



They're alive! Dead monsters, video games, authors and issues have been retooled and resurrected, and will be alive and kicking it up at a theater near you.

What is that scent you're wearing? Formaldehyde?

## Mary Shelley's Frankenstein

Tristar Pictures

Sure, you can dig up body parts, put them together and wait for a bolt of lightning to bring the resulting monster back to life. But can the same be said for the Hollywood horror genre? *Frankenstein* is ripe for an update — and this reinterpretation of Shelley's novel connects her work with a cast that includes Kenneth Branagh (the doctor) and Robert De Niro (the creature).

## Interview with the Vampire

Warner Bros.

Does Tom Cruise suck or doesn't he? Anne Rice, who wrote the book *Interview with the Vampire*, can't seem to decide. First she hated him, now she loves him as the vampire Lestat. Brad Pitt as the interviewee tells of his love-hate relationship with the vampire. Christian Slater plays the interviewer.

## Stargate

MGM/UA



Those with a good memory for early '80s video games may get excited by the title of this one, but hold your smart bombs.

In this film, Colonel Jack O'Neill (Kurt Russell) and scientist Daniel Jackson (James Spader) travel to another planet to investigate a mysterious artifact and inadvertently discover a portal to another world. Its king, Ra, is played by a gender-decisive Jaye Davidson (*The Crying Game*).

## Radioland Murders

Universal Pictures

Before television, Americans sat with their ears glued to their radios. In *Radioland Murders*, a new radio station is trying to get on the air, and secretary Penny Henderson (Mary Stuart



Masterson) is struggling to balance the demands of sponsors, writers and her husband. Producer George Lucas will have to perform some

industrial-strength light and magic to recapture the thrill of radio on the silver screen.

## Oleanna

Samuel Goldwyn



David Mamet's controversial play about sexual harassment is taking its twist — the film refuses to side with either character — to the big screen and letting viewers decide

who's lying: the professor or the student. A limited set (the prof's office) and characters (the professor and the student) put Mamet's narrative talents to the test.

## Clerks

Miramax Films

A shoestring budget and a guerrilla production schedule made *Clerks* a big hit at the Sundance Film Festival. The film, slapped with an NC-17 rating — currently under appeal — for language, stars Brian O'Halloran and Jeff Anderson as two clerks who work at (and pretty much conduct the rest of their lives out of) a New Jersey convenience store.

## Sleep with Me

United Artists

Face it, love triangles are hip. In the



latest, *Sleep with Me*, Joseph (Eric Stoltz) and Sarah (Meg Tilly) are set to wed when Joseph's best friend Frank (Craig Sheffer) decides he loves Sarah. Threatening to dissolve is their marriage and the union of their quirky friends, including Quentin Tarantino in a characteristically hyper cameo.

## D.R.O.P. Squad

Gramercy Pictures



What is it with these acronyms? In *D. R. O. P. Squad*, Bruford Jamison Jr. (Eriq LaSalle) is an ad rep willing to endorse racist campaigns in the interest of his career. When Jamison shuns his family, the Deprogramming and Restoration of Pride Squad — an organization devoted to enforcing allegiance to black pride no matter what the cost — steps in to set him straight and raises the question of which side commits the bigger wrong.

## Double Dragon

Gramercy Pictures

*Double Dragon* mixes *The Crow*, *Blade Runner*, bad Marvel comic books and chop-socky films for a purée as watery as the blood that pours out of it. Set in the year 2007, *DD* follows Koga Shuko (a goateed Robert Patrick, the metal-melting bad guy from *T2*) as he searches for the medallion he thinks will enable him to control New Angeles (post-earthquake Los Angeles).

## Floundering

Strand Releasing

This film has cult classic written all



over it. James LeGros stars as John Boyz, an unemployed guy living in Venice Beach, Calif. A true GenXer, John can't decide what to do with his life, so he

newscasts of the L.A. riots while everyone from the I.R.S. to his drug-addicted brother asks for money. Expect the soundtrack — with songs by Sebadoh, Stan Ridgway and Codeine — to be an alternative music hit.

## Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle

Fine Line Features



*Mrs. Parker* delves into the writing and life of the great-grandmother of modern sarcasm, Dorothy

Parker. Period pieces generally fall flat, but this cast — including Jennifer Jason Leigh, Campbell Scott, Matthew Broderick, Peter Gallagher, Martha Plimpton and Stephen Baldwin — should keep the film from fizzling.

## Hoop Dreams

Fine Line Features

The recent slew of basketball movies has been scorned by critics — not because the b-ball scenes aren't exciting, but because the plots have fouled out. This film is more of a documentary. Frederick Marx shot more than 250 hours of footage to capture the excitement of street ball as he chronicled the struggles of two inner-city kids who try to make it big in the N.B.A.

■ Jeff Niesel, *UCSD Guardian*, U. of California, San Diego

## On the Set

## Brady Bunch

When it was time to change, they decided to rearrange, rescript and reshoot to make *The Brady Bunch* television series of the '70s into a feature movie taking place in the '90s. This time around, the bunch will be serving up more than just pork chops and applesauce. The Bradys will have to confront '90s dilemmas in a '70s mindset.

Marcia II, Christine Taylor, says people should not expect a rerun. "We're in a time warp, so it puts an interesting twist that I think people will find funny." That is, if something doesn't *suddenly come up*.

Decked out in more colors and patterns than most color screens can handle, Jan II, Jennifer Elise Cox, says she'll miss the pink frosted lipstick and green checked hip-huggers when filming's completed. "The lime green turtleneck with a cream crocheted vest are my favorites." Groovy.

This nostalgic visit to Bradyland keeps on movin' with cameos from original cast members — all but Marcia, Jan and Mike — and *the Davy Jones*, and a \$3,000 Carol wig worn by Shelley Long. Look for *The Brady Bunch Movie* this spring in the highest quality polyester. Avoid getting grounded before then — and remember — don't play ball in the house.

■ Aimee Rinehart, *Assistant Editor*