

What's Poppin'?

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

THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK

A criminal who can see in the dark is chased by hunters convinced he can help them save the universe. Although the story is predictable and the names and acting at times arch, *Riddick* is filled with incredibly sumptuous costuming and design work, and star Vin Diesel is easy on the eyes. Better than expected, file this under sci-fi semi-guilty pleasures.

—Andy Mangels

DODGEBALL: A TRUE UNDERDOG STORY

Ben Stiller and Vince Vaughn face off in a vile film with something to offend everyone: biphobia (a girlfriend who screws anything that moves), homophobia (a coach who calls his players "queers"), racism (a series of ethnically stereotyped teams), sexism (a tits-on-windshield car wash scene) and fathobia (those who stick around for the closing credits are treated to an obese character squeezing his man-boobs to Kelis' "Milkshake"). Hey, it's the feel-bad movie of the year!

—Jim Radosta

GODZILLA

Supposedly ruined when U.S. distributors cut 40 minutes and added shots of noted TV lawyer and closet queen Raymond Burr, 1954's *Godzilla* in its original form is, if anything, worse. This terribly acted and scripted snoozefest, which is enjoying a resurgence on the big screen June 25 to July 1 at Cinema 21, is of interest only as the first of a numbingly enduring genre. The special effects—guy in a rubber suit, teensy Tokyo, toy helicopters, atomic bad breath—are all appropriately ridiculous.

—Gary Morris

THE MOTHER

A beautifully filmed and provocative story about a 60-year-old widow who, before her dead husband's body has had time to cool, starts an affair with her daughter's strapping lover. Anne Reid does a brilliant job with the titular character, but the film lacks a certain believability and consistency of tone. Nonetheless, it's something you haven't seen before and is worth a trip to the theater.

—J.B. Rabin

SAVED!

As an out-and-proud atheist, I welcome any effort to mock religious hypocrites, so I thought this would be right up my alley: A Christian high school student (Jena Malone) tries to cure her gay boyfriend (Chad Faust) by having sex with him and ends up preppers, earning the instant wrath of her Anita Bryant-esque classmate (Mandy Moore), whose paraplegic brother

dud, bottom of the bag

only if you're really hungry

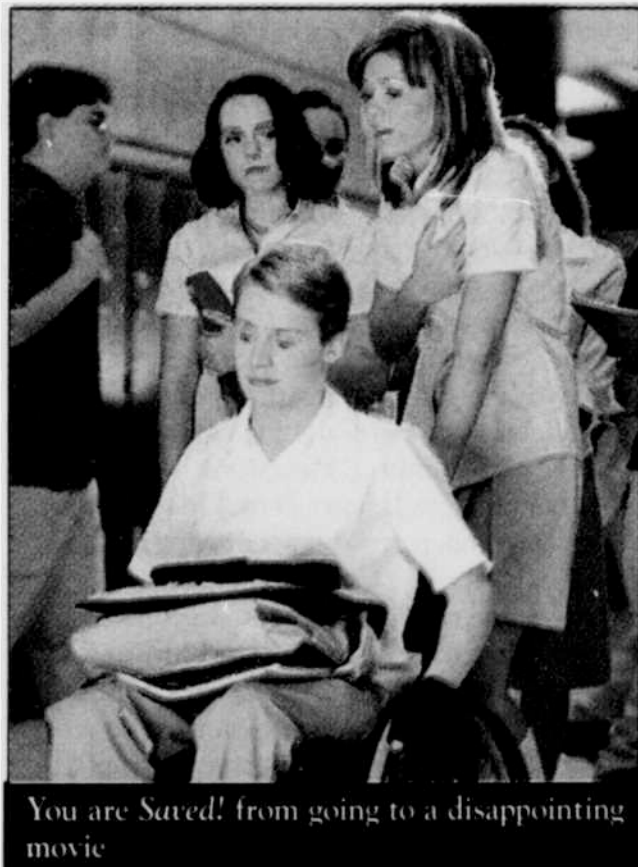
good effort, pass the salt

mmmm, tasty!

get the big tub o' corn

(Macaulay Culkin) welcomes her into his squad of outcasts. Although gay writer/director Brian Dannelly's heart is in the right place, his satire is simply too dull for this edgy subject matter.

—JR



You are Saved! from going to a disappointing movie

THE TERMINAL

More like *The Intermittent*. Director Steven Spielberg is the wrong man for the job in this would-be quirky comedy about an eastern European (Tom Hanks) stuck in a New York City airport on a technicality: His country is overthrown during his flight to the United States, so he's in limbo because of a by-the-books immigration official (Stanley Tucci). Weak acting, a dumbed-down script and a cringe-inducing finale. Pass the motion sickness bag.

—JR

VALENTIN

Argentinean writer/director Alejandro Agresti's latest is poignantly narrated by 8-year-old Valentín (Rodrigo Noya), who lives with his grandmother and puts up with infrequent visits from his abusive father. Most of the rest of his time is spent trying to re-create his mother from one of his old man's many misfit relationships. This would be a pretty dreary film were it not for Noya's ability to bring clarity and powerful maturity to his character's childhood reality.

—Kobe Kemple

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with Portland's own

Ashleigh Flynn 8:30

and from Tampa, Florida

Halcyon 9:30

- opened for Joan Baez and Crosby, Stills and Nash
- have been featured in *She Magazine*
- won the Best of the Bay award, the Virginia Slims Duelling Divas contest and are the Sun Coast select best acoustic band
- appeared at the women's Final Four

DJ Mel 10:30


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8pm - 2am

\$10

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