

# IN ACTION

## box office top 20



### Playing By Heart

(Above L-R, Angelina Rowlie & Ryan Phillippe) are one of the many in the cast starring Gena Rowlands, Sean Connery and Gillian Anderson

- 1 **VARSITY BLUES** Paramount-grossing \$10.6
- 2 **PATCHADAMS** Universal-grossing \$8.1
- 3 **ACIVILACTION** Touchstone-grossing \$7.6
- 4 **THE THIN REDLINE** 20th Century Fox-grossing \$5.8
- 5 **STEPMOM** Columbia TriStar-grossing \$5.2
- 6 **AT FIRST SIGHT** MGM-grossing \$4.8
- 7 **YOU'VE GOT MAIL** Warner Bros.-grossing \$4.1
- 8 **THE PRINCE OF EGYPT** DreamWorks-grossing \$3.6
- 9 **SHAKESPEARE IN LOVE** Miramax-grossing \$3.4
- 10 **A SIMPLE PLAN** Paramount-grossing \$2.8
- 11 **VIRUS** Universal-grossing \$2.8
- 12 **MIGHTY JOE YOUNG** Walt Disney-grossing \$2.7
- 13 **I DREAM S** DreamWorks-grossing \$2.7
- 14 **A BUG'S LIFE** Walt Disney-grossing \$2.6
- 15 **GLORIA** Miramax-grossing \$2.1
- 16 **WAKING NED DIVINE** Fox Searchlight-grossing \$1.7
- 17 **PLAYING BY HEART** Miramax-grossing \$1.5
- 18 **ENEMY OF THE STATE** Touchstone-grossing \$1.3
- 19 **THE FACULTY** Miramax-grossing \$1.1
- 20 **LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL** Miramax-grossing \$1.0

## Winnie the Pooh, A Valentine For You

A new Primetime Television Special Premieres February 13 on ABC

"It's a Most Delightful time of paper hearts and flowers, of candies and cards," as Valentine's Day comes to the Hundred Acre Wood for a Boy, his Bear, and their Very Dear Friends Piglet, Eeyore, Tigger, Rabbit, Gopher and Owl in "Winnie the Pooh, A Valentine for You," a brand-new holiday special from Walt Disney Television Animation.

Disney's half-hour Valentine makes its world premiere on Saturday, February 13 (8:00-9:00 PM ET/PT) on ABC. With classic Disney animation and enchanting songs set in the beloved world of Pooh, it is sure to become a holiday tradition.

As the special opens, it is a Time of Change in the Hundred Acre Wood. Not only is winter about to give way to spring, but Christopher Robin's world seems to be expanding as he seems to have found a new friend. Winnie the Pooh is searching everywhere for Christopher Robin-but to bear's dismay, the Boy is nowhere to be found. Piglet and the rest of their Hundred Acre Wood friends join in the search.

Eventually Pooh and the gang find the Boy, who is working on a Valentine. "Dear W-I-N..." it begins. "It's your name!" Rabbit exclaims to Pooh. But Christopher Robin continues, "Dear Winifred..." "Winifred? What's a Winifred?"

When Winifred is revealed to be a girl, the gang surmises that Christopher Robin has love-sickness—he must have been bitten by a Smitten! And, they figure if they can capture the Smitten and get it to bite Christopher Robin once again, it surely will reverse the effect. And so begins another adventure that will take



Pooh and the gang try to figure out what's going on with their friend Christopher Roberts, in "Winnie the Pooh, A Valentine for You"

Pooh and his friends deep into the Unkown Heart of the Forest that evening, in pursuit of a "glowing something"—the Smitten!

Eventually, their guest leads them to understand that Christopher Robin isn't really ill-nor has he forgotten them, for the heart will always have room for friends old and new.

Disney's beloved Pooh theatrical featurettes began in the 1960's, bringing A.A. Milne's Bear of Very Little Brain to animated life.

Now, Walt Disney Television Animation continues the Disney/Pooh legacy by producing brand new specials that explore the enchanting world of childhood innocence that

Pooh represents. As Sharon Morrill, Executive Vice President for Walt Disney Television Animation, explains, "Our job is to find poignant and whimsical new stories in which to feature Pooh and his friends. And holidays such as Valentine's Day provide a perfect opportunity to let these characters explore the emotions we all experience."

"Winnie the Pooh possesses such wonderful qualities," Morrill continues, "most notably the unconditional love he holds for his friends. This special is a perfect Valentine for families everywhere, because it expresses that there's no end to the amount of love we can share."

## Student Academy Award

**Beverly Hills, CA**-Applications for the 26th Annual Student Academy Awards competition, presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, are now available. Entries must be submitted by April 1 in order to be considered for this year's prizes. For the program, the country is divided into three regions and students submitting films must first compete in the appropriate regional competition. Region One encompasses the states of Alaska, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. The regional coordinator is Meagan Atiyeh at the Northwest Film Center in Portland, Oregon. Films may be entered in one of four categories: alternative, animation, documentary or narrative. To be eligible, films of 16mm or larger must be produced within the curriculum of an accredited college or University, in a student-teacher relationship, and must have been completed after April 1, 1998. All Region One entries must be received at the regional center by 5 p.m., April 1, 1999. Students ultimately selected as national winners will be flown to Los Angeles to participate in a week of industry-related activities and social events that will culminate June 13 with the awards presentation ceremony at the Academy's Samuel Goldwyn theater. Along with their trophies, Gold Medal winners in each of the four categories receive \$2,000; Silver Medal winners take home \$1,500, and Bronze Medal recipients are awarded \$1,000. An Honorary Foreign Student Award also will be presented at the June ceremony, as will the Directors Guild of America's Student Film Award.

Students interested in entering the competition may download an application from the Academy's website at <http://www.oscars.org/saa> or send their application request, along with a self-addressed, stamped business-size envelope to: Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences 8949 Wilshire Boulevard Beverly Hills, CA 90211

Attn: Student Academy Awards Region One Coordinator Meagan Atiyeh can be reached at (503) 221-1156. The Student Academy Awards were established by the Academy in 1972 to support and encourage excellence in filmmaking at the collegiate level.