New movies this weekend offer a variety of genres

Although holiday movie releases are a month away, a number of promising pictures are coming soon

BY AMY LICHTY PULSE EDITOR

Four new movies will hit theaters this weekend: a touching comedy, a drama based on true-life, a computer game-inspired action flick and a psychological thriller.

"Shopgirl," a modern-day love story based on Steve Martin's best-selling novella of the same name, stars Martin, Claire Danes and Jason Schwartzman caught in a love triangle. Mirabelle

(Danes) is a "plain Jane" aspiring artist who must work at the lonely glove counter at the Saks Fifth Avenue in Beverly Hills in order to make ends meet. It's there that she meets Ray Porter (Martin), a much older, much richer fifty-something ready to sweep her off of her feet. But Mirabelle is also being pursued by Jeremy (Schwartzman), a simple bachelor lacking the dignified status and the loaded wallet that Porter can provide. What will her

heart want in the end? (Rated R)

"North Country" also opens this weekend. Based on a true story from the late '70s, Charlize Theron plays Josey Aimes, a working divorcée who must return to her hometown in Minnesota to support her children. Aimes begins working in an iron mine, but soon finds that the attention from the male miners is anything but welcome. Aimes attempts to stand up for herself, but the women she works with fear losing their well-paying job in a time when jobs were difficult to find. Aimes finds herself caught in a war of words and

the focus of national attention after filing a sexual harassment suit against the mine owners, putting her family's future in jeopardy. (Rated R)

"Doom," a computer-game-inspired alien-fighting action film starring The Rock and Karl Urban blasts its way onto the big screen this weekend. After something goes terribly wrong at a remote scientific research station on Mars, the Rapid Response Tactical Squad — hardened Marines armed to the teeth - must go in and show the alien enemy who is boss. Their orders: Nothing gets out alive.

But will they? (Rated R)

"Stay" is also heating theaters this Friday. This thriller stars Ewan McGregor, Naomi Watts and Ryan Gosling. Gosling plays Henry Letham, a distraught young man who announces to his psychiatrist, Sam Foster (McGregor), that he plans to commit suicide in three days. Letham begins predicting the future and Foster's world turns upside down when the world between the living and the dead becomes blurred. (Rated R)

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Grizzly Man: A sad, strange tale of man and beast

Filmmaker Werner Herzog's documentary of bear enthusiast Timothy Treadwell ends with latter's demise

BYTREVOR DAVIS PULSE REPORTER

"I will die for these animals," Timothy Treadwell repeats three times. And he means it.

The new documentary "Grizzly Man" portrays Treadwell's summers -most of them alone - spent in the Alaskan wilderness with grizzly bears and other animals.

Treadwell can be found in bizarre scenes interacting with animals as if they were humans.

For his time spent at Katmai National Park and Preserve on the Alaska Peninsula, he appeared on the "Late Show with David Letterman." The late-night show foreshadowed Treadwell's demise: "Is it going to happen, that we read a news item one day that you have been eaten by one of these bears?"

He was eventually killed by the very beasts he protected, along with his

girlfriend Amie Huguenard in October 2003. (More information on Huguenard is not provided in the movie because her family was unwilling to talk.)

Filmmaker Werner Herzog creates

a movie

"Is it going to happen, that we read a news item one day that you have been eaten by one of these bears?"

DAVID LETTERMAN | The Late Show with David Letterman

mixed with interviews with people who knew Treadwell best, raw footage taken by Treadwell and commentary by Herzog. The movie plays out to be part Discovery Channel-like nature documentary, part

character examination with interviews and analyses in between.

Throughout the movie, Treadwell interviews bears and gives them names

> such as Mr. Chocolate.

Treadwell's character ab-

sorbs the audience - his nutty but admirable attitude toward the bears is so strong he naturally captivates. He may not

have known he would have an audience, but his ache for fame plays out in front of the camera.

At one point he's even fascinated by

a bear excreting. "It just came from

Wendy's poop. Moments like these

her butt!" he exclaims as he points to

provide insight to his colorful behavior. Treadwell's footage sometimes serves as a confessional - he was, after all, typically alone. He even confides that he is good in bed and that he wishes he were gay.

Treadwell's video is fascinating because he often gets too close. One of the most powerful images in the movie is of two bears duking it out for a female bear, ending with torn fur from

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