

clips

America's Hearts and Souls (PG): A documentary about ordinary Americans with extraordinary stories. (Queer Quotient: negligible)

Anchorman (PG-13): It's a film at 11, when Will Ferrell stars as a '70s television news anchor whose smarmy tactics don't impress his sexy co-worker, Christina Applegate. (QQ: negligible)

De-Lovely (PG-13): A showcase for the music and life of gay composer Cole Porter (Kevin Kline). While the action centers on his 35-year marriage to his wife (Ashley Judd), it also depicts his frequent relationships with men. (QQ: integral)

Dodge Ball (PG-13): Try to avoid those scary memories of gym class while watching this movie about a grown man (Vince Vaughn) who has to enter a dodge ball tournament to save his business. (QQ: negligible)

Fahrenheit 9/11 (R): This latest documentary by Michael Moore charts how the United States became a target for terrorism, and the relationship between the Bush and bin Laden families. (QQ: negligible)

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (PG): The latest installment about the teenaged sorcerer. The third movie in the series was helmed by Alfonso Cuaron, who directed bisexual movie "Y Tu Mamá También." (QQ: negligible)

I'll Sleep When I'm Dead (R): A retired gangster has to return to London to avenge the death of his brother. (QQ: negligible)

King Arthur (PG-13): You'll be playing "Where's Merlin?" in this adaptation of the Arthurian legend that relies more on action and history than might and magic. However, there is a post-feminist Guinevere. (QQ: negligible)

Monty Python's Life of Brian (R): Gay actor Graham Chapman plays Brian Cohen, a man living in 33 A.D. who everyone thinks is the messiah in this satire. Visions, 1927 Florida Ave., NW, Friday and Saturday at 9:30 p.m. and midnight. www.visionsdc.com. (QQ: mild)

My Mother Likes Women: Three adult sisters try to cope with their mother's acknowledgement, after being married to a man, that she is gay. Visions, 1927 Florida Ave., NW, at 5, 7:15 and 9:30 p.m. Sat. and Sun. matinee at 2:30 p.m. (QQ: integral)

The Notebook (PG-13): While a woman lies dying, her former lover returns to read her the notebook he wrote about their affair during World War II, which is shown in flashbacks. (QQ: negligible)

Saved! (PG-13): A student at a very Christian high school (Jena Malone) gets pregnant after giving up her virginity to try to "cure" her boyfriend of his gayness. She then falls in with a bad crowd, but learns a lot about her spirit in this biting satire. (QQ: integral)

Shrek 2 (PG): In this sequel, the jolly green giant has to go on an adventure to convince his bride he loves her. Gay actor Rupert Everett gives his voice to Prince Charming and "Absolutely Fabulous" Jennifer Saunders is a Fairy Godmother. (QQ: mild)

Sleepover (PG): It's more than pillow fights when a group of nerdy girls face off against a group of popular girls in a scavenger hunt. (QQ: negligible)

Spider-Man 2 (PG-13): One of America's favorite men in tights (Tobey Maguire) returns, this time to take on the nefarious Dr. Octopus (Alfred Molina). (QQ: negligible)

The Stepford Wives (PG-13): When a married couple (Nicole Kidman and Matthew Broderick) moves to the town of Stepford, Conn., they discover the "perfect" town may be hiding a dark secret. Gay-favorite Bette Midler stars as one of the titular 'wives,' one of whom is the partner of a gay man. (QQ: mild)

Super Size Me (NR): Documentarian Morgan Spurlock eats only McDonald's food for a month and faces the horrible consequences. You won't want fries with this movie. (QQ: negligible)

The Terminal (PG-13): Steven Spielberg and Tom Hanks are at it again, this time with accents. Hanks plays a foreigner whose passport is revoked and has to take up residence in New York's JFK Airport. (QQ: negligible)

White Chicks (PG-13): It's a gender-bending, race-skewing good time when two black male FBI agents dress up as a pair of white female socialite sisters. Expect lots of jokes with a gay edge. (QQ: mild)



In 'King Arthur,' the aptly named **Kiera Knightley** stars as Guinevere, who is no longer a damsel in distress but a warrior princess.

film JEN MABE



There are too many predictable moments in 'Make A Wish,' a lesbian horror film, but go see it for the familiar characters.



