



Tommy Boy

Paramount Pictures

Tommy Callahan (Chris Farley) has a tough life. He just graduated from college (with a "D+" average), he's head of the town's biggest business (an auto parts plant) and his stepmom is (the back-stabbing) Bo Derek. In rolls Rob Lowe as Bo's cunning, business-type son — quite a stretch from his role in *Wayne's World* — who wants to rip the family business out of Tommy's chubby hands. Hey, if Tommy loses heart, he could always get help from that van-dwelling motivational speaker down by the river.

Father of the Bride II

Here comes the bride — again. Only instead of waltzing down the aisle, Annie (Kimberly Williams) waddles into a delivery room. And she won't have to share her room with a stranger: Her mother (Diane Keaton) is in labor too.

Mother and daughter are both pregnant, but the focus of the movie isn't on them. Cameras turn to George Banks (Steve Martin), who again is internally struggling with what life serves up: He's too old to be a father and too young to be a grandfather.

What's a fellow to do? During this set visit, a scene is being filmed at a beauty shop where George places his stark white hair in the care of a hairdresser. Yes, with darker hair, he's sure he'll look, feel and be younger. Martin merely gestures with his hands and raises his brow to get everyone behind the cameras laughing.

"It's great being [George's] daughter," Williams says. "He's a loving and enthusiastic Dad."

For the actors, being in this big-screen sequel is like a Banks family reunion. "Everyone gets along really well," Williams says. "I feel lucky to be working with them."

Unlike the casts of many sequels, everyone is back for round two, including Franck Eggelhoff (Martin Short), who will coordinate the double baby shower. With characters and plot established from the first movie, the only totally unpredictable thing about *Father of the Bride II* is if it'll be boys or girls, or one of each.

■ Aimee Rinchart

Tales From the Hood

Savoy



In *Stand By Me*, four kids go on a quest for a dead body and personal enrichment. In *Tales From the Hood*, three hustlers seek out a dead body and personal enrichment: They think drugs are stashed on the corpse. OK, maybe the parallel doesn't work. This one's got an eerie mortician (Clarence Williams III) touring Corbin Bernsen and David Alan Grier through the supernatural underworld. In the other, the kids only get lost in the woods.

Panther

Gramercy

Don't you love family projects? Jigsaw puzzles. Monopoly. Social commentaries on the stagnated growth of black activism. Father-and-son duo Melvin and Mario Van Peebles wrote and directed this story of Judge (Kadeem Hardison), a war vet recruited as a Black Panther informant by Bobby Seale (Courtney B. Vance) and Newton (Marcus Chong).

Jury Duty

Tri Star



Although free room, board and a per diem sound tempting, you might pass up a shot at jury duty if it meant being sequestered with the 20somethings' version of a doped-up Macaulay Culkin on a bad hair day: Pauly Shore. He tries to keep an open-and-shut case going so

Dæmons

Dimension Films



he can mooch as much free loot as possible from the court, but he falls for a fellow juror (poor lass) and finds out more about the trial than he bargained for. Maybe their halos are on too tight, or their wings need clipping. Whatever the reason, a bunch of angels have

The Basketball Diaries

New Line Cinema



In *School Ties* and *New Jack City* somehow got tangled up in a reel of Catholic high school basketball footage, it might just end up as the story of Jim Carroll's life. Leonardo DiCaprio (*What's Eating Gilbert Grape?*) stars as a basketball prodigy who learns to "just say yes" in the New York City drug scene. James Madio (*Hook's* head lost boy) and Mark "Good Vibrations" Wahlberg also star.

Major Payne

Universal Pictures



D a m o n Wayans (TV's *In Living Color*) is Major Benson Winifred Payne, a tough officer whose military career is cut short. To make ends meet, he takes a job training ill-behaved junior ROTC cadets. In other words, it's *Meatballs* with some *Private Benjamin* antics — without the gratuitous sex scenes. If nothing else, *Major Payne* earns the Desperate Play on Words in a Title Award.

Wild Bill

United Artists



Jeff Bridges is Wild Bill. Ellen Barkin is Calamity Jane. John Hurt (*The Elephant Man*) is Bill's friend, and Christina Applegate (TV's *Married With Children*) is the "upstairs girl." Basic elements: Tumbleweeds, guns, prostitutes and more tumbleweeds. You know the rest.

Tank Girl

United Artists



It's 2033, and Rebecca Buck (the Tank Girl of comic book fame) has surfaced as the heroine of a water-starved civilization. If you expect to see her piloting space ships in battles to determine the fate of the universe, forget it. She uses a tank. And, in the same back-to-basics tradition, Ann Magnuson (*Clear and Present Danger*) is the evil madam, and Iggy Pop plays a slimy customer. Ice-T also stars. Richard Lewis co-produces, so there's really no punchline needed.

■ Beth Mayall