

Reel

BY MELISSA GREGO

LOVE AND MARRIAGE. LOVE AND marriage. Go together like a horse and carriage. This I tell ya, brother — you can't have one without the other... unless you see a movie. This month, film's all about family — there's spouse-endorsed adultery, a refusal to pay ransom for one's only son, and a husband's lifelong lies to his wife about his feelings toward Nazis. Bob Dole could have a full-course meal on these meaty Hollywood efforts to define the American family.



Breaking the Waves

October Films

She's damned if she does it and damned if she doesn't. British stage actress Emily Watson plays an impressionable girl from a religious, Scottish town who marries outsider Stellan Skarsgard (*The Hunt for Red October*). When an accident paralyzes Skarsgard, he convinces Watson to have sex with other men — since the only thing keeping him alive is the memory of making love to her.

Mother Night

Fine Line

This adaptation of Kurt Vonnegut's satirical novel intertwines guilt, responsibility, justice and heroism. Nick Nolte stars as an American playwright/free-lance American spy living in Berlin during World War II. In order to serve his country, he gets cozy with Nazi heavyweights. In the process, he learns how fleeting trust — of his lover, friends, government and himself — can be.

Michael Collins

Warner Bros.

Michael Collins is an immortal Irish hero. When he survived the Easter Uprising, Ireland's revolt against Britain, he injected life into the Irish revolution. Liam Neeson (*Schindler's List*) as Collins, Aidan Quinn (*Legends of the Fall*), Stephen Rea (*The Crying Game*) and Alan Rickman (*Sense and Sensibility*) struggle through complicated friendships and secret ploys as they change the shape of their nation's future.

Space Jam

Warner Bros.

What's up, Doc? Michael Jordan makes his film debut as he alley oops Bugs Bunny, new Looney Tune Lola Bunny and other Saturday-morning-with-cereal favorites. They star together in this wise-cracking action-adventure. NBA greats — all playing themselves — join Jordan for a futuristic journey into comedy, state-of-the-art computer effects and three-dimensional animation.



Ransom

Buena Vista

Mel Gibson (*Braveheart*) plays a New York tycoon who has it all — a beautiful wife, a thriving multi-million-dollar business and America's cutest son. But when kidnappers snatch his kid, Mr. Moneybags refuses to let go of what's his. Horrifying his wife, played by Rene Russo (*Tin Cup*), he counters the kidnappers' threats rather than paying out. Dodging, diving and chasing ensue.

Unhook the Stars

Miramax

A mother's work is never done. Gena Rowlands (*Crazy in Love*) has time on her hands since her kids moved out, so she's ready when her neighbor's 6-year-old needs help. Marisa Tomei (*The Perez Family*) is the single mom who leaves her son with Rowlands to take on a double shift. When Tomei's luck changes and the little lad can go home, Rowlands discovers she's done some growing up herself.



The Crucible

20th Century Fox

C'mon, if you were sexually repressed and obsessed with married farmers, you'd dance naked in the woods, too. Besides, Winona Ryder focuses her affections on Daniel Day-Lewis — can you blame her? Lies, guilt and the devil are all conjured up in this classic Salem witch-hunt tale adapted from Arthur Miller's stage play.

Star Trek: First Contact

Paramount

The story spans 40 books, seven movies, three TV series and more than two decades — but who's counting? The *Next Generation* crew is back for its second outing on the big screen. Patrick Stewart returns as captain of the Enterprise, but this time, the crew battles a huge mass of alienated outcasts who all dress, look and talk alike. No, they're not Trekkies, but the insidious Borg.



Jingle All The Way

20th Century Fox

There's an Ah-nuld movie for every season, and this time he's a hard-working businessman with kids — who knew? It's Christmas, and Schwarzenegger must find his kids the coolest gift on the block: Turbo Man. Man, yuletide shopping's not as easy as it used to be.

Dear God

Paramount

Look out — Hollywood's got Greg Kinnear going postal. He plays a con artist who has lost his inspiration to create dazzling schemes of deception and thievery. So, naturally, he takes a job in the soothing environment of a post office, where he's sent to work with the other cynics in the Dead Letter Office. Here, Kinnear finds hope for his illustrious career when he sets his sights higher than ever.



I'm Not Rappaport

Gramercy

With age comes wisdom... and senility and gout. But Walter Matthau (*Grumpier Old Men*) and Ossie Davis (who starred in the hit Broadway version of the film) won't let age cramp their wild Central Park lifestyles. So they sit on a park bench, tooting — their horns, that is — and trying to make sense and fun of the people around them.

Albino Alligator

Miramax

One minute the patrons of a small Southern bar are minding their own whiskey — the next thing they know, they're being held hostage by the perps of a botched robbery. Snipers, camera crews and hostage negotiators complete this cat-and-mouse directorial debut by Oscar-winner Kevin Spacey.

You'll find everything but the Raisinets on U.'s movie page: <http://www.umagazine.com>

Screen Saver



Hype! and Not Bad for a Girl

"If people are sick of the Seattle music scene, this movie is for them," says *Hype!* director Doug Pray.

Hype! chronicles the grunge phenomenon by capturing live performances and interviews with Seattle bands, including little-known local acts and giants like Nirvana.

"Our intention from the beginning was not to make a grunge-rock concert film," producer Steve Helvey says. "It's about what happens when money is suddenly injected into a culture."

Dr. Lisa Apramian's *Not Bad for a Girl* also hits theaters in November. Featuring female rockers from Hole, L7, Babes in Toyland and Lunachicks, *Not Bad* shows why some women grow up wanting to be Mick Jagger — not date him.

Dr. Lisa (as her patients call her) produced *Not Bad* on a miniscule budget — she spent about \$15 on indoor floodlights for the set. But she says it's worth a look. "I mean a shrink talking to musicians is kind of an interesting concept, don't you think?"

Check out our full-length interviews with these filmmakers on the U. web site: <http://www.umagazine.com>.

The Reel Deal

Black Circle Boys

Only Hollywood could turn a former member of New Kids on the Block into a drug-dealing, Satan-worshipping pedophile and get away with it. Donnie Wahlberg, ex-teen idol, plays an occult ritual master in this coming-of-age thriller to be released next year.

Black Circle Boys follows the plight of Kyle, an impressionable all-American guy who moves to Seattle. Kyle (Scott Bairstow, *White Fang 2*) is drawn into a morass of illegal substances and evil after meeting Shane, leader of the Black Circle Boys cult.

Eric Mabius (*I Shot Andy Warhol*) plays Shane. "[Shane] is a cross between Jim Jones and Mick Jagger," says producer Lysa Haylend on the set in Seattle. But she says, "[They're] a bunch of slackers who can't even tie their own shoelaces, much less worship Satan properly."

Director Matthew Carnahan (*The Mailman*) says he wrote the screenplay with Seattle's gloominess in mind. The results were more than gloomy. During one night of shooting in a graveyard, some of the crew wore garlic necklaces. Local actor Chad Lindberg, who plays the pathetically lost Rory, noted, "This is kinda creepy. Digging in graves is certainly not the kind of thing I would normally do." Lindberg, a last-minute addition to the cast, is enjoying his first leading role. "I went from pushing grocery carts three weeks ago to saying, 'I'd like Pringles in my room, please,' and *voilà!* They appear!"

By Jennifer Nardini, U. of Washington