



WEEKEND SPOTLIGHT

■ Floater will play the first of three area gigs tonight at the WOW Hall with **Nebula** at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. If you don't get your fill of dark alternative rock at that show, Floater will join **Moth** and fellow Elemental Records artist **Jollymon** Friday at the Hollywood Taxi at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$7 at the door only. Finally, Floater will join the **American Girls** as openers for the **Cherry Poppin' Daddies** in an all-Eugene show at the Cuthbert Amphitheatre August 15 at 5 p.m. Tickets are on sale now at the Hult Center.

■ Campus Radio station **KWVA** (88.1 FM) will present **One Hour One Band** Friday at 4 p.m. This week's featured band is **Catherine Wheel**, an English band that specializes in textured music.

■ The Japanese American Association of Lane County and others will present an **Obon Festival** with Japanese-style dancing, Taiko drumming, Wako Daiko Drummers and Asian food and crafts at Alton Baker Park on Saturday. The free event runs from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

■ **Belizbeha** and **Soul Function** play funk at the WOW Hall on Sunday at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$6 at the door.

■ Finally, we haven't heard the music, which is labeled bluegrass, but if you choose which shows to see based on the artist's name, then you'll love **Jackass Willie** at Sam Bond's Garage on Tuesday. Tips will be accepted.

Something Good, Something Bad

'There's Something About Mary' is a kick in the pants

By Amy Goldhammer
Oregon Daily Emerald

If you want a sublime comedy, ditch the "Must-See TV" reruns and surrender yourself to a witty blond, a lovestruck romeo and Matt Dillon in plaid pants.

The directors of "Dumb and Dumber" and "Kingpin," Peter and Bobby Farrelly, have once again produced a tasteless and outrageously funny comedy, but this time it's a love story. "There's Something About Mary" may very well be the next summer movie sensation. It's the sundae with an extra cherry.

Mary, played by Cameron Diaz, succeeds in being obsessed over, lusted after, whatever you want to call it, by her leading men, Ted (Ben Stiller) and Healy (Matt Dillon). The band of stalkers keeps growing as each twist

introduces a new character and his personal obsession with Mary.

"Something" takes all the stupid things that come with crushes and enhances them to create a flick that is exceptionally hysterical and bit crazy. Minus slipping the dog speed, being charged as a serial killer, or using a male, um, fluid as hair gel, anyone who has ever had some sort of head-over-heels crush may relate to this movie in an all too familiar way.

The Farrelly brothers did not hesitate to cast Dillon, a newcomer to comedy, opposite comfortable comedic actors.

"When you put real good comedic actors like Ben Stiller and Chris Elliott against someone like Matt,

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'There's Something About Mary' is a kick in the groin

If you're going to see a Farrelly brothers movie this summer, save money and frustration by renting 'Dumb and Dumber'

By Peter Breden
Oregon Daily Emerald

"There's Something About Mary," Peter and Bobby Farrelly's latest raunchy effort, borrows the technique of rolling outtakes and cast gags with the final credits. Several successful comedies ("Grumpier Old Men" and Burgess Meredith's senile innuendos; "The Nutty Professor" and Eddie Murphy's diverse voice antics; "Liar Liar" and Jim Carrey's outrageous shenanigans) take this opportunity to reveal their playful casts' offstage interaction. "Something" has a similar approach in which the cast lip-synchs to The Foundations' "Build Me Up Buttercup." In most films, this addendum

is a completion of the picture — sprinkles on the proverbial icing. In "Something," however, we get glimpses of what might have been a worthwhile film. One can't help but think along the same lines as the song's chorus: "Why do you build me up, buttercup, just to let me down?"

The Farrelly brothers' latest venture lacks the direction of their earlier movies. "Dumb and Dumber" has Jeff Daniels and Jim Carrey haplessly launching off to Aspen and "Kingpin" sets Daniels' and Woody Harrelson's sights on a Las Vegas bowling tournament. Ben Stiller and Matt Dillon vaguely stalking Cameron Diaz turns the plot for "Something" in circles and once all the characters have been laid out, the audience is left wondering where to get off the carnival ride that feels more like a carousel than a roller coaster.

The most discouraging difference between "Something," "Dumb and Dumber"

and "Kingpin" is in the performers. The audience is not drawn to any one character. In the love triangle that develops with Diaz, Dillon, and Stiller, someone is inevitably left out. In this case, it's the audience. Unlike "Dumb and Dumber" and "Kingpin," there is no powerful leading role to latch on to, and the tired plot fails to incite interest in a cast that stars secondary characters.

Stiller is described by co-director Peter Farrelly as "one of the best comedic, reactive actors out there." Though Stiller gives the best performance of the movie with his love struck, finishing-last nice guy Ted Stroehmann, his reactive style sets the tone for the rest of the cast. A reactive leading man makes it difficult to keep interest in any movie, especially one filled with re-actors. Stiller reacts well but falls short with-

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SUMMER MOVIES

'There's Something About Mary'
Comedy
Starring
Cameron Diaz

■ **RATED** : R

■ **SCORE** :

★★★★★

