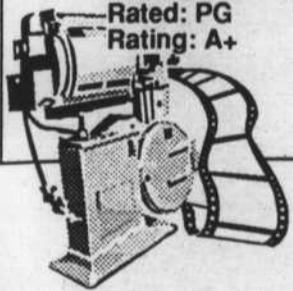


Film captures past

# 'The Rocketeer' relives the 1930s, blasts off with perfect casting

**"The Rocketeer"**  
Starring Bill Campbell,  
Alan Arkin  
Rated: PG  
Rating: A+



cord, an aspiring racing pilot. Seacord discovers a rocket pack meant to be strapped on a person's back, hidden under the seat of his plane.

The pack, designed by Howard Hughes for the U.S. military, has been wriggled out from under the nose of the FBI by the Mafia. After a high-speed chase in big, black cars, one of the gangsters manages to hide the rocket pack in Clifford's plane before being caught by G-men.

Aided by Peavey, played comfortably by Alan Arkin, Seacord's older mechanic and friend, the two set out to figure out how the rocket pack may be used safely.

Meanwhile, both gangsters and G-men chase after Seacord and Peavey, blowing holes in a lot of scenery. However, in a fine comic-book fashion, very few of the bullets ever hit a person.

The casting for "The Rocketeer" is responsible for at least part of its genius.

Perfectly cast in the role of the villain, Timothy Dalton plays Neville Sinclair — "Hollywood's third biggest box office draw" by his own claim. Dalton's character looks remarkably like Errol Flynn — older and nastier, but just as slick. Dalton's aura of evil is a refreshing change after his slightly thick James Bond performances.

Newcomer Campbell bears more

than a striking resemblance to the James Stewart of the '30s, in both looks and characterization. Campbell's boyish innocence and puppy-dog eyes beg with a Stewart-esque gleam.

As Jenny, Jennifer Connelly plays the '30s feminine foil perfectly, with the sexual appeal of Jean Harlow and the toughened practicality of Myrna Loy.

"The Rocketeer" is pieced together with a special magic that only Walt Disney could fashion. The film is full of '30s inside jokes, cliches and one-liners like "lousy nickel-neck," and "dame."

Sometimes the '30s rhetoric, cliches and gibberish aren't delivered as convincingly as films made in the '30s. In 1938, Gable and Tracy really would have said things like "dame" and "flatfoot." Much of the action and danger in the "The Rocketeer" is highly reminiscent of film serials of the '30s, particularly Buster Crabbe's "Flash Gordon."

The photography and technique in "The Rocketeer" is as beautiful as last summer's "Dick Tracy." However, unlike "Dick Tracy," "The Rocketeer" manages a healthy plot and no boredom for the kids.

"The Rocketeer" is so good that it should have been filmed in black and white.

There could be no higher compliment.

## Young

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in judgment in his adaptation of Leimbach's story.

He makes Gordon, a primary character and Hilary's eventual lover in the Leimbach novel, into a fringe character with no real purpose. Although actor Vincent D'Onofrio gives the role his best shot, the screenplay doesn't ever allow the character to develop. As well, Friedenbergs makes ambiguous the original tragic ending. C'mon, Richard, America can handle a sad ending.

Friedenberg writes the tender scenes well, though. An especially tender scene shows Victor, an art enthusiast working towards a Ph.D in art history, teaching Hilary about his favorite artist, Klimt. Scenes showing Hilary comforting Victor after chemotherapy, and Victor helping Hilary to come to terms with his cancer also add tenderness to the film.

Roberts, as always, is appealing and spirited in her role. She tosses her hair a lot and smiles her toothy grin, but she illustrates a compassionate side as Hilary. With each role she's undertaken, Roberts has proven her box-office appeal.

But while it is the tremendously appealing Roberts and her toothy smile that will draw most viewers to this movie, it is Scott that will make them stay.

Following up his fabulous portrayal of Willy in last year's "Longtime Companion," the immensely talented Scott proves to be the real star of this movie. His portrayal of the intellectual, gentle Victor is both moving and sensitive. As Roberts' breakthrough

role was in the sleeper comedy "Mystic Pizza," Scott's breakthrough role very well could be "Dying Young."

And unlike many films, "Dying Young" has music that adds a subtle shading to the effect rather than overpowering it completely. The instrumentals by Kenny G. and James Newton Howard are never obtrusive, yet stick with the audience long after the last tear is shed in the theatre.

"Dying Young" is playing at the Lincoln Theatre, 12th and P streets.

By Michael Stock  
Senior Reporter

"The Rocketeer" provides more than a perfect Walt Disney Production's tribute to the '30s. "The Rocketeer" is a piece of the '30s.

Set in the booming Hollywood of 1938, "The Rocketeer" is a cinematic feast of '30s panorama, capturing the gigantic, plush Hollywood of the star-system years. The film is replete with references to Carole Lombard, Greta Garbo and Myrna Loy, and guest "appearances" by actors playing Clark Gable and W.C. Fields.

Like 1938's "Test Pilot," starring Clark Gable, Spencer Tracy and Myrna Loy, "The Rocketeer" centers its fanciful imagination around the growing field of aviation.

Bill Campbell plays Clifford Sea-

## Hanna

Continued from Page 10

When we get colds, we're told to drink lots of water. On hot summer days we're told to drink lots of water. So if you have a cold on a hot summer day, you may as well tape the garden hose to your mouth and leave it on all day.

**BITCH, BITCH, BITCH:** When you're as miserable as a summer cold can make you, you have a right and an obligation to make those around you miserable too. Complain loudly about how much it sucks to take Nytol in

July. Moan about how much you'd rather be outside enjoying the sun and getting skin cancer. Misery loves company and with summertime illnesses, there is just not a lot of company. So make some. Sneeze on doorknobs. Cough on fans. Wipe your nose with the receiver on a pay phone. By no means should you be content to suffer alone.

Finally, if you do manage to give someone your cold at about the time you're starting to feel better, under no circumstances should you show them

any pity. The idiots — it's their own damn fault.

Hanna is a Daily Nebraskan reporter and a May graduate of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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13. In the figure above, AB is an arc of a circle with center O. If arc AB =  $5\pi$  and CB = 4, what is the sum of the areas of the shaded regions?

(A)  $25\pi - 60$  (C)  $25\pi - 36$  (E)  $100\pi - 36$   
(B)  $25\pi - 48$  (D)  $100\pi - 48$

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