

OPENING OR RETURNING:
Appaloosa: Ed Harris directs and stars as Virgil Cole, a lawman hired (with Viggo Mortensen's Everett Hitch) to bring "vigilante entrepreneur" Jeremy Irons to justice. Renée Zellweger costars as just about everyone's love interest at one time or another. Solid and effective work from the director of *Pollock*. R. 116 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (10/9/08)
Bride Wars: Anne Hathaway and Kate Hudson play friends who really can't be that great of friends, seeing as they get into a raging catfight over their mutual favorite wedding location. This preview is almost as embarrassing as the one for *Confessions of a Shopaholic*. What gives? PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Channeling: Touring film and video program subtitled "An Invocation of Spectral Bodies and Queer Spirits." Curators Latham Zearfoss and Ethan White will be present to introduce their experimental program. 7:30 pm Monday, Jan. 12, DIVA. \$5-\$10.
Gran Torino: Clint Eastwood directs and stars as a bigoted veteran who finds himself in a reluctant friendship with a Hmong kid and his family. "A rueful comedy of enlightenment," said *The New Yorker*. R. 116 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
OpenLens Film Festival: The fifth annual festival celebrates the work of regional directors, and is hosted this year by animator Joanna Priestly, whose work will be shown at 7 pm Friday, Jan. 9. Other events include the Youth Visions Teen Video Challenge (3 pm Saturday, Jan. 10, and 1:30 pm Sunday, Jan. 11), Southwest Oregon Short Film and Video Competition (7 pm Saturday, Jan. 10, and 3:30 pm Sunday, Jan. 11) and Award and Wrap Party (5 pm Sunday, Jan. 11). All events at DIVA; admission varies. Full schedule at openlens.proscenia.net
Religulous: Bill Maher takes aim at organized religion around the world in this documentary directed by Larry Charles (*Borat*). "A provocation, thinly disguised as a documentary, that succeeds in being almost as funny as it is offensive," says *The Wall Street Journal*. R. 101 min. Movies 12.
Swedish Film Series: Begins with *As It Is in Heaven*, Kay Pollack's 2004 film about a successful conductor who quits his job and takes off for the small village where he grew up. There, he's asked to listen to the church choir, and everything, naturally, changes. 132 min. 7 pm Friday, Jan. 9, 177 Lawrence, UO.
Unborn, The: Signs and portents lead a young woman to discover she had a twin who died in the womb – and who wants to be born, like, now. There's also a family curse. Of course. With Odette Yustman, Gary Oldman and Idris Elba. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Wackness, The: Jonathan Levine directs this coming of age in the early '90s flick about a young pot dealer, Luke (Josh Peck), wrestling with a crush on Stephanie (Olivia Thirlby) and an odd friendship with her stepfather, Dr. Squires (Ben Kingsley), who's both Luke's customer

and his shrink. R. 110 min. David Minor Theater. ★★☆☆☆ (7/31/08)

Films open the Friday following EW publication date unless otherwise noted. See archived reviews at www.eugeneweekly.com

CONTINUING:
Animal House: National Lampoon's *Animal House* filmed in Lane County in the fall of 1977, at locations that include Main Street in Cottage Grove and UO campus. R. 109 min. David Minor Theater.
Australia: The latest from Baz Luhrman (*Moulin Rouge!*) concerns an uppercrust Englishwoman (Nicole Kidman) who inherits a farm in northern Australia before WWII. With the help of a cattle driver (Hugh Jackman), she protects it from a takeover, but bigger problems are on the way. PG13. 165 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (12/4/08)
Bedtime Stories: Adam Sandler's world goes wacky when the tales he spins for his niece and nephew start to come true – or so he thinks. It's not all up to him, though. PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★☆☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
Beverly Hills Chihuahua: A Taco Bell commercial stretched out to feature length with a paper-thin plot about a rich girl (er, dog, voiced by Drew Barrymore) who needs to get home from scary Mexico? Ugh. PG. Movies 12.
Bolt: Wacky adventures ensue when a dog who thinks he's a superhero – he's never been off the set of his TV show – finds himself loose in New York. With the voices of John Travolta and Miley Cyrus. PG. 96 min. VRC Stadium 15.
Burn After Reading: The Coen brothers follow up the dark *No Country For Old Men* with this comedy about an ex-CIA spy's memoir that falls into the hands of a couple of gym employees. With George Clooney, John Malkovich, Tilda Swinton, Frances McDormand and Brad Pitt. R. 96 min. David Minor Theater. ★★☆☆☆ (9/18/08)
Changeling: The latest from Clint Eastwood tells the true story of Christine Collins (Angelina Jolie), whose son was kidnapped. When he's returned months later, she realizes the boy brought to her is not her child – but the LAPD doesn't like being made to look bad and won't admit the mistake. With John Malkovich. R. 141 min. Movies 12.
Curious Case of Benjamin Button, The: David Fincher (*Fight Club*) takes a different direction with this story of a man (Brad Pitt) who is born at the age of 80 and ages backwards throughout his life. Based on a short story by F. Scott Fitzgerald and costarring Cate Blanchett. PG13. 159 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
Day the Earth Stood Still, The: Keanu Reeves stars as an alien whose arrival on earth seems like pretty bad news for humanity. Cool effects! Jennifer Connelly! High hopes! And a pretty cool preview, too. PG13. 92 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.

