

# Spring season begins with a variety of films

Spring Break is rapidly approaching us, as is an abundant variety of movies for your viewing pleasure.

Already out in theaters, and not to be missed is Paramount's **The Hunt for Red October** with Sean Connery and directed by Die Hard's Joe McTiernan. Based on Tom Clancy's 1984 best seller, "Hunt" may prove to be one of the best movies of 1990.

This Friday Warner Brothers is releasing their new comedy **Joe Versus the Volcano** starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan; Screenwriter of **Moonstruck**, John Patrick Shanley, makes his directorial debut here. WB has another spring release, starring Glenn Close and Jeremy Irons as Mr. and Mrs. Claus

von Bulow, in the biography-based drama **Reversal of Fortune**. Robert De Niro tries his hand at **Good Fellas**, also from Warner, with Ray Liotta (**Field of Dreams**) and Martin Scorsese directing. Scorsese's last flick, **We're No Angels**, fared devilish at the box office.

Richard Gere and Julia Roberts star in **Pretty Woman**, a Touchstone Pygmalion-isa comedy directed by Garry Marshall (**Beaches**). Roberts is an Academy Award nominee for her supporting role in **Steel Magnolias**, and Gere's **Internal Affairs** is still playing in first-run theaters.

Many of today's college students were assigned William Goldings's **Lord of the Flies** in high school English, and were, well,

impressed. Columbia Pictures, Castle Rock Entertainment (Rob Reiner's production company), and Aussie Harry Hook bring another adaptation of the adventure to the silver screen (the first being in

### A Reel View by Roseann Wentworth

1963). Leonardo, Raphael, Donatello and Michaelangelo are coming to save New York City, not as cartoons on Saturday mornings, not on Nintendo, but, yes, on the big screen. **Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles** are here, in live action and full color. New Line

Cinema is hoping the fab four in the half shell will fare better than its last contender, **Heart Condition**.

John Travolta stars in action-filled **Chains of Gold** which promises to show a side his fans haven't seen in a while. Jamie Lee Curtis and Ron Silver (**Enemies, A Love Story**) headline in **Blue Steel**, a romantic suspense thriller--the critics are already raving. Michael Caine plays a middle-aged man who copes with life's trivialities by murdering people in **A Shock to the System**; Elizabeth McGovern and Swoozie Kurtz co-star.

**Coupe De Ville** brings Universal into the running with its dramedy starring the geeky heart-throb Patrick Dempsey along with

Daniel Stern and Arye Gross. The three are united when they drive a 1954 Caddy cross-country for their mom's 50th. Stern played in Barry Levinson's **Diner** in 1982, which "Coupe's" characters may be similar to.

Orion Pictures have two spring break releases. **Love at Large** stars Tom Berenger and Anne Archer (**Fatal Attraction**) as P.I.s who make their paychecks by spying on lovers suspected of cheating--of course there's a twist. Also starring are Elizabeth Perkins and Kate Capshaw (**Black Rain**). Brian Dennehy takes the spotlight as one of L.A.'s finest, tracking down drug lords while losing track of \$20 million in **The Last of the Finest**.

## Happiness found through international adoption

Mercedes Cochran  
Milwaukie High School

*Editor's note: The following story was the first place winner in the Journalism Feature Writing portion of the 12th Annual Skills Competition.*

Ellen Burbridge refused to believe that she could ever fall in love with a photograph. She didn't realize how wrong she was until she saw the photo of the girl with the red high-top sneakers and the

big smile. Burbridge knew immediately that she had found her child.

That special memory has stayed with Burbridge for seven years. In 1983, the determined mother packed up her husband and 12-year-old son and went on a three-week trip to Colombia. That particular flight wasn't just another family vacation. The Burbridges were on a special mission: to complete their family.

The ultimate purpose of the trip to Colombia was to meet and bring home their newly adopted

daughter, Maria. There had been nine long months of "pregnancy" for the entire Burbridge family.

"It was kind of a weird way to have a kid," Burbridge admitted.

Since the young age of 13, Burbridge has wanted to adopt a child from overseas. For her, the trip was a long-awaited dream come true. Although the situation was fine for the Burbridges, she was quick to explain that not everyone can adopt. Inequality is faced when she explains that "single people can adopt and married people can adopt. Couples living together cannot adopt."

For some people eligible to adopt, the very idea of internationally adopting is absurd. A child from another country would undoubtedly speak another language and be of a different race.

"The American dream is to have two kids with blue eyes that look like you and can fit in your family," Burbridge said with a trace of bitterness.

There are many misconceptions about overseas adopting. Burbridge explained that many people assume adopting overseas is easy. The truth is, the process is emotional as well as long and difficult. The mom-to-be even had to take an 11-week class designed to help her decide what kind of child she wanted; or, as in some cases, what kind of child she didn't



When Ellen Burbridge saw Maria's picture in a book of children from Columbia up for adoption, "it was love at first sight."

Photo by Scott Johnson

want.

"The process is really amazing," said Burbridge. "It really makes you think." The classes forced her to consider possibilities such as children having handicaps or emotional problems.

All agencies run their programs in different ways. Some use stacks of photos like the one Burbridge went through to decide which child to adopt. Others use a system where the young one is not

seen by the parents until the day that they are taken home. A child is simply picked out to fit the specifications of age, sex, and race.

Burbridge explained that the international adoption programs were often "What you get is what you get."

As in any country, there are many drawbacks to adopting. One problem Burbridge pointed out was the agencies fabricating facts about the children. An example of this was in stating Maria's age at the time of adoption.

The agency told the family that Maria was three. In the photograph, she looked at least five. When they got her home, they decided that she would be seven and would start kindergarten in the fall. Although she didn't speak much Spanish and not a word of English, Maria slowly learned to communicate with her new family.

Today, Maria is a happy, well-adjusted 14-year-old junior high school student. She is anxiously awaiting the day her family will take her back to Colombia to "find her roots."

Even though international adoption has its pros and cons, the Burbridges have found that the positive has outweighed the negative in their love for Maria.

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0.01	-0.04	0.60	0.73	0.19	0.49	-19.43	55.93	68.80	-49.49	30.77	30.01	81.29	-12.72	-29.46
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