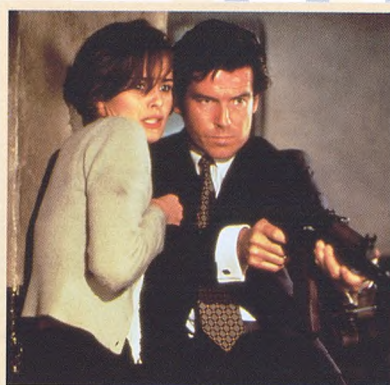


# entertainment news



**B**atman Forever, with Val Kilmer in the title role and Chris O'Donnell as Robin, becomes the third Batman movie and the summer's top-grossing film.

Sygm



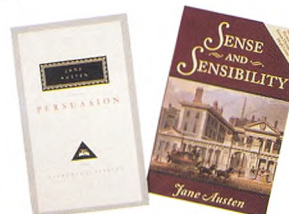
United Artists from Shooting Star

The fifth actor to play 007 in the enduring film series begun in the 1960s, Pierce Brosnan abandons his Aston Martin for a BMW Z3 Roadster in *Goldeneye*, the latest and, some say, best James Bond movie.

Three 1995 movies bring Jane Austen classics to the silver screen: *Clueless*, based on Austen's novel *Emma*, and *Sense and Sensibility* and *Persuasion*.



Disney Pictures from Shooting Star



Disney Pictures continues its line of animated blockbusters with the Native American legend *Pocahontas*. The picture previews in New York's Central Park to an outdoor audience of 200,000.



M. Gertler, LGI

After an unpromising start, Conan O'Brien quietly gains popularity as host of NBC's "Late Night," a slot previously filled by David Letterman. Letterman's current show on CBS slowly loses viewers.



Yoram Kahana, Shooting Star

Whitney Houston stars in the December film release, *Waiting to Exhale*, adapted from Terry McMillan's best-selling novel about the lives of four middle-class African-American women. Houston sings the title song for the movie soundtrack, which enjoys brisk sales.



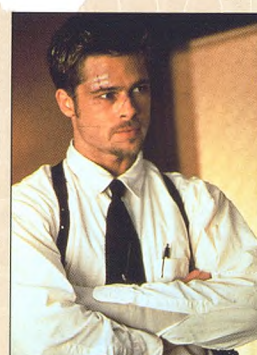
Ron Davis, Shooting Star

Denzel Washington, critically acclaimed for his performances in films *Crimson Tide* and *Devil in a Blue Dress*, receives highest praise from the City of Los Angeles, which honors him with the Martin Luther King, Jr., Award for his philanthropic work on behalf of children.



Bedford Falls from Shooting Star

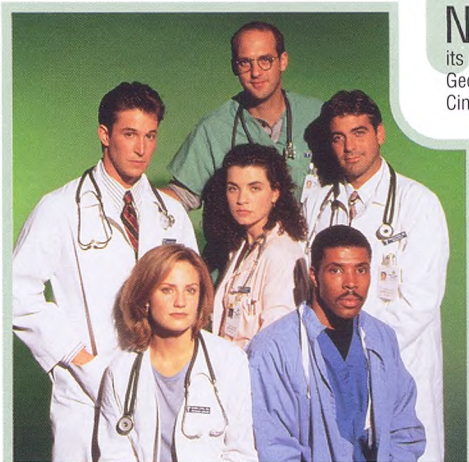
Although ABC cancels her TV series "My So-Called Life," 17-year-old Claire Danes hits the big screen in *How to Make an American Quilt*, *To Gillian on Her 37th Birthday*, and *Romeo and Juliet* with Leonardo DiCaprio as her co-star.



Pachia, LGI

In the suspense-thriller *Seven*, heartthrob Brad Pitt attracts a wide male audience with his performance as a detective on the trail of a serial killer whose murders are based on the seven deadly sins.





Jeff Katz, Gamma/Liaison

NBC's hospital drama "E.R." continues to draw high ratings throughout 1995 thanks to its dramatic realism and the appeal of handsome George Clooney (middle right), supermodel Cindy Crawford's latest date.

Disney Pictures from Shooting Star



Disney Entertainment spends \$19 billion to purchase the ABC television network in July.

**T**oy Story is the world's first entirely computer-animated film. Released by Disney during the Christmas season, it features the voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, and Don Rickles.

## flash

MTV introduces "Singled Out," an over-the-top dating game show where contestants ask random, pointless questions of a crowd of suitors, sight unseen, until the zany answers have eliminated all but that one perfect love match.

According to a Roper Youth Poll, the two hottest TV shows among teens this season are the daytime soap "Days of Our Lives" and the evening soap "Melrose Place."

"The Jon Stewart Show," a late-night talk show aimed at Generation X, fails to catch on. During the final taping, host Stewart says, "To all those people who said my show wouldn't last, I have only one thing to say. Good call."



Pacha, LGI

Jim Carrey earns \$20 million for the starring role in the comedy *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls*, a sequel to the extraordinarily popular *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*.

**T**he popular NBC TV series "Friends" returns for a second highly rated season. Its runaway success inspires less successful imitations by other networks.



Sam Jones, Gamma/Liaison



Ten years after creating the popular comic strip "Calvin and Hobbes," cartoonist Bill Watterson retires in December.



Steve Hill, LGI

Horror-fiction author Stephen King signs a deal with Signet books to release his upcoming story, *The Green Mile*, as a paperback series.



Fox from Shooting Star

Fox TV's "The X-Files" stars David Duchovny as an FBI agent who investigates supernatural phenomena. The show becomes a surprise hit, giving millions of viewers reason to look forward to staying home on a Friday night.



AP/Wide World

Devoted fans will not be denied another season of NBC's sitcom "Seinfeld" after all. Creator Jerry Seinfeld decides to keep his "show about nothing" going for an eighth season.