



THE BOURNE IDENTITY

Director Doug Liman (*Swingers, Go*) continues his winning streak with this old-school spy thriller starring yummy Matt Damon as an amnesiac on the run from the CIA. He and Franka Potente (*Run Lola Run*) show strong chemistry, but Julia Stiles is wasted in a thankless supporting role.

—Jim Radosta

INSOMNIA

Director Christopher Nolan follows up *Memento* with a less original but equally absorbing tale about how the mind can play tricks on you. Al Pacino is outstanding as a far-from-perfect cop who cuts a deal with a killer (Robin Williams) to cover his unethical behind. Hilary Swank (*Boys Don't Cry*) is miscast once again as his wide-eyed sidekick.

—JR

LOVELY & AMAZING

Nicole Holofcener's nicely understated writing/directing sophomore effort explores the personal and career challenges of three modern women—two sisters (Catherine Keener and Emily Mortimer) and their mother (Brenda Blethyn). The hilariously acerbic Keener has some great romantic (!) scenes with the adorable, much younger Jake Gyllenhaal (*Donnie Darko*), while child actor Raven Goodwin astounds as Blethyn's

strong-willed adopted daughter. Issues of race, gender and sex are deftly, humorously handled; it's a quiet but strong achievement.

—Christopher McQuain

MINORITY REPORT

Steven Spielberg further explores his darker side in this innovative sci-fi thriller based on a short story by Philip K. Dick. Unfortunately, he can't help but insert several sequences that are either overly precious or downright silly. The *Big Brother* storyline has great potential that seems just beyond his grasp.

—JR



Simple farmer Mel Gibson (and his super-cute brother Joaquin Phoenix) battle alien forces in *Signs*

SIGNS

M. Night Shyamalan (*The Sixth Sense*) adds another unsettling blockbuster to his credit with this study of what it would really be like if

hostile aliens invaded planet Earth. Sans fiery explosions and overt patriotism, it's more about a former priest (Mel Gibson) struggling with his faith in the face of unending tragedy than an interplanetary war. Unfortunately, Shyamalan feels the need to be sappy, and his usual ultra-twist ending has turned into complete predictability.

—Lisa Bradshaw

TADPOLE

Spouting off French philosophy while inexplicably drooling over his stepmother (Sigourney Weaver), Oscar Grubman (Aaron Stanford) is one of cinema's most contradictory, detestable characters ever. The ugly cinematography, poor acting and shallow writing don't help, either. Critics somehow have been fooled into thinking this piece of shit belongs in the same category as *The Graduate*; don't believe the hype.

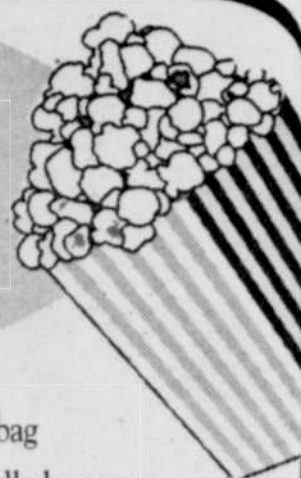
—JR

13 CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ONE THING

An ensemble cast—including John Turturro and Amy Irving as an unhappily married couple, Matthew McConaughey as a cocky attorney, Clea Duvall as an optimist who has her illusions shattered and Alan Arkin as a curmudgeonly workaholic—survive life crises and creeping futility

What's Poppin'?

What's popped and what's flopped, in a theater near you.



- ☹️ dud, bottom of the bag
- ☹️☹️ only if you're really hungry
- ☹️☹️☹️ good effort, pass the salt
- ☹️☹️☹️☹️ mmmm, tasty!
- ☹️☹️☹️☹️☹️ get the big tub o' corn

in this wonderful new film. Writer/director Jill Sprecher (*Clockwatchers*) maintains perfect compassionate realism in both storytelling and visuals, making *13 Conversations* effortlessly moving and honestly life-affirming.

—CM

WINDTALKERS

John Woo directed this awful war story about the Navajos who helped create a code that could not be broken. Unfortunately, it's told from the perspective of paleface Nicolas Cage, whose tormented overacting is totally incompatible with the wannabe-vintage style, the obvious dialogue and the shamelessly vague treatment given to this fascinating chapter of U.S. history. An early candidate for Worst Film of 2002.

—JR



NIGHTSPOTS

To advertise in *Just Out*, call 503-236-1253

Welcome to
SCANDALS PORTLAND

Mens Lounge

The Corner on Stark & SW 11th
503.227.5887
503.224.5141

Find a date to share Martinis with

Please read
The Just Friends Personal ads
Page 46

STARKY'S

Restaurant & Lounge

Visit us at www.starkys.com

503.230.7980

2913 SE Stark

Starky's

Now on the Rocks!

\$4.00 Lunch Menu-Happy Hour
Outdoor Seating - A/C - ATM

PDX 2512 "NE" Broadway
Full lottery/ATM (503) 287-4210

Hobbs's

~ Casual Dining ~
~ Lounge ~
~ Game Room ~
~ Live Music ~
~ Open 4:00 Daily ~

120 NW Third Avenue, Portland, OR 97209 • (503) 224-3285
Parking Validated Smart Park Davis & Front
www.hobbs.citysearch.com