

# QUICK TAKES

## FILM OPENINGS

MARCH 7 ♦ **HIGHLANDER**—Sean Connery is the most recognizable name (although not the lead actor) in this intriguing thriller about a centuries-long battle between ageless good guys and bad guys that begins in the 16th Century and culminates in modern-day New York. Christopher Lambert, star of *Greystoke*, plays the heroic 470-year-old young man.

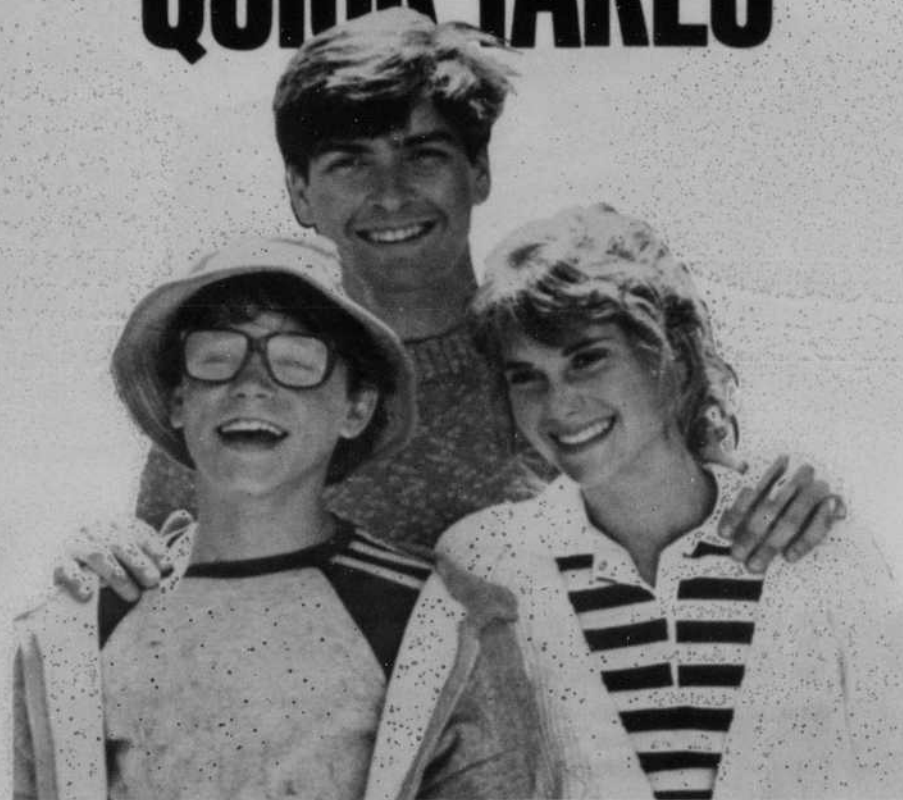
MARCH 14 ♦ **THE BOY WHO COULD FLY**—A fanciful story about an autistic child who believes he can fly. Of course no one believes him. Until...

MARCH 14 ♦ **THE HITCHER**—Rutger Hauer is the bad guy once again in this thriller about a young man (played by C. Thomas Howell) who's stalked across the Southwest by a psychotic, who has chosen his victim on a twisted whim.

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MARCH 21 ♦ **CROSSROADS**—The description for this "serious comedy" sounds quite simple: A young man, played by Ralph Macchio, studies classical guitar at Julliard. However, this film is directed by Walter Hill, and it's never easy to say exactly what a Walter Hill movie is about until you actually see it. In this one, Macchio is searching for a missing, fabled blues song by Robert Johnson.

MARCH 21 ♦ **ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS**—A big-time musical about the begin-



nings of rock 'n' roll as seen by a British teenager of 1958. It's been directed by hot music video director Julien Temple and features the music of Ray Davies, David Bowie and Sade.

MARCH 21 ♦ **THE MONEY PIT**—Steven Spielberg produced and Richard Benjamin directed this comedy starring Tom Hanks and Shelley Long as a yuppie couple who try to restore a rundown mansion. As anyone who's been through this experience can tell you, they're in for deep, deep trouble.

MARCH 21 ♦ **POLICE ACADEMY III**—Faster than you can say "I can't believe they made a second one," here comes the

In Lucas, Corey Haim (left) throws himself into high school sports to win a pretty cheerleader. Charlie Sheen (middle) and Kerri Green (right) co-star.

third *Police Academy*, in which our former cadets return to their old academy as instructors.

MARCH 21 ♦ **GUNG HO**—Michael Keaton stars in director Ron Howard's latest, a ripped-from-the-headlines comedy about a Japanese takeover of a small town American auto plant.

MARCH 21 ♦ **JUST BETWEEN FRIENDS**—Mary Tyler Moore plays a widow who learns she has more in common with her best friend than she knew—namely her late husband (played by Ted Danson)—in this bitter-sweet comedy. Christine Lahti plays the friend, who, to make matters worse, is pregnant with the deceased philanderer's child.



MARCH 21 ♦ **WISE GUYS**—Talk about your victims: Harry and Moe (played by Danny De Vito and Joe Piscopo) are two lifelong friends who have spent their lives at the bottom of the Mafia "corporate ladder." Now their godfather, looking for some amusement, has ordered each man to kill the other. The unlikely director of this comedy is blood and guts horror director Brian De Palma.

LATE MARCH ♦ **ECHO PARK**—Not everyone hits it big in Hollywood. There's a much larger group of people who spend their days not quite making it, always hoping for the big break. Tom Hulce (*Amadeus*) and Susan Dey star in this off-beat story about people on the fringes of show business in LA.

APRIL 11 ♦ **CAPTIVE HEARTS**—Virginia Madsen stars as a girl from a strict Catholic girl's school who has a mind of her own, and proves it by falling in love with a boy who's in a probation camp.

APRIL 11 ♦ **AT CLOSE RANGE**—Sean Penn and Christopher Penn play half brothers and the sons of an outlaw (Christopher Walken), who join up with their low-life father to begin a crime spree across the Pennsylvania countryside. Based upon a real-life incident from the late 70s.



A young man (Sean Penn) is torn between a desire to impress his criminal father, and his doubts about a life of crime, in *At Close Range*.

APRIL 11 ♦ **EIGHT MILLION WAYS TO DIE**—Jeff Bridges plays a former Los Angeles narcotics detective whose search for a prostitute's murderer leads to the uncovering of a massive drug ring. Roseanna Arquette co-stars.

APRIL 11 ♦ **LUCAS**—A poignant comedy about a 14-year-old boy who views the social and athletic aspects of high school with great distaste, until his unrequited