



Before Sunrise

Castle Rock

It's the flick you've all been waiting for — Richard Linklater's (*Slacker*, *Dazed and Confused*) third film, starring Ethan Hawke (*Reality Bites*) as Jesse and Julie Delpy (*Three Musketeers*) as Celine. Jesse, an American who will be returning to the States from Vienna in the morning, convinces Celine, a French student heading back to Paris, to tour Vienna until... you guessed it: sunrise. They share intimate details of their lives, including Celine's first toilet training. Sounds like romance is in the can.

Bad Company

Touchstone Pictures

Laurence Fishburne (*Higher Learning*) plays a disrespected C.I.A. agent who is caught in a maze of industrial sabotage. But wait, there's more. Bring in the dame! Ellen Barkin (*This Boy's Life*) is a master manipulator who tricks Fishburne into taking over her operation of evil. Their relationship erupts into uncontrollable passion when a twist of greed is tossed in. Acclaimed mystery writer Ross Thomas penned this edge-of-your-seat passionate tale of double-cross and deception.

Jerky Boys

Caravan Pictures



Listen up, fruitcake, the Jerky Boys are finally hitting the big screen. How they pull this one off is anyone's guess, but if the movie is half as funny as their two albums (*Jerky Boys*, *Jerky Boys II*), it could be hilarious. Secret identities of the boys, Johnny B. (Brennan) and Kamal (Ahmed), will finally be revealed in this send-up of their now-famous crank phone calls. With Tony Danza (*Who's the Boss*) and Emilio Estevez (*Mighty Ducks*) as execu-

tive producers, you can be sure this won't be some schlocky rip-off — because, man, those guys would *never* sell out.

Murder in the First

Warner Bros.



Take one cup Christian Slater (*Interview with the Vampire*) and one cup Kevin Bacon (*River Wild*), stir and pour into the San Francisco Bay. What do you get? A mixture that dissolves Alcatraz — eventually. Henri Young (Bacon) is a prisoner confined to and tortured in "the pit," a one-man cell in the prison basement. James Staphill (Slater) grudgingly becomes Young's lawyer and, unwittingly, his friend. Gary Oldman (*Bram Stoker's Dracula*) is the nasty ol' warden who makes Young's life anything but a rose garden.

Tom and Viv

Miramax Films



T.S. Eliot (*William D. Foe, Platoon*), an American writer attending college in England, falls for a high-strung Englishwoman, Vivienne Haigh-Wood (Miranda Richardson, *Crying Game*). Viv suffers from what doctors called a moral psychosis: public rantings and ravings. Relations between the couple suffer when Viv takes high-powered pharmaceuticals to fend off the malady. Inspired by Viv's wild antics, Tom busts out some wild poetry that makes him famous.

Kiss of Death

Twentieth Century Fox



David Caruso stars as Jimmy Kilmartin, a New York cop (big stretch there, David) caught in a web of double-crosses and sudden death as he infiltrates New York's criminal underground. Nicholas Cage (*It Could Happen to You*) plays the underground leader, the criminally insane Little Junior Brown, whose viciousness knows no limits, except when he is playing with his pet rabbit, Cuddles. Will Caruso pull off his silver screen debut? And, more importantly, will he keep his pants on?

Shallow Grave

Gramercy



Starring actors you've never heard of, this film features three 20somethings in search of a cool roommate. They finally agree on one, but their new roommate ends up stone-cold dead after the first night — leaving behind a suitcase full of cash. Dark comedy ensues when the three roommates decide to keep the money, get rid of the body and start killing each other. See it with your roommates. That should be fun.

Circle of Friends

Savoy Pictures

Directed by Pat O'Connor, *Circle of Friends* is a coming-of-age drama set in 1950s Ireland. Stop yawning — the film features Irish talent Saffron Burrows, Geraldine O'Rawe and Minnie Driver as



three close friends experiencing and sharing first loves, first times and first losses. Guys,

think date movie — this is a good opportunity to showcase your sensitive side. Ladies, the film features the strapping young Chris O'Donnell (*Scent of a Woman*) as the world's nicest guy. Except for this one really awful thing he does when — but hey, you'll have to see the film.

Houseguest

Hollywood Pictures

Uh oh. Someone made the mistake of putting Sinbad in front of a movie camera. The comedian stars as entrepreneur Kevin Franklin, who, after his latest get-rich-quick scheme fails, is forced to leave town in a hurry. With hit men hot on his trail he heads to the airport, where he accidentally meets wealthy lawyer Gary Young (SNL's Phil Hartman). Sinbad convinces Young that he is a childhood friend who is in for a visit. This comedic mix-up causes nonstop zany antics.

Johnny Mnemonic

TriStar

Macho men and big guns. Now there's a novel idea. Keanu Reeves (*Speed*) and Dolph Lundgren (*Timecop*) star in this insult with a deadly plot written by sci-fi godfather William Gibson (*Neuromancer*). Reeves is back, incorporating the intelligence of his character from *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*. This movie will, like, attempt to answer some most excellent questions about what happens when you get "future shock" disease and, like, how you get rid of it. Ice-T thinks he's got the solution, but Dolph Lundgren will flex his pythons to stop the Ice-man from finding out. Excellent, dude.

■ John Quinlen, *Rebel Yell*, U. of Nevada, Las Vegas

The Last Supper

In a large house for a small movie called *The Last Supper*, Cameron Diaz turns on the kitchen sink. What no one will notice is that it's not a functional sink — water is being pumped into the scene via a garden hose. In another room, a production assistant struggles to kink the hose and turn it off.

It'll take more than kinking a hose to hold back the political content of *The Last Supper*. The black comedy centers on a batch of post-graduates who kill political foes under the rationale that if someone had offed Hitler pre-Führer, the world would have been a better place.

"On one hand, there are long scenes of serious, political, polemical discourse — almost Socratic," says Jonathan Penner, a co-star who helped write the movie. "Then you have scenes of random insane violence.... People [are] dying for real, and the stakes are high."

Co-writer of *The Last Supper*, Dan Rosen says that although it may not be commercial gold, it should play well for educated audiences, especially in college towns. "This is a political time, especially with this new government, the 'new order,'" he says as he watches recent election returns.

"Ninety percent of me was thinking, 'Man, this is terrible for the country,' and the other 10 percent was [thinking], 'It's going to help our sequel!'"

■ Michael Horowitz, *The Daily Bruin*, U. of California, Los Angeles

