysics to practicing their space-walk in a zero-gravity simulator. This real-life training center for tomorrow's space jockeys is going to be the subject of a movie from Leonard Goldberg, the producer of "WarGames": In **SPACECAMP**, youngsters at such a camp get more adventure than they bargained for when their capsule is launched into space—for real. Stars include Kate Capshaw ("Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom") and Lea Thompson, who sizzled as Michael J. Fox's mother-to-be in "Back to the Future."

Before he changed the face of the horror film with "Halloween," John Carpenter made a non-stop actioner called "Assault on Precinct 13" that has become a cult favorite, and he showed what he could do with action again when he made "Escape from New York," starring Kurt Russell. Now he and Russell have re-teamed for **BIG TROUBLE IN LITTLE CHINA**, about a tough truck-driver named Jack Burton becomes embroiled in a war in San Francisco's Chinatown, where bad guys and good guys alike have magical powers. The script is by top screenwriter W.D. Richter ("Brubaker," "Invasion of the Body Snatchers"), who made his directing debut last year with the nutty cult classic "The Adventures of Buckaroo Banzai."

Sigourney Weaver will also be back this summer as Warrant Officer Ripley, the sole survivor of the spaceship Nostromo's

encounter with a deadly extraterrestrial in 1979's blockbuster "Alien." The sequel is called **ALIENS** (watch out for that s), and it is being made under conditions of top secrecy in England by writer-director James Cameron, who was responsible for last year's sci-fi sleeper hit "The Terminator," starring Arnold Schwarzenegger.

When director Howard Zieff teamed with Goldie Hawn on "Private Benjamin," they made comedy history. Now Zieff is collaborating with the brilliant actress-comedienne Whoopi Goldberg—fresh from her first starring role in Steven Spielberg's "The Color Purple"—for **KNOCK, KNOCK**, a comedy-thriller about a computer operator in a bank who starts receiving messages on her computer screen from a dashing American spy trapped behind the Iron Curtain.

Besides being Hollywood's leading comedy actor-writer-director, Mel Brooks is also one of the most innovative producers around, with such off-beat films as "The Elephant Man," "Frances" and "My Favorite Year" to his credit. Now he is producing a remake of the sci-fi horror classic **THE FLY**, about an unfortunate scientist (Vincent Price in the original) whose molecules get scrambled with those of a common housefly. Featuring state-of-the-art makeup effects that go far beyond the original, "The Fly" will be directed by David Cronenberg, who proved himself a master of surreal horror with "Scanners" and "Videodrome."

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