Doubt: John Patrick Shanley directs this adaptation of his prizewinning play about a nun and the priest she believes is paying too much attention to a student. Starring Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Amy Adams and Viola Davis. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
Eagle Eye: Shia LaBeouf and Michelle Monaghan are strangers thrown together by the instruction-filled phone calls of a woman who tells them to do all sorts of crazy, dangerous things. What the hell is going on? Will anybody care? Directed by D.J. Caruso (*Disturbia*). PG13. Movies 12.
High School Musical 3: Senior Year: The earnestness practically drips off the screen in the preview for this movie, which brings the cable-TV smash into theaters for OMG! Senior year! With Zac Efron and the rest of the fresh-faced teen stars. G. 112 min. Movies 12.
Igor: When Igor gets sick of being an evil scientist's assistant, he and two companions (a previously dead bunny and a brain in a jar) try to create their own terrible monster. Things go terribly awry – and they need to help save the world! Oddly enough, this cutely macabre animated tale came to life with no help from Tim Burton. Voice of John Cusack, Steve Buscemi and Jennifer Coolidge. PG. 87 min. Movies 12.
Intimidad: In this documentary, a young Mexican couple moves near to the border to save money and buy a home, but when they return to their hometown a year later to reunite with their 2-year-old daughter, things don't go smoothly. 7 pm Sunday, Jan. 11, Cozmic Pizza. Free.
Marley and Me: Owen Wilson and Jennifer Aniston are the owners of one very badly behaved dog in this adaptation of John Grogan's bestselling book. Directed by David Frankel (*The Devil Wears Prada*). PG. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
Milk: Gus Van Sant's biopic about Harvey Milk (Sean Penn), the country's first openly gay elected official, is earning glowing reviews; "Milk is a marvel," says *The New York Times*, while *The Village Voice* says, "Milk is so immediate that it's impossible to separate the movie's moment from this one." With Josh Brolin, James Franco and Diego Luna. R. 128 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (12/11/08)
Reader, The: Kate Winslet plays a woman having an affair with a 15-year-old; years later, it becomes clear that the affair was likely not the worst of the former S.S. guard's actions. Directed by Stephen Daldry and written by David Hare, who last worked together on *The Hours*. R. 123 min. Cinemark. **See review this issue.**
Role Models: The latest from David Wain (*Stella*, *The Ten*) concerns two men (Paul Rudd and Seann William Scott) forced to do some unexpected growing up when they find they've got to take part in a mentoring program – or go to jail. Costarring McLovin (er, Christopher Mintz-Plasse) and the always fantastic Jane Lynch. R. 99 min. Movies 12.

Seven Pounds: Will Smith reunites with the director of *The Pursuit of Happyness* for this story about a man with a secret who changes the lives of seven strangers. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Slumdog Millionaire: The latest from Danny Boyle (*Trainspotting*) is a Mumbai-set fairy tale about life and the pursuit of love and happiness via *Who Wants to Be a Millionaire* (it's not quite as simple as that maybe sounds). *Slumdog* is long on setting and its tangled plot is creative, but it's short on emotional resonance, though its young actors are solid. R. 120 min. Bijou. ★★☆☆☆ (12/18/08)
Spirit, The: A rookie cop (Gabriel Macht) returns from the dead to guard his city from Samuel L. Jackson's nasty Octopus. One assumes he is often distracted by the goofily named Sand Saref (Eva Mendes), Plaster of Paris (Paz Vega) and Silken Floss (Scarlett Johansson). PG13. 108 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★☆☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
Tale of Despereaux, The: A tiny, heroic mouse with big ears undertakes a complicated journey in a medieval world. Based on the Newbery Medal-winning book by Kate DiCamillo, and starring the voices of Matthew Broderick, Robbie Coltrane and Dustin Hoffman. G. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15.
Twilight: That sound you hear is the building screams of *Twilight* fans whose beloved novel (by Stephenie Meyer) is arriving in cinematic form. It's the story of vampire Edward (Robert Pattison), his human beloved, Bella (Kristen Stewart), and their extremely-chaste-yet-beset-by-inhuman-trials romance. PG13. 122 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (11/26/08)
Valkyrie: Bryan Singer (*The Usual Suspects*) directs this WWII flick about Claus von Stauffenberg (Tom Cruise) and a plot to murder Adolf Hitler. With Kenneth Branagh, Bill Nighy, Tom Wilkinson, Eddie Izzard and Terence Stamp. PG13. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★★☆☆☆ (12/31/08)
W: Oliver Stone's new biopic looks at the life of our current commander-in-chief (played by Josh Brolin). The *Hollywood Reporter* says Stone "goes out of his way to give Bush a fair hearing," but others disagree. PG13. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (10/23/08)
Yes Man: Jim Carrey is the man who says "Yes." And he says it to all sorts of things. Not even the moment when he and costar Zooey Deschanel dress up in Harry Potter costumes can save this film from its own blandness. PG13. 104 min. Cinemark. VRC Stadium 15. ★☆☆☆☆ (12/24/08)
Zack and Miri Make a Porno: The latest from Kevin Smith concerns two longtime friends (Seth Rogen and Elizabeth Banks) who figure they might be able to solve their money problems by making an adult film. No big deal, right? Unless you start realizing you actually *like* the other person. R. 101 min. Movies 12. ★★☆☆☆ (11/13/08)

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