

Summer prediction: bigger box office results than summer '89...

Hot summer months to bring a well-seasoned

by Roseann Wentworth
Entertainment Editor

Summertime has become the biggest season for movie releases in America. Classes are out and the industry's favorite demographic age group, 18-24, are on the loose and have money burning holes in their pockets. What else do they spend it but on movies—lots of movies. Well over 50 major movies are scheduled to be released between the magic season that starts Memorial Day weekend and does not end until Labor Day. The following list is a partial list of the summer of 1990's top-of-the-line releases.

DAYS OF THUNDER: (JUNE 27): Paramount. Tom Cruise plays Cole Trickle, an unknown NASCAR driver who drives intensely with his gut and by the seat of his pants (sound familiar?) Brought to the screen by the same team who gave us *Top Gun*, producers Jerry Bruckheimer and Don Simpson with director Tony



Tom Selleck is Matt Quigley, an American cowboy living in Australia, meets Laura San Giacomo as Crazy Cora in *Quigley Down Under*.

Scott, *Thunder* promises to be fast and real cool. Simpson calls it a real story about personal growth. Prepare yourself for breath-taking cinematography and direction. Scott and Co. entered cars into the Daytona 500 to get real shots. Film vet Robert Duvall stars as the pit crew chief and Randy Quaid plays the car owner.

TOTAL RECALL (JUNE 1): Tri-Star/Carolco. Arnold Schwarzenegger has been in the process of getting this movie made for almost five years. A futuristic, sci-fi flick with a big budget and a top-rate effects team, *Total Recall* may end up to be the *Batman* for the summer of 1990. Its almost a century into the future and Quaid (Schwarzenegger) begins having nightmares that he once lived on Mars (now a slumish Earth colony)—soon his night sweats turn into day sweats as he travels to Mars to investigate. Directed by *RoboCop*'s Paul Verhoeven, this \$50 million-plus production should be filled with fantastic visuals and fantasy-like characters not seen since the *Star Wars* trilogy.

DICK TRACY (JUNE 15): Walt Disney Pictures. Another comic book character comes to the screen. This crime-fighting, yellow fedora-wearing P.I. is now apparently 53 and going strong. With the success of last summer's *Batman*, Tracy-mastermind Warren Beatty is hoping for big box office results. Although comic book heroes are a hot commodity, as is nostalgia, *Dick Tracy* has been on the drawing board for 13 years. The sets actually look like their 3-D version of comic book props. Cars and building are literally generic to give it that comic-book authentic feel. Beatty has become infamous for his perfectionistic qualities, and now, for his off-screen affair with on-screen co-star Madonna. She plays a character unlike any she's portrayed before (thank goodness). Madonna



Bill Murray as seen in a scene from Warner's *Quick Change*. Dressed as a clown, he is devising a plan to escape New York's corruption.

as *Breathless* Mahoney should conjure up past images of Rita Hayworth or even Bette Davis, if that's possible. Let the hype begin.

DIE HARD 2-DIE HARDER (JUNE 22): 20th Century Fox. Bruce Willis in an airport (not a high rise this time) with a gun and a scruff. Need I say more? However, if action is what you want, action is what you get, not to mention some great one-liners. The Gordon brothers and production guru Joel Silver return with director Renny Harlin and actress Bonnie Bedelia. *Die Hard I* director John McTiernan was not available for this sequel due to his work on another summer release.

GREMLINS 2-THE NEW BATCH: Warner Bros. Six years ago the world was introduced to Gizmo and his alter ego buddies, the Gremlins. Leave it to Steven Spielberg to create a character America would fall in love with. Gizmo the Mogwai is back and so is the creative team from the original *Gremlins*: executive production wiz-team Spielberg, Kathleen Kennedy and Frank Marshall, and director Joe Dante. Zach Galligan and Phoebe Cates return as Billy and Kate. The two are now married and live a yuppie lifestyle in New York City. They meet up with Gizmo again and of course a water accident is not far behind. John Glover also stars.

QUICK CHANGE: Warner Bros. Bill Murray, Oscar-winner Geena Davis (Best Supporting Actress for Lawrence Kasdan's *Accidental Tourist*) and Randy Quaid star in this off-beat comedy about three friends who enter into the world of crime as a direct result of big city-living frustration. Their attempt at a new life of crime turns in to a hilarious getaway. Murray helped produce and co-wrote the screenplay for *Quick*



After the *Gremlins* have wreaked havoc throughout the giant Clamp office building, Billy (Zach Galligan) and Kate (Phoebe Cates) and Gizmo watch as the creatures approach in *Gremlins 2*.