In 'Make a Wish,' a lesbian horror/romance comedy with its share of high drama, Linda (**Melenie Freedom Flynn**), portrays a young woman whose sexual orientation seems to change with the wind.

Wishing for a plot

THE OPENING SCENE OF 'MAKE A Wish,' a lesbian horror/romance/comedy, leaves viewers with the impression that this is going to be just another thriller or horror movie. The only difference is that this time, the action centers on a diverse group of lesbians in the woods for a weekend of camping.

Susan, Dawn, Monica, Linda and Chloe have all gathered for their annual camping trip to celebrate Susan's birthday. This mismatched group is brought together by one common denominator: Susan.

They have all dated her at one point, and, with the exception of Dawn, they have all cheated on her. Add Andrea, Monica's current girlfriend, to the mix along with the fact that Susan is now straight, and you've got a recipe for high lesbian drama.

Fortunately, drama isn't the focus of this film, which is scheduled to be screened at 7 and 9 p.m. on July 16 at the D.C. Jewish Community Center as a Reel Affirmations Xtra, a monthly film series presented by organizers of D.C.'s annual gay and lesbian film festival.

THE PLOT IS NOT UNIQUE. SIX women out in the woods for a weekend surrounded by nothing but nature sets the perfect, albeit predictable, scene for a horror movie. From the beginning, we see that people are going to die. It's a thriller, so they're supposed to.

And as more and more people meet

their demise, the stereotypical horror movie emerges. You know — the movie where the main characters run helplessly away in the woods, stumbling over themselves from some unknown stalker seen only from the knees down.

The plot, filled with graphic killings and a few much less graphic romps in Monica's tent, leave the viewer wanting more. And as the body count mounts, the identity of the killer can easily be figured out. Don't go see this movie for the plot.

IT'S THE CHARACTERS WHO DRIVE this film. Of all the women portrayed, the most compelling, by far, is Susan, played by Moynan King. As the main character, she exudes mystery and charisma. Her interaction with the other characters reveals many different facets of her personality.

Other characters in this film, directed by Sharon Ferranti, are also well developed and depict an array of lifestyles. Among them are Chloe (Lava Alapai), the young vegan, Dawn (Hollace Starr), the jilted Wicca consumed by her healing spells, and Linda (Melenie Freedom Flynn), the straight-girl-gone-gay-gone-straight-again character. Their personalities make them pleasant to watch and easy to identify with, no matter who you are.

Filling out the cast are Monica (Virginia Baeta) who floats back and forth kissing everyone in sight, her trust-fund-baby girlfriend Andrea (Amanda Spain) and Steve (Eric Vichi), Linda's jealous boyfriend. Viewers will recognize someone they know in all of these characters.

There is something about "Make A Wish" that kept me glued to my seat. No, it's not the most intellectually challenging film you'll see. Most horror movies aren't.

But the familiar characters and the plot twist at the end do not disappoint.

MORE INFO

'Make A Wish'
July 16
D.C. Jewish Community Center
1529 16th St., NW
7 p.m. and 9 p.m.
\$9
www.boxofficetickets.com/it

Two Special Author Events

Wednesday, July 14 at 7 pm

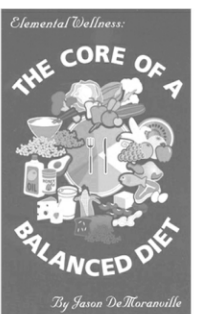


Mark Richard Zubro

File Under Dead
A Tom & Scott Mystery

Thursday, July 15 at 7 pm

Jason DeMoranville
The Core of a Balanced Diet



Celebrating 30 Years of Gay & Lesbian Pride!

